

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Volume 14

A publication for Alberta's school administrators

Number 3



Welcome back everyone!

This edition of the *Leadership Update* contains valuable information to support you in the work that you do and to inform you of some ways you can access very high quality professional learning activities for school leaders in Alberta throughout the year.

Professional Learning Opportunities and News

To obtain information about upcoming professional learning events and programs for school leaders you need only remember the following—www.uLead.ca—to access up-to-date news about school leadership in Alberta, provincial and regional professional learning events, and the uLead conference that takes place every year. This year, uLead will take place from April 15 to 18 in Banff, Alberta. Please visit uLead.ca on a regular basis as the events and news will change frequently.

International Education Exchange Program

Short-term administrator exchanges are available as two-week job shadow experiences for Alberta school leaders. Participants are billeted by their exchange counterpart and work shadow in their exchange partner's school for one to two weeks. They then host their counterpart for one to two weeks so they can experience the Alberta education system. Administrators arrange cultural visits to correspond with the interests of both parties. Opportunities exist in Australia, Germany, Spain, Denmark and the United Kingdom. Exchanges overseas occur during the summer months and counterparts are hosted in Alberta in September or October. Participants require an Alberta Permanent Professional Teaching Certificate and the approval of their superintendent. For a successful, engaging experience, participants should be flexible, adaptable, positive, open to other cultures and comfortable with ambiguity. They should also have demonstrated leadership qualities. Interested? Find out more at www.ieep.ca.

Your teacher learning strategy is your school improvement strategy.

Simon Breakspear

To find archived issues of *Leadership Update*, go to www.teachers.ab.ca and click on Publications > Other Publications > School Administrators.

Feedback is welcome. Please contact Jeff Johnson, executive staff officer, Professional Development, at jeff.johnson@ata.ab.ca.



Council for
School Leadership

Distinguished Leadership Awards

The Council for School Leadership is pleased to invite nominations from throughout Alberta for the CSL Alberta Distinguished Leadership Awards with recipients being honoured in Calgary on May 25, 2018.

The CSL Distinguished Leadership Awards create a learning community of outstanding principals throughout Alberta who can share professionally, interact collegially and act as mentors to new colleagues to provide avenues for research and the sharing of best practices. The cadre of distinguished Alberta school leaders are people who are looking to challenge the status quo, improve learning in their contexts and be equipped for higher levels of

leadership. These individuals will become role models in the Council for School Leadership, a vibrant network of educational leaders with the confidence and capabilities to lead innovative change for 21st century learning.

Please consider nominating a deserving school leader for consideration for this honour.

The deadline for nominations is midnight, April 1, 2018. All nominees must be active members of the Council for School Leadership to be eligible to receive the award. Nominees can join the CSL at any time by going to bit.ly/joincsl. Complete your nomination online at tinyurl.com/CSL-Leadership by following the guidelines below.

What will I need to do?

- Once you have entered the nomination site, make a short comment related to your nominee's leadership in each of Alberta's Principal Quality Practice Competencies.
- Provide an indication that your nominee has consented to being nominated (required), and provide the nominee's school name, school telephone number and email address.
- Provide supporting evidence of your nominee's leadership in each of Alberta's Principal Quality Practice Competencies:
 - Fostering effective leadership
 - Embodying visionary leadership
 - Leading a learning community
 - Providing instructional leadership
 - Developing and facilitating leadership
 - Managing school operations and resources
 - Understanding and responding to the larger societal context

Detailed information about the Principal Quality Practice Competencies can be found at tinyurl.com/PQPCOMPENCY. Prior to submitting the survey you will also have an opportunity to enter additional comments regarding the nominee, should you wish to do so.



uLead Conference, Leading Schools by Design, April 15—18, 2018

A unique opportunity awaits. Join educational leaders from around the world in the beautiful world heritage location of Banff, Alberta, at Canada's premier conference for school-based leaders, district-level leaders and provincial and state education leaders.

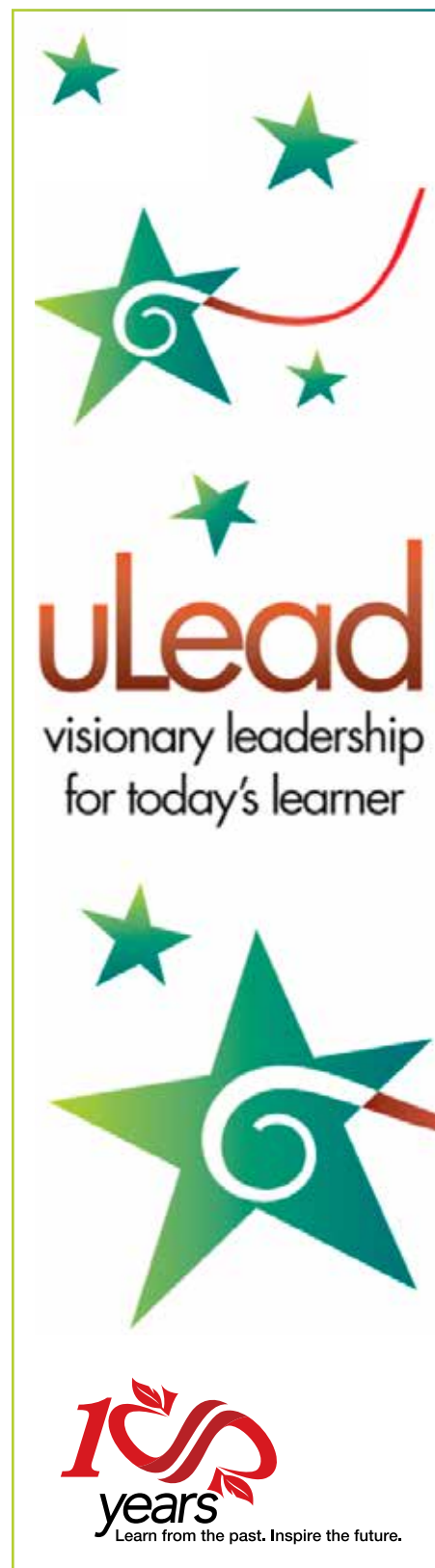
The conference will feature a wide array of engaging, world-class keynote speakers who will join in a dialogue about best practices in educational leadership worldwide and in the leadership Alberta demonstrates as one of the highest performing school jurisdictions in the world.

We expect 1000 principals, assistant principals, district leaders, national ministers of education and education ministry representatives from around the world to attend. Spouses and family members will also have myriad opportunities to explore Banff, one of the most pristine wilderness areas in the world, during the conference.

The theme for uLead 2018 is Leading Schools by Design, and it will seek to provoke attending delegates to think about those intentional actions taken by education leaders at a school or system level to bring forth particular learning outcomes.

The resulting conversation will range from how we intentionally design the physical structures that we teach and learn in to design theory in education to how we could transform our education system to ensure a vibrant public education system as we go forward.

Planning for uLead 2018 has already begun in earnest and hundreds of your colleagues from Alberta, across Canada and around the world have already registered to attend, but there are still some spaces left. Registration is now open at tinyurl.com/ulead18 with early-bird discounts for those registering prior to January 31, 2018.





Join us at uLead this year.
tinyurl.com/ulead18



ULEAD 2018

April 15–18, 2018

Register at tinyurl.com/ulead18.

uLead Conference

Banff Springs Hotel

Each year the **Council for School Leadership of the Alberta Teachers' Association** hosts one of the most respected conferences worldwide for school leaders, aspiring school leaders and central office teachers in Banff.

We invite you to join us in April for uLead 2018—*Leading Schools by Design!*



The Alberta Teachers' Association



Great Sources of News for School Leaders

Are you searching for interesting articles and ideas about school leadership? You will find some very timely articles in a range of school leadership publications that are available online.

Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) Journal is published quarterly and is the official voice of the Canadian Association of Principals. Find the latest issue at <http://cdnprincipals.org/blog/2017/02/27/winter-2017-cap-journal/>.

European School Heads Association (ESHA) Magazine is published regularly throughout the year and contains articles that highlight issues Alberta school leaders share with their European colleagues. Subscribe to it for free at <http://www.eshamagazine/>. The most recent issue contains interesting information on the importance of well being for teachers and learners. Download it at <http://www.eshamagazine.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ESHA-magazine-December-2017.pdf#pdfjs.action=download>.

Principal is an award-winning magazine written specifically for K–8 principals and published by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). This month's issue features a great article on the importance of pastoral care. Find it at http://www.nxtbook.com/ygsreprints/NAESP/principal_20171112/index.php#/0.

You may also wish to check out their blog, The Principal's Office, which is full of great tips for school leaders, at <https://www.naesp.org/front-page-blog-archive>.

Principal Leadership is a publication of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) that focuses on school leaders' real needs, offering them practical, hands-on strategies for improving their schools in a constantly evolving educational environment. Find the latest issue at <https://www.nassp.org/news-and-resources/publications/principal-leadership/principal-leadership-archives/principal-leadership-volume-18-2017-18/principal-leadership-december-2017>.

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) has a large, searchable and free collection of scholarly research materials on school leadership. Access AITSL's comprehensive archive at <https://www.aitsl.edu.au/tools-resources>.

iTunes U—Each month new courses and materials are added to the Alberta Teachers on iTunes U site at tinyurl.com/ATAiTunes. Currently, new courses on Alberta's School Leader Standards are being added to the site.

Alberta Teachers on iTunes U

This month we highlight several new courses to support leadership for inclusive education called *Winning Strategies for Struggling Students*, *Differentiated Instruction: Leveraging Learning Preferences*, and *Addressing Learning Disabilities in the Inclusive Classroom*. These are well worth subscribing to and are full of good ideas that principals and assistant principals should consider regarding their leadership work in this area. They will also be of value to all Alberta classroom teachers. The courses provide an opportunity to look in depth at best practices for inclusive education within the Alberta context. Watch for a variety of new courses in January to support you in your leadership role. To access the site, please visit tinyurl.com/ATAiTunes or scan the QR code on this page.



Council for School Leadership

As an Alberta school principal or assistant principal you are encouraged to select the Council for School Leadership as your automatically renewing specialist council. If you are not already a member of the Council for School Leadership, please take a moment today to go to bit.ly/joincsl and follow the steps to join this school leadership specialist council. It is custom-made for school leaders and aspiring school leaders.



TGSE

A Workshop for Administrators

Teacher Growth, Supervision, Evaluation and Practice Review



January 25–26, 2018

9 AM – 4 PM

Sheraton Cavalier Hotel

Calgary

The provincial Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Policy (Policy 2.1.5) deals with accountability and continuous professional growth and ensures that a teacher's professional practice is under ongoing supervision. The Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Policy defines the process and the Teaching Quality Standard defines the competencies for professional practice. This workshop focuses on the principal's critical role and the duties he or she must perform as outlined in the *School Act* and Policy 2.1.5.

Presented by: The Alberta Teachers' Association

To register and for more information go to <https://event-wizard.com/events/TGSE0118/>.

The deadline for registration is **January 19, 2018**.

For further information contact Sudeep Dua at ms@ata.ab.ca,
780-447-9454 (Edmonton and area) or 1-800-232-7208 (toll free in Alberta).

Participants are responsible for substitute teacher, travel and accommodation arrangements and costs if required.



The Alberta
Teachers' Association

