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Teacher Learning Matters in GYPSD!



GNS: Good News Story

Teaching and Leadership Excellence is a Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Board Priority, and to deliver on that priority, the Division provides a substantial professional growth fund. Teachers from Evansburg all the way to Jasper and Grande Cache have substantial professional learning funds to support their ongoing growth and capacity to deliver a world-class education. The fund allows teachers in GYPSD to apply for up to \$2,000 per year to access professional development on the most up-to-date and innovative teaching strategies, courses to deepen and expand their content expertise, and/or to support teachers' pursuit of graduate studies.

Recently, the ATA Professional Growth Committee met to update Administrative Procedure 423 *Professional Growth of Teachers* and to review adjustment requests based on teacher feedback. Working collaboratively with ATA PD Representatives from across GYPSD, the Office of the Superintendent offered key changes to how the fund may be accessed to better support teachers for 2020-21. Highlights include:

- Extra travel time to attend and return from conferences over 300 km away to ensure the safety of teachers on roads and highways;
 - Extended deadline to submit required paperwork for summer courses;
 - Increased meal per diem;
- Clarified process for teachers accessing leaves at the end of the school year;
 - Expanded approval for taxi/Uber use; and
 - Streamlined forms.

Superintendent Lewis recently spoke to all GYPSD leadership of the Division's focus on, and support of exceptional professional learning for the jurisdiction's teachers. "We have one of the best professional learning funds in the province - which really shows just how much we value our teachers and their daily work to deliver outstanding programming to the Division's students."



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