

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Volume 2

A publication for Alberta's school administrators

Number 4



Administrator Allowance Increased

Foothills School Division teachers and their board recently signed an agreement that provided a significant increase in administrative allowances.

According to the agreement, administrative allowances have been increased by \$1000 to \$1500 per year, retroactive to September 1, 2004. This is an immediate increase of 6.5 to 7.7 per cent. In addition to this lump sum

increase, all administrators received the same percentage increase on their allowance as they did on their salary. This double increase reflects the need to recognize the complexity of the administrator's role in today's schools.

The collective agreement also included an additional step on the schedule of allowances to recognize those working in larger schools.

Collaborative Leadership Development

Project Under Way

The ATA and Livingstone Range School Division No 68 have launched a collaborative project on leadership development.

The project was prompted by the large number of administrators beginning assignments in 2005/06 who were either new to administration or new to the district. The division predicts that many veteran administrators will soon retire. Statistics Canada data confirms this prediction: according to the 2000 census, 71 per cent of administrators were over 45, and 16 per cent were over 55.

The project is guided by a steering committee involving teachers, school-based administrators, the ATA local leadership and a

representative from the provincial ATA. Goals and objectives have been developed, and a draft vision of what effective leadership looks like is being circulated among stakeholders for feedback.

The steering committee plans to support new administrators in the first days of their assignments through personal, phone and e-mail contact from colleagues and central office staff.

An air of excitement permeates the steering committee's work. The role and responsibilities of school administrators have changed dramatically in the last ten years. Unfortunately, the provision of support and professional development for administrators in these challenging times has not kept up. The work in Livingstone Range School Division No 68 aims to address that lack.



Upcoming Events

Lunch with the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky

December 2, 2005, at 12:15 pm
Jasmine Place
3731 – 50 Street
Red Deer

This event is sponsored by the Council on School Administration, Central Alberta Regional.
Contact Carol Johnston at (403) 227-0060 for further information.

Principal Quality Standard: What's Happening!

Dinner and presentation by Dr Mark Swanson, Director of Teacher Development and Certification, Alberta Education. Dr Swanson will discuss the development of a provincial principal quality standard.

January 26, 2006, at 5:30 pm
Barnett House
11010 – 142 Street
Edmonton

This event is sponsored by the Council on School Administration, Edmonton Regional.
For further information, contact James Fraser at (780) 962-8788.

Banff Leadership Seminar 2006: Providing Effective School Leadership to Build Vibrant Learning

March 19 to 21, 2006
Banff Park Lodge
Banff, Alberta

When Harvey Alvy cowrote (with Pam Robbins) *If I Only Knew... Success Strategies for Navigating the Principalship*, Roland Barth called it “an encyclopaedic compilation of insights on the major issues confronting school principals. Suggestions are concrete, sensible and approachable.” The same can be said for Alvy’s next book, *The Principal’s Companion: Strategies and Hints to Make the Job Easier* (also cowritten with Robbins). We are excited to announce, therefore, that this coming March, in Banff, Dr Alvy will share his expertise with us in a common-sense workshop on school leadership. In addition, Tuesday morning participants will explore the cornerstones of leadership in a session led by Bev Baker-Hofmann and Laurel Vespi. The session will examine the four elements required to create passionate, authentic and visionary leaders. Further information and an application form are available on the ATA website at www.teachers.ab.ca. Click on School-Based Administrators under Resources for.

For further information, visit www.teachers.ab.ca or contact Member Services at the Alberta Teachers’ Association, 447-9400 (in Edmonton) or 1-800-232-7208 (from elsewhere in Alberta).