

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

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An Evening with Daniel Pink— CSL Awards Night

It is not often that an opportunity arises to spend an hour with one of the world's great thinkers on leadership and motivation. Daniel Pink speaks all over the world, and opportunities to hear him typically cost several hundred dollars. The CSL Distinguished Leadership Awards event is the perfect opportunity to be inspired by Daniel Pink at a greatly reduced cost while celebrating and honouring the example of the teachers who are some of Alberta's most talented educational leaders.

In his latest book, *To Sell Is Human: The Surprising Truth About Moving Others*, Daniel Pink tackles the idea of moving away from transactions and into transcendence—to making something personal. He goes on to add that this is the best way to “sell” students on what they are learning. Pink maintains that “most of our education is heavily, heavily, heavily standardized, so 11-year-olds are all together in one room. No 10-year-olds, and certainly no 13-year-olds. And [assuming that] all those 11-year-olds are the same, we're going to put them all together in a 35-kid classroom. And yet the headwinds in education are very much toward routines, right answer, standardization.” Pink posits that one of the reasons things are moving this way is due to an “appalling” absence of leadership on this

issue. “One of the things that I see as an outsider is that so much of education policy seems designed for the convenience of adults rather than the education of children,” he said. You will find a very interesting analysis from an education point of view of Daniel Pink's latest book, *To Sell Is Human*, at <http://blogs.kqed.org/mindshift/2013/01/dan-pink-how-teachers-can-sell-love-of-learning-to-students/> or <http://tinyurl.com/bky9zvp>.

Spend an evening with leaders who are making a difference—the Council for School Leadership 2012/13 Distinguished Leadership Award recipients—and hear more from Daniel Pink about the amazing ways that talented people, teachers and skilled school leaders can work together to build innovative learning ecosystems where students and faculty can be moved to flourish.

*NOTE: Individual registrations for the Distinguished Leadership Awards event featuring Daniel Pink are open for all those who are interested. Principals or assistant principals who are members of the Council for School Leadership (formerly CSA) can purchase multiple group packs of tickets at a reduced price and are encouraged to bring teachers, staff members, parent council members, spouses, trustees and members of the community to the event.

One of the things that I see as an outsider is that so much of education policy seems designed for the convenience of adults rather than the education of children.

This event will fill up quickly, so participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible for this very special evening.

The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it.

—Norman Schwarzkopf



Council for
School Leadership

Some Details Regarding This Event

This event will be of interest to school and district leaders, trustees, parent council members, school staff and members of the community.

Date

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Time

5:30–6:30 PM: Ticket pickup and cash bar in foyer
6:30–7:30 PM: CSL Distinguished Leadership Awards
7:30–9:00 PM: Daniel Pink—To Sell Is Human: The Surprising Truth About Moving Others

Location

Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
11455 87 Avenue North West
Edmonton, Alberta

Cost

Tickets for the evening cost \$65.00. School leaders can purchase multiple packs in groups of 5 or 10 at a significantly reduced cost.

To register

This event will sell out very quickly, and registrations will be limited to the first 1,000 people.

School leaders may wish to go to the CSL website, bit.ly/joincsa, to sign up as a Council for School Leadership member prior to completing their registration for this event in order to access the group prices for ticket purchase.

To register, visit <http://tinyurl.com/cslawards>. We look forward to seeing you at this special dialogue dinner opportunity with Daniel Pink. Tickets will sell out quickly for this event, so please register soon.

ATA President Sends Video Message to Teachers

Alberta Teachers' Association President Carol Henderson has issued a video address to teachers regarding the state of public education and the offer from Premier Redford for a provincial framework agreement.

Two versions of the video address have been recorded. The short version (http://youtu.be/werndtvL_Y) is just over five minutes long and provides an overview of the state of education and background information about the development of and approval process for the offer. The nine-minute extended version (<http://youtu.be/BIDg35bYq2Q>) also includes an overview of the offer. The video address can also be accessed via the ATA website at www.teachers.ab.ca.



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

Feedback is welcome. Please contact Konni deGoeij, associate coordinator, administrator assistance, Member Services, at konni.degoeij@ata.ab.ca.

Teacher Growth, Supervision, Evaluation and Practice Review Workshop

You are invited to attend a
Teacher Growth, Supervision, Evaluation and Practice Review Workshop
August 19–20, 2013, at Barnett House, in Edmonton

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 reviews with principals their critical role and the duties they must perform as outlined in the *School Act* and policy 2.1.5.

For information and registration forms, visit www.teachers.ab.ca and go to For Members, Events Calendar.

Education minister's e-mail to teachers investigated

Teachers can file complaints with province's privacy commissioner

by Margaret Shane

Question: I understand that the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) is investigating the minister of education's use of teachers' e-mail addresses on February 6, 2013. I'm interested in how the commissioner might hear from individual teachers on this matter. How do I file a complaint with the OIPC?

Answer: There are two ways in which to file a complaint with the privacy commissioner.

First, you can act on your own behalf. To do so, visit the OIPC website (www.oipc.ab.ca) and complete the complaint form found under the Forms tab. Send the completed form to the commissioner's office at the address or fax number listed at the bottom of the form.

Second, you can contact the Alberta Teachers' Association's privacy officer and ask her about filing and administering the complaint on your behalf. If you choose this option, please contact Margaret Shane, ATA Privacy Officer, to obtain the required authorization forms. E-mail: margaret.shane@ata.ab.ca.

About the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC)

The OIPC is the regulatory body for the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the FOIP Act), the *Health Information Act* (HIA) and the *Personal Information Protection Act* (the PIPA Act, which governs private sector privacy). The commissioner also conducts inquiries under the Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation (AMVIR).

Why this agreement?

Teachers are curious about proposed framework agreement

by Shelley Magnusson

Ever since Provincial Executive Council (PEC) voted to recommend to members that they accept the proposed framework agreement, I've been asked many times the following questions: Why this agreement? Why is this agreement better than the ones we turned down? What happened to local bargaining?

In a nutshell, here's what happened. Local bargaining ceased to be a viable alternative in many bargaining units the moment Education Minister Jeff Johnson advised school boards that he wanted to see all local agreements before they could be ratified. While local bargaining was under way and progress was made on some low-cost or no-cost items, the education minister sent an e-mail to teachers (see page 3: "Education minister's e-mail to teachers investigated"), which halted the process. Consequently, school boards decided they could not negotiate agreements in such an uncertain climate. Added to this was the fact that the province had yet to bring down its annual budget, which would contain information about education funding.

With the local bargaining process hamstrung by the education minister, Premier Alison Redford stepped in and contacted ATA President Carol Henderson to see if the ATA would try one more time to reach an agreement—we had to agree to look at what the government had to offer.

The premier's offer presented to PEC is significantly better than the one the education minister offered in February. One of the most significant improvements, aside from the premier's comfort letter, is contained in Part C of the agreement: Teacher Workload. Several new clauses are of significant interest for teachers. (The proposed

framework agreement is posted to the ATA's website, www.teachers.ab.ca.)

One feature of the agreement is the creation of the Internal School Jurisdiction Review (ISJR). The ISJR committee will include representatives from the school jurisdiction, teachers named by the Association bargaining unit and a facilitator provided by Alberta Education. Each jurisdiction ISJR committee will design, direct and conduct internal reviews to determine what jurisdictional tasks or policies can be eliminated, changed or reduced to

improve teachers' conditions of practice. Each committee will be in place for at least the duration of the agreement.

ISJR committees will complete their reports by October 31, 2013. Reports must include an action plan and recommendations for items that require further study. In other words, the school board can't use the committee as a delaying tactic to avoid making changes. Furthermore, if teachers believe the issues and/or recommendations in the report have not been addressed, they can

appeal to the school's principal. If they still feel that their concerns aren't being addressed, they can appeal to the superintendent and, if all else fails, they have the right to refer the matter to the Exceptions Committee. Similarly, a principal or group of principals will now have an avenue to appeal their conditions of practice, an avenue that was not open to them prior to this agreement.

Although PEC voted to recommend this agreement to teachers, the final say rests with you, the members. Please attend the Bargaining Unit General Meeting in your area. Listen carefully, ask questions, then make an informed decision.

