

“Calling All Substitute (Guest) Teachers!”

Date: February 24, 2010
To: Substitute (Guest) Teachers - Calgary Separate School Board
From: Calgary Separate Local #55 Substitute (Guest) Teachers' Committee
Re: FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER, 2010

Welcome to the SECOND EDITION of the Local 55 Substitute (Guest) Teacher Committee's e-mail report to all guest teachers. Renamed “Calling All Substitute (Guest) Teachers!” our newsletter will continue to go out on a regular basis, to keep you informed of various current events or issues.

If you know of a guest teacher who has not yet provided our local office with their home (not cssd) e-mail, please encourage them to do so as soon as possible by phoning the office at 403-265-2678.

COMING UP

1. Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Week, March 15-19, 2010

A poster, for this event, has been sent out to each school – to place on their staff bulletin board.

2. Smartboard Sessions for Substitute Teachers

Level 1 will again be offered, starting in the spring of this year.

Also, a networking session, for those who have completed Level 2, is being organized. Dates for both activities will be forthcoming, soon.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. “Substitute” or “Guest” Teacher – Why two terms

“Substitute teachers” or “substitute(s)” is the official term presently used in all legal documents. It is **the goal** of our ATA Local 55 Substitute Teacher Committee **to replace these terms with the term “guest teachers” in all legal documents** which are produced after August 2012 – including the new contract which will be in effect, after that date. **We will follow whatever due process is necessary to accomplish this.**

DID YOU KNOW? (continued)

In the meantime, our Catholic Separate School District is reinforcing the use of the term "guest teacher" in at least three different ways:

- a) All substitute teachers were provided with a "Guest Teacher" name tag to use in conjunction with the I.D.'s issued at the beginning of this school year.
- b) Many, if not all, administrators in the elementary schools now make an announcement at the beginning of the day, welcoming and identifying by name the "guest teachers" present in their schools. Not sure if this is happening in Junior High schools. If it is, please let us know by e-mailing Stephen Jones at ea@ataloc55.ab.ca
- c) Gradually, fulltime teachers are starting to refer to us as "guest teachers."

2. You are eligible to apply for PGS (Professional Growth Subsidy) funding to attend conferences or courses, as long as it is for Professional Development. For guidelines, detailed information, and application form:

- a) go to the ATA website www.ataloc55.ab.ca
- b) click on **Documents and Forms** (listed in orange box on left side)
- c) Under **Professional Growth Subsidy**, click on "**Substitute Application**"

LOOKING BACK

The Substitute (Guest) Teachers' Luncheon at the Calgary Teacher's Convention, was a great success. Guest Speaker, Brian Keating, Education Coordinator at the Calgary Zoo, spoke on the Topic: "Travelling to the Unknown." The luncheon was held at the Chamber of Commerce, 517 Centre St. (off 6th Ave.) His presentation was enlightening and informative, and included some fascinating and spectacular video of a pod of Narwhal whales he encountered while kayaking on Ellesmere Island, as well as a close-up video of a pair of industrious beavers constructing their lodge on the Bow River right here in Calgary! The luncheon buffet was enticing and delicious, with a variety of healthy and tasty dishes. You may want to think about attending this event next year. The committee may then also decide to subsidize the first five to register for the luncheon.

NEED INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE?

Remember, ***if you need any assistance or have any concerns or questions*** related to substitute (guest) teaching, don't hesitate to **contact Stephen Jones, Executive Assistant**, Calgary Separate Local #55, either by phone, **403-265-2678**, or e-mail ea@ataloc55.ab.ca. Your concern or issue will be put on the agenda for the next monthly meeting of the Committee.

Yours in teaching,

*Helen Rennie (Chair), Carmen Katulka, Janet Shea,
Johnnie DesRochers, Katrina Tindall, Lois Facca*