



Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association

# NEWSLETTER

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[www.stf.sk.ca/local\\_assoc/paata/paata.html](http://www.stf.sk.ca/local_assoc/paata/paata.html)



## ... from the President's desk

Once again we have experienced a very successful spring council. Four out of eight of the resolutions coming from our local were passed by the Council. Prince Albert continues to be seen as one of the provinces most active locals as we field a significant number of resolutions at spring Council annually.

The STF elections this year returned many of the incumbents to their position on the provincial executive. This support is generally seen as giving a mandate to the executive to stay the course and continue with the implementation of the recommendations from the latest governance review of the Federation. The reaffirmation of much of the membership on the executive also ensures continuity at the provincial bargaining table. The bargaining process is still in it's early stages and it will be interesting to see what impact the recently announced public sector wage guidelines of 0% - 1% - 1% will have on groups like SIAST and SaskPower that are farther along in their bargaining process. It is expected that this round will be challenging but, the current atmosphere at the table appears to be positive. Time will tell!

May is also the month for our local association elections. I will not be seeking a third term as president although I will be putting my name forward for the position of Councillor. Judy Chan, our very capable treasurer, will not be seeking a third term as treasurer as well. Spring is a time of renewal and I look forward to the renewal that these available positions will produce for our Association. I encourage each of you to consider running. The position of President has been an excellent professional development experience. I'm sure I will be a much better Councillor for having served in the position of President but, I do miss the classroom and look forward to focusing my efforts there once again.

Election information is contained within this newsletter. Be sure to be a part of the process.

- Andrea Gareau

### Superannuation Banquet

Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
at the  
Marlboro Inn

Pictures: 5:30 p.m.  
Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.  
Program: 8:15 p.m.  
Tickets: \$20.00/per person

For tickets contact:  
Lorrie Kozun  
St. Mary High School  
Phone: 953-7544 Fax: 763-0399

### Notice of Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of  
electors of the Saskatchewan  
Rivers School Division No. 119 for  
the year ending  
December 31, 2003 will be held:  
MONDAY, MAY 31, 2004  
@ 7:00 p.m.

John Diefenbaker School  
1090 Branion Drive  
All ratepayers in the school  
division are invited to attend.  
Refreshments will be served.



## Highlights From Spring Council 2004

The following councillors were elected to the STF executive for 2004-2005:

President: Murray Wall (incumbent)

Vice-President: Heather Vermeersch (incumbent)

Executive Members:

- Donna Coleman (incumbent)
- Jackie Huyghebaert
- Shawn Pearce (incumbent)
- Diane Woloschuk
- Delmer Friesen (incumbent)
- Mel McCorrison (incumbent)
- Sonja Susut (incumbent)
- Walter Wood (incumbent)

The STF president is a full-time position with salary of 160% of the class 6 maximum. The vice-president receives an allowance of 12% of the class 6 maximum. All other positions on the executive are unpaid. All executive members are Saskatchewan teachers and STF councillors. They receive release time from their teaching duties to attend executive meetings and to participate in committees as a result of their membership on the executive.

- The 270 teachers attending Council showed their support for the collective bargaining process by joining SIAST instructors on their picket line over the noon hour on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. Our show of support was greatly appreciated. It was good news to hear that by late Friday a tentative agreement had been reached between SIAST instructors and the government.



## Disposition of P.A.A.T.A. Resolutions -- Spring Council 2004

### The Following P.A.A.T.A. Resolutions Were Passed:

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF make a request to the Teachers' Superannuation Commission to establish direct billing for the Teachers' Dental Plan.
2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF invite the Department of Learning to collaborate in the investigation of the feasibility of students, after completing grade 10, enrolling in options that could include the following:
  - a. An academic program meeting university entrance requirements;
  - b. A technical program that would involve apprenticeship programs and cooperative programs especially geared towards the trades; and
  - c. A practical program that would introduce students to the world of work and place them in suitable work situations.
3. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF amend Policy 4.4.4(3) of the *STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws* on Substitute Teachers to read as follows:

A substitute teacher shall be a member of the local association related to an employing school division for which the substitute teacher served at least one day of teaching in the current academic year **and where the substitute teacher has paid the prescribed association fee.**
4. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF amend Policy 4.4.4(5) of the *STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws* on Substitute Teachers to read as follows:

(5) A substitute teacher shall be entitled to vote on a tentative local collective bargaining agreement **when a substitute teacher is a member of the body covered by the local agreement.**

## The Following P.A.A.T.A. Resolutions Were Defeated:

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF collaborate with the Government of Saskatchewan to investigate the use of a different dental insurance plan provider.

[It was felt that the efficiency of claims was improving and the cost to do this was not warranted.]

2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF urge the Department of Learning to mandate the following Core Modules from the Practical and Applied Arts Curriculum be taught at the middle years level:

- a. Parenting;
- b. Financial Management; and
- c. Home Management.

[Exception was taken to the word 'mandate'. Local areas can choose to select these modules.]

3. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF negotiate changes to the *Provincial Collective Bargaining Agreement* to recognize each school year served on a part-time contract as equivalent to one increment on the provincial salary grid.

[Although the inequity was recognized in the gross pay between full and part-time teachers as they climb the grid, the main stumbling block was that some part-time teachers eventually return to full time teaching and would be placed at a higher level on grid with this proposal than is currently the practice.]

4. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF amend Policy 2.1.2(6)(a) of the STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws on Elections to STF office to read as follows:

In the election of President and Vice-President, the candidate receiving over 50.0 per cent of the votes shall be declared elected.

[The practice at the last two Councils has been to conduct one ballot. The person with the greatest number of votes is declared elected.]



## Other Resolutions that Passed that May Be of Interest to Many:

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF lobby the Department of Learning to change Section 163(6) of *The Education Act, 1995* to state the following:

A year of kindergarten education is deemed to be the equivalent of not less than one half of the days of the school year as determined by the Minister of Learning.”

2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF Members Health Plan Board of Trustees bring any changes to the STF Members Health Plan to Council so that councillors can help the Board of Trustees make more informed decisions on our behalf.

3. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF endorse the principle of release time for local association leaders as a means to strengthen local associations.

4. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF Executive be directed to develop a process for the implementation of release time for local association leaders.

5. BE IT RESOLVED that the STF Executive, Executive Assistants and staff increase their focus on reviewing procedures and practices to ensure STF funds are wisely and efficiently expended.

6. BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 1.12.1 of the *STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws* on Fees be amended to provide that effective July 1, 2004, the annual fee for membership be \$621.00. [This is a \$30 increase from last year.]

7. BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 1.12.1 of the *STF Statement of Policy and Bylaws* on Fees continue to provide effective, July 1, 2004, for the continuation of an additional 0.05 per cent of salary to be placed in the Contingency Fund.

**\*\* Please contact your Councillor for information about the status of any of the other resolutions considered at Council 2004. \*\***

# May Nomination and Election Information

- Tuesday - May 18<sup>th</sup> -Noon- Deadline for Nominations (fax to 764-1430)
- Wednesday - May 19<sup>th</sup> - General Association Meeting - 4:30p.m. -Carlton
- Tuesday and Wednesday - May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> - Election (if required)
- Positions To Fill:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

P.A. Catholic System Chair

Sask. Rivers System Chair

Councillors (10)

Convention Chairperson

Convention Co- or Vice-Chair

Convention Treasurer

Convention Secretary

Sask. Rivers LINC Chair

## P.A.A.T.A. Nomination Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_, shall be a candidate for the position of \_\_\_\_\_ at the forthcoming election.

The signatures of my nominators appear below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

### **Prince Albert R.C.S.S.D. #6 2003 Annual Ratepayers' Meeting**

**Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
at St. Mary High School  
380-14th Street West**

**7:30 p.m.**

