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Learning Network Educational Services

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Learning Network Educational Services Mission:

... to facilitate professional learning opportunities for education partners/providers in order to enhance student learning.

Learning Network Educational Services Board Members

Board Chair: Lorne Young - St. Paul Education Regional Division **Board Vice-Chair:** Jean Murie – Buffalo Trail Public Schools #28

Bob Brown – Buffalo Trail Public Schools #28

Neil Markham – Tribal Chiefs Educational Foundation

Lorna Scharfenberg – Northern Lights School Division #69

Brent Allen – Executive Director - Learning Network Educational Services

Dalane Immeson- St. Paul Education Regional Division

Message from the Executive Director

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

As we say "Goodbye" to Semester One, and "Hello" to semester two of the 2017 – 2018 academic year, it is with a saddened heart that I share the news of the passing of Mrs. Myrna Fox. After a courageous battle with cancer, Myrna passed away on January 5, 2018 at the Palliative Care Unit at the Elk Point Hospital. A Celebration of Life for Myrna was held at the Allied Arts and Leisure Centre in Elk Point on Friday January 12, 2018. During this celebration, family, relatives, friend and colleagues took time to share and reflect on the life of a woman who is best remembered as a Friend, Advocate and Ambassador of Education. Myrna's long and distinguished education and community careers have impacted countless numbers of lives, all proclaiming, "I am better because Myrna Fox was so patient and took the time to listen to and understand me!" Myrna will be missed by her family, friends, students, community and colleagues.

We are currently in the process of completing our Mid-Year 2017 – 2018 Report to Alberta Education. This report is a "snap shot" in time of the work we have been supporting our region to this point in the 2017 – 2018 Academic Year. As of the end of December 2017, the Learning Network Educational Services has provided support for approximately 132 professional learning opportunities supporting in excess of 2600 educators. One of the most unique aspects of the 2017 – 2018 Academic Year is the number of Internal Professional Learning Opportunities we are collaborating on with our Education Stakeholders and Partners. This is a "win-win" for everyone as we are meeting the needs of "targeted" professional learning needs and support.

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together

- African Proverb

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Featured Sessions:



Mar 13- Animals Make Us Human- Featuring Temple Grandin-Bonnyville https://www.learning-network.org/program/2382

Mar 14-The Way I See IT: A Personal Look at Autism and Asperger's-Featuring Temple Grandin https://www.learning-network.org/program/1327

Programming February-March 2018:

<u>Feb 12</u> - Teaching the Spirit and Intent of Treaty 6 and Numbered Treaties –St. Paul https://www.learning-network.org/program/2329

<u>Feb 12</u> - Introduction to Culture, Design and Identity-St. Paul https://www.learning-network.org/program/1813

<u>Feb 26</u> - Keeping the Learning in Project Based Learning-Vermilion <u>https://www.learning-network.org/program/2379</u>

<u>Feb 27</u> - Speaking to the Heart: The Importance of Understanding the FNMI Perspectives for School Communities St. Paul https://www.learning-network.org/program/1750

<u>Mar 1 - Vaping and Electronic Smoking Products: What You Need to Know:</u>

1:00 Webinar https://www.learning-network.org/program/2382
7:00 Webinar https://www.learning-network.org/program/2383

Mar 21- Problem Solving in the Division III Math Classroom-Vermilion https://www.learning-network.org/program/1922

Mar 26-Calming the Emotional Storm: Using Dialectical Behavior Therapy-Bonnyville https://www.learning-network.org/program/2331

Please visit the Learning Network Educational Services website www.learning-network.org to register for professional learning opportunities

Remember to go to our webpage www.learning-network.org and 'Subscribe to Mailing List' to receive our email reminders of upcoming P.L.O.'s!

Message from the Executive Director (continued from page 1)

The result of this is that there may not appear to be as many professional learning opportunities posted to the L.N.E.S. Website but we are busier than ever, "behind" the scenes.

I am also in the process of completing our "Mid-Year" check-ins with our Education Partners through the members of the Learning Network Educational Authority Advisory Committee. The last scheduled mid-year review is scheduled for February 22, 2018. The purpose of these conversations is to ensure that the L.N.E.S. is remaining responsive to the needs and direction of it education partners. As the conversations direct, we will look to provide additional and directed professional learning support for the duration of the 2017 – 2018 academic year. As well, during these conversations, we begin the process of looking ahead to the 2018 – 2019 academic year with the intent of identifying potential areas of professional learning need. The identified areas of professional learning need will be communicated to Alberta Education for, where possible, close alignment to Provincial Education Priority Areas for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year.

We are working hard at our end to become as efficient as possible with relation to all aspects of professional learning support. From registrations to evaluations, we continue to learn and grow. From these lessons, we are amending our operational procedures to become more efficient and respectful of your time and efforts.

One of the most beneficial "pieces" of feedback we receive is your session evaluation! Both individually and collectively, these evaluations are absolutely essential to our growth and to the direction we take for any and all future professional learning opportunities. We are in the process of transitioning from paper to digital for this part of the process and respectfully encourage and request your support in completing these session evaluations as they apply.

Another critical "tool" that aids us in the planning of professional learning needs for the upcoming year if your participation in and feedback gathered from the Learning Network Educational Services Needs Assessment Survey. This year's data collection, through this survey, will open on March 1, 2018 and conclude at 4:00 p.m. on March 23, 2018. Please take a few minutes to provide us with your feedback and direction.

Please take a few minutes to look at the professional learning opportunities that are being offered in our region in the next few weeks. They are highlighted in this newsletter – for a more detailed description, please visit our website at www.learning-network.org. There is wealth of resource information that is available at your fingertips at https://arpdcresources.ca

Thank you for taking time to peruse our Winter Newsletter and for considering the many professional learning opportunities that exist.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please pick up the phone and give me a call.

Brent

