

Professional Development Committee

2023-2024 Annual Report

From: Sophie Chen, Chair – New Brighton
 Robert Choate – Elem Rep – West Springs
 Jennifer Locke – Elem Rep – Coventry Hills
 Sally Mbunya – Elem Rep – King George
 Heather Basaraba – Jr High Rep – Mount Royal
 Liz Ivy – Jr High Rep – Simon Fraser
 Dean Kokonas – Sr High Rep – Lester B Pearson
 Cat Turner – Admin Rep – John G Diefenbaker
 Michelle Hayden – Member at Large – Lester B Pearson
 Madison Lehti – Member at Large – Terry Fox
 Maria Herrera – Member at Large – Senator Patrick Burns
 Neena Beeharry – Member at Large – School Improvement
 Joshua Overland – Communications Liaison – CBe-learn
 Darren Moroz – District Representative
 Nancy Luyckfassel – ATA Prof Development Staff Officer
 Stephani Clements – President



It is with pride and a great sense of accomplishment that I am writing this report. Your PD Committee has delivered a year of well-attended events. Through the member survey and session feedback, we were able to respond to members’ PD needs and wants. Thank you, colleagues for your dedication to lifelong learning and therefore enhance students’ learning.

The PD Committee offered a total of 32 sessions, almost 2000 learning opportunities for teachers in the program areas identified in the member survey conducted in April 2023 and the ongoing session feedback. The Eventbrite registration system with a deposit policy has significantly improved the attendance.

The table here summarized the sessions with description.

Program Area	Summary
Mentorship Program	<p>The Mentorship Program supports new teachers with planning, assessment, sharing of resources, and many other areas that arise during a new teacher’s journey. Seventy pairs of mentors and protégés signed up for this program and each pair had access to three substitute teacher days.</p> <p>The release time was dedicated to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping with planning units of study, discussion on assessment tools • Building IPP’s • Visiting/observing other classrooms in teachers’ schools • Examining philosophies of teaching and learning • Accessing and developing resources • Visiting professional libraries or learning sites, etc.

	<p>Throughout the year there were three after school sessions that brought the participants together to collaborate and share their insights. We concluded this year’s program with a wellness workshop facilitated by the ATA PD Staff Officer, Dr. Stacey Hannay, sending off our teachers to the end of the year with a renewed energy and brighter outlook for their career.</p>
Land-based Learning	<p>The Committee offered this land-based learning session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A day trip to Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park
Teacher Collaboration	<p>This year 80 teachers with a minimum of three years of teaching experiences were accepted for this program and each partner had access to a full day of release time. The participants used the time to on the learning areas they deem would enhance their student’ learning. This program began in the fall with an introduction meeting and wrapped up in May with presentations shared by the participants on what they have achieved through the collaboration.</p>
Mental Health	<p>The Committee delivered three sessions addressing student mental health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking Forward – Preventing Suicide in Youth (two sessions) • Rethinking Challenging Kids
Teacher Wellness	<p>Teacher wellness continued to be the high-demanding program. We were pleased that we were able to offer session in different venues to further professional conversations and recharge teachers’ power bank.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You Are the Light! An evening at Zoo Lights • Spark after Dark • Theatre Calgary – Made in Italy • Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra - IndigiDivas • HEARTCare – Walk and Talk at Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area (two sessions) • Yoga & Mindfulness • Story Book Theatre - One Christmas Carol • Let’s Play – cooperative wellness at Activate • Breaking Bread with Chef Martin series (four sessions)
Diversity and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion in a Film – Peace by Chocolate • Supporting One, Supporting All – an evening with Dr Shelley Moore • Strategies that work for students with ADHD (two sessions) • Discovering Empathy with Gayathri Shukla (two sessions) • Active Learning for teachers working in Special Ed Setting
Women in Leadership	<p>We co-sponsored two WIL sessions of Growing Leaders through Networking</p>

These PD events can only be made to realization with all the committee members’ hard work and many behind-the-scenes operations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank:

- Tarra Munro, the PD Coordinator in the Local office, who handled all the administrative and logistic aspects of the PD events

- Dan Nelles, the Staff Officer, who advised and guided the revision of the *Frame of Reference*
- Stephani Clements, the Local President, who attended the Committee's regular meetings and provided her insight and leadership
- Nancy Luyckfassel, the Provincial Executive PD Staff Officer, who brought resources and guidance to support our committee work
- Darren Moroz, the District Representative, who continued to be an invaluable advisor to the Committee
- Josh Overland, the Communication Committee Liaison, who helped promote the PD events to members.

The PD Committee had an effective and productive planning day on May 6th. We analyzed the member survey data and participants' session feedback then organized the learning events for next year. We are very pleased that we finished the year strong. Looking forward to another great learning journey 2024/2025!

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Chen, Chair
Professional Development Committee

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