

Learning Network Educational Services

www.learningnetwork.org

2018 – 2019 Staff:

Executive Director: Brent C. Allen brent.allen@learning-network.org Cell Phone: 780 842 9475

Curriculum Consultants: Sylvia Malo smalomath@gmail.com

Dan Nash <u>dnash07@gmail.com</u>

Jackie Ratkovic jratkovicmath@gmail.com

Lana Lane lana2lane@gmail.com

Executive Assistant: Celine Zevola <u>celine.zevola@learning-network.org</u> Office Phone: 780 623 2248

Administrative Assistant: Yvonne Plamondon yvonne.plamondon@learning-network.org Office Phone: 780 623 2248

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 (A.S.B.A)

Board Vice-Chair: Jean Murie – Buffalo Trail Public Schools #28 (Educational Assistant) Dalane Immerson – St. Paul Education Regional Division (C.A.S.S.) Bob Brown – Buffalo Trail Public Schools #28 (A.S.B.A.) Joanne McDonald – Lakeland College (Post Secondary) April Dan Fabbro – Northern Lights School Division #69 (Administrative Assistant) Neil Markham – Tribal Chief's Educational Foundation (First Nations)

Message from the Executive Director

Learning Network Educational Services Newsletter - Winter 2018

It continues to amaze me how quickly time flies by! With the first official day of Winter 2018 less than 48 hours away, this newsletter finds many of us in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the Christmas Season and tending to the day-to-day responsibilities of looking after our students, our staff and our communities. It seems to be increasingly easy to become distracted by the multitude of things going on around us! My wish, is that you would dedicate time to slowing down and to enjoying what is going on around you as opposed to rushing into the next moment! These no longer, appear to be "normal" responses – we are so accustomed to running flat out that when we have "down time" it often comes to an end by the time we realize that we can, in fact, slow down and enjoy the day and those around us! I encourage you to set aside time to reflect on perhaps a "simpler time", to count blessings and to reconnect with the real reason we celebrate this Blessed Christmas Season.

As we look back on the beginning of the 2017 - 2018 Academic Year; it has been four months of moving steadily forward. With the December 14, 2018 Minsterial signature on the K – 4 Curriculum, we are eagerly anticipating an approved Implementation Plan and continued advancements towards the release of supports to build capacity and communication efforts as the K – 4 Curriculum begins the evolutionary process of Field-Testing and further advancement towards full implementation. In the foreseeable future, I anticipate the transition from a pre-readiness phase to a preparatory phase which will provide us with greater detail and indication of supports being offered through Alberta Education and their Education Partners.

The other major "unknown" revolves around the pending 2019 Alberta Provincial Election! Regardless of the outcome of this election, the Learning Network Educational Services will continue to work towards identifying, designing and providing the professional learning required to support all of our education partners!

Education must not simply teach work – it must teach life!

W.E.B. Du Bois – Afican Proverb

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Jan. 30th – IFNMI19-22 Teacher Talks Webinar 2018-2019 Engaging Elders and Community Members in Reconciliation – Online

Feb. 04 & 05 IE19-26 Dialectical Behavior Therapy: Beyond the Basics – Wainwright, AB

Feb. 20th IFNMI19-23 Teacher Talks Webinar 2018-2019 Introduction to Indigenous Ways of Knowing – Online

Feb. 26th ICD19-121 Assessing and Reporting Student Achievement in a Concept-Based Curriculum Grades 1-6 Vermilion, AB

Feb. 27th ICD19-122 Assessing and Reporting Student Achievement in a Concept-Based Curriculum Grades 7-12 Vermilion, AB

March 04 & 05 IE19-11 Becoming a Behavioral Detective: Understanding, Surviving and Supporting Complex Behaviors – Vermilion, AB

March 04 ICD19-32 Making Writing: Engaging Your Most Print Resistant Writers – Wainwright, AB

March 05 1019-29 UnSocial Media: Virtual World Causing Real Word Anxiety

March 19, 20 & 21 IFNMI19-30 Mental Health First Aid through a First Nations Perspective – St. Paul, AB

March 20 IFNMI19-24 Teacher Talks Webinar 2018-2019 the 60' Scoop - Online

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

Remember to go to our webpage <u>www.learning-network.org</u> 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)

We are currently in the process of completing our Mid-Year 2018 – 2019 Report to Alberta Education. This report is a "snap shot" in time of the work we have been privileged to support in our region, to this point in the 2018 - 2019 Academic Year. As of November 25, 2018, the Learning Network Educational Services has provided support for approximately 122 professional learning opportunities supporting in excess of 5300 participants. As well, we hosted the South Support Staff Conference on November 23, 2018 at the Wainwright High School. This professional learning day provided 23 different sessions for 267 participants. On the same day, we supported East Central Catholic Schools #16 in their second annual System Professional Learning Support Day. This day was focused on Concept Based Curriculum and Instruction for teachers K - 9 and subject specific collaborative conversations for Grades 10 - 12. A total of 8 sessions were provided supporting 115 Teachers, Administrators and System Leaders. I continue to consider it a genuine privilege to work closely with so many of our school authorities as we identify areas of professional learning need and then work to put the necessary support in place for the same.

A critical piece to our success, is our ongoing conversations and communications over the course of the entire school year. I have been able to connect with many of you regarding your identified and emerging professional learning needs and look forward to connecting with those of you I have yet to chat with.

I am also in the process of completing the Annual Mid-Year Report for Alberta Education. Our review is scheduled for January 23, 2019. The purpose of these conversations is to ensure that the L.N.E.S. is remaining responsive to the needs and direction of its education partners. As the conversations direct, we will look to provide additional and directed professional learning support for the duration of the 2018 – 2019 academic year. As well during these conversations, we begin the process of identifying potential areas of professional learning need. Once communicated to Alberta Education, these identified areas of professional learning need will be considered in the determination of the 2019 -2020 Provincial Education Priority Areas.

Stakeholder feedback and direction remain critical to the success we share. Please continue to complete your Online Session Evaluations when you receive them. As well, please mark your calendars for our L.N.E.S. Needs Assessment Survey which will open on March 1, 2019 – March 22, 2019 - please take a few minutes to provide us with your feedback and direction.

Lastly, please take a few minutes to connect with us on our website at <u>www.learning-</u> <u>network.ora</u>! Once there, if you have not already, take a minute to sign up for so you receive notifications as they become available. Also, please remember, when you are looking for resources, head over to <u>www.arpdcresources.ca</u>

The Learning Network Educational Services Office will be closed for the Christmas Break from December 21, 2018 – January 6, 2019.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of the Learning Network Educational Services we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

