



**Alberta School Boards Association
2017 Edwin Parr Teacher Award**

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Every school board has excellent first year teachers. These individuals may acquire an additional level of recognition by being nominated for the ASBA Edwin Parr Teacher Award. Hopefully, your school board will choose to participate in the process leading to the selection of the 2017 ASBA Edwin Parr Teacher Award winners.

Background

Edwin Parr homesteaded in the Meanook area near Athabasca in 1920.

Prior to 1925 he began his long career in educational affairs as a member of the board with the George Lake School District. He served as chair of the board with the Athabasca School Division and was on the council of the County of Athabasca from its formation in 1959 until his death in January 1963.

Edwin Parr was president of the Alberta School Trustees' Association (*now the Alberta School Boards Association*) from 1956 to 1962. "Ed Parr", as he was known to all, instituted an Annual Teacher Award in his school system. Each year a member of the teaching staff was chosen to receive a gold watch and an appropriate certificate for long and meritorious service.

In searching for a way in which his memory might be perpetuated and to honor the profession he so dearly respected, the Alberta School Trustees' Association established the Edwin Parr Teacher Award in 1964.

Eligibility criteria

- Any first year K-12 teacher is eligible for nomination.
- A minimum of 100 full-time equivalent days of teaching service within the current school year (i.e. September 2016 – June 2017) is required.
- A teacher may have up to a maximum of 120 full-time equivalent days of teaching service prior to signing a contract.
- A teacher must hold an Interim Professional Certificate or other valid Alberta teaching authority.
- First year teaching experience must be completed in Alberta with a school jurisdiction that is a member of the ASBA.

Nomination determination and allocation

- Initial identification and selection of the nominee will be made by the school board.
- Please provide Attachment 4 to each nominee.
- Each school board may only nominate one (1) candidate to the zone selection committee.

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Required contents of nomination package

- The following documentation (in English) must be included in the electronic nomination package:
 - Attachment 1 – School Board Nomination Form (*completed and signed*)
 - Attachment 2 – Nominee Consent Form (*completed and signed*)
 - Attachment 3 – School Board Evaluation (*completed and signed*)
 - The nominee’s most recent Student Teaching Evaluation
 - Remarks from the nominee’s school principal
 - Current, school staff head and shoulders photograph of nominee in electronic format (e.g. jpeg)
- All forms and evaluations must be completed, and all elements noted above must be provided electronically. Please do not submit electronic productions of the teacher’s work. Consideration of only the materials noted above will inform the zone selection process.

School board submission process and deadline

- Upon school board approval of the nomination, the school superintendent or his/her authorized representative, will submit one complete electronic copy of the nomination package of the district nominee to the chair (or designate) of the ASBA zone in which your jurisdiction is located by **March 17, 2017**, as below.

| | |
|--|---|
| Zone 1, Ms. Tammy Henkel Email: thenkel@hpsd.ca 780.291.0888C 780.523.4618B | Zone 5, Ms. Amber Stewart Email: alstewart@cbe.ab.ca 403.817.7933B |
| Zone 2/3, Mrs. Cheryl Dumont Email: chemar@telus.net 780.293.7328C 780.460.3712B | Zone 6, Ms. Pam Boyson Email: Pam.boyson@westwind.ab.ca 403.653.4991B |
| Zone 4, Ms. Connie Huelsman Email: chuelsman@cesd73.ca 403.350.7552C 403.227.7070B | |

- Please retain an electronic record of the nomination information at the nominating board office for a period of one year.
- All information provided in the nomination package will be considered confidential.
- Confirmation of receipt of the nomination package will be provided within 72 hours. If no confirmation is received within that timeframe, please follow up by telephone.

Selection criteria

- The following criteria and requisite weighting will be used to determine the zone winner:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| School board evaluation | 40 points |
| Student teaching evaluation | 5 points |
| Interview with zone selection committee | 55 points |

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Zone recognition and selection

- Each zone hosts a recognition event for all nominees.
- Each zone will select one nominee as the zone winner of the award, with the exception of Zone 2/3, which will select two winners due to the amalgamation of zones 2 and 3.
- An appropriate gift will be presented to each of the six Edwin Parr Teacher Award winners at a zone function prior to the ASBA Fall General Meeting.

Alberta School Boards Association recognition

- The provincial ASBA Edwin Parr Teacher Awards (gold watch and framed certificate bearing the Association's logo) will be presented to each of the six Edwin Parr Teacher Award winners at the ASBA Fall General Meeting, November 19-21, 2017.
- The Association will pay expenses for zone winner attendance at the presentation ceremonies during the ASBA Fall General Meeting.

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Attachment 1 – School Board Nomination Form

Jurisdiction Name

Zone

wishes to nominate the following teacher for the Alberta School Boards Association 2017 Edwin Parr Teacher Award.

Nominee's Name

Address

City/PC

Telephone/Cell

Email

School name

Address

City/PC

Present Teaching Assignment:

Post-Secondary Education (degree earned including major/minor):

Graduating University:

Superintendent of Schools or Designate

Date

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Attachment 2 – Nominee Consent Form

I, _____ consent to my nomination for the
Print Name

ASBA Edwin Parr Teacher Award and authorize the release of any or all information pertaining to my employment for the purpose of this nomination. This includes the use of my photograph to assist the ASBA in developing media releases and/or award materials.

Signature

Date

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Attachment 3 – School Board Evaluation

Please provide commentary and evidence relative to the nominee's performance in each of the following dimensions. Please then assess a point value between 0-5 for each dimension and note it in the right column.

| DIMENSION | POINTS |
|---|--------|
| A. Knowledge of student learning styles | /5 |
| B. Skill in utilizing a variety of instructional methodologies | /5 |
| C. Skill in utilizing a variety of student evaluation methodologies | /5 |
| D. Skill in diagnosing the entry knowledge and/or skill of students for a given set of instructional objectives | /5 |

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| DIMENSION | POINTS |
|---|------------|
| E. Skill in assisting students to develop a positive self-concept | /5 |
| F. Involvement in professional development | /5 |
| G. Involvement in extra-curricular, and community activities | /5 |
| H. Interpersonal skills with students | /5 |
| School board evaluation points total | /40 |

Supervisor

Date

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Attachment 4 – For Edwin Parr Teacher Award Nominees

About the Alberta School Boards Association

Established in 1907, the Alberta School Boards Association (formerly the Alberta School Trustees' Association), celebrates its 110th year of service to the province's 61 school boards this year. Membership in the ASBA is voluntary – every francophone, public and separate school board in the province is a member of the ASBA. As well as serving school boards in Alberta, membership has been extended to the publicly supported school systems in the cities of Yellowknife and Lloydminster.

The Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) offers school boards:

- The powerful advocacy opportunities that present themselves when school boards unite to lobby on behalf of the province's students and the communities they serve;
- The services of a team well versed in the culture of school boards, who are available to help with unique local challenges;
- Exclusive access to a suite of insurance, employee benefit and pension plans designed especially for school boards and their employees;
- Opportunities to network and learn at two annual meetings, regular Zone (regional) meetings and provincial issues forums; and
- Timely information about emerging trends in education.

About school boards

In Alberta, citizens elect trustees to serve on school boards to act for the legislature in their local schools and communities. School boards exist because of the belief that government – and decisions – made closest to the people being governed are the most effective.

Through the School Act, Alberta's legislature has delegated some authority for the governance of education to school boards. As statutory corporations school boards have obligations to perform and they have powers to carry out these tasks.

The board of trustees is granted many types of authority to enable it to fulfill its mandate to provide kindergarten to Grade 12 education within its jurisdiction. These powers relate to providing educational services.

The school board is also an advocate for public education and for the local school system. In this capacity, the school board consults its constituents and shares information with MLAs and government – as an individual board – and collectively through the ASBA. School boards advocate for students to ensure children are provided with the best possible educational opportunities.

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About Edwin Parr

Those who knew Edwin Parr describe him as a person intensely concerned with the education of children. So great was his interest that he sacrificed much of his own time to ensure the children in his area received an education equal to or better than that available to urban students. During the time he was a member of the Athabasca School Board, the district began to centralize. The students from one-room rural schools were predictably uncomfortable in the larger town schools.

Many came from poor homes and crossed the Athabasca River on the ferry in the summer and ice in winter.

Edwin Parr, who participated in selecting new teachers, stressed to the applicants that they must go beyond the duties normally expected of teachers. He was adamant that they make the students feel at home so that they would finish high school and have the opportunity to continue their education. He was especially interested in the performance of first-year teachers and often visited the schools after hours to talk to the principals about the new teachers. With Edwin Parr, children came first and he expected every teacher to feel the same. He wanted teachers to be a positive influence in the community. They were encouraged to visit the children's homes and attend Home and School Association meetings.

Edwin Parr's interest in first-year teachers lead to his school division instituting an "Annual Teacher Award." He encouraged the Alberta School Trustees' Association to consider a similar award at the provincial level but his dream was not realized in his time. In searching for a way to perpetuate the memory of a man who served as the Alberta School Trustees' Association's president from 1956 to 1962 and to honour the profession he so deeply respected, the Association established the Edwin Parr Teacher Award. The award is presented each year to a novice teacher who demonstrates initial teaching proficiency.