MIGHTY PEACE TEACHERS' CONVENTION

March 3 & 4, 2016

Submit a Proposal!

The MPTCA knows that teachers in the Peace Region have some unique needs and they also have a lot of skills and knowledge to share with their colleagues. Having local teachers present at Convention is one of the things that makes our Convention such a success!

While we can't cover travel or other expenses for local teachers (since our teachers are obligated to attend Convention anyway), we do provide a \$150 honorarium per session presented (\$300 for a double session, etc.). If you are interested in presenting a session please complete the online proposal form that is now available on our website (mptca.teachers.ab.ca). Proposals will be accepted until October 30th, 2015.

If you would like to suggest a presenter please email the 2016 program chair, Jen Clevette, mptcprogramchair@gmail.com.

Message from David Bouchard

Dear Mighty Peace Conference delegates:

I'd like to thank you so very much for your warm welcome to this remarkable conference. Hats off to the organizers and to all of you attendees. I hope that you went away with some great information from all of the presenters and I especially hope that I might have been of some assistance. Over the course of the day, a number of you asked if I would be returning to the North to visit schools. I would love that! My agent, Chris Patrick, is trying to arrange that schedule for September. If you are interested in being involved, I ask you to please contact him at 866-786-4237 or bouchardbookings@shaw.ca.

Thank you again for your hospitality and I hope that we cross paths again. Yours sincerely, David Bouchard May 31, 2015

Inside this issue:

1
1
2
3

2016 Sneak Peak 3

Connect with MPTCA

Email: mptconvention@gmail.com Twitter: <u>@mptconvention</u> #mptca

Facebook Group: <u>Mighty Peace</u> <u>Teachers' Convention</u>

Website: mptca.teachers.ab.ca

Thank you to Windsor Plywood for supplying the wood needed to make the display tables!

Building Bridges

Another successful Mighty Peace Teachers' Convention!

Full House for Alvin Law's Opening Keynote

David Bouchard





Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum





Brian Keating -Hiking with Asses



Alvin Law



Mike Bingley - Education Outdoors

Working in the MPTCA Office

Q&A

The feedback that we receive from MPTC participants is very valuable and essential for making our Convention the premier PD event of the year. We would like to take this opportunity to address some of the questions and concerns that were in the evaluations this year.

Q: I really wanted to provide feedback for specific sessions that I attended, but there were no evaluation forms in the sessions.

A: This year session evaluations were only available online. The link for the evaluation forms is on our website and it is included with each session on Sched. This form is also open for a week after Convention, so even if you are unable to fill it out during your session you can do it later. We did not have a lot of evaluations completed again this year, so there is a chance that we will also have some hardcopy evaluations next year. Q: If I was already signed up to attend a session in Sched, why did I have to register again using Eventbrite the week before Convention?

A: Sched does NOT guarantee you a spot in a session. MPTCA has been using Sched as a tool for teachers to build a schedule that includes multiple sessions for each time slot. We include seat capacity on Sched so that teachers and the program committee can see the popularity of sessions and plan accordingly. In fact, our program committee was able to add several sessions that were in high demand and move some sessions to bigger rooms, allowing more teachers to attend. Because some sessions were very popular and we were unable to increase the room size or add more sessions, we decided to try Eventbrite to provide teachers with tickets to these sessions. It was the first time we tried this online tool and the first time we tried this process. For some of these sessions we were unable to find

members to take tickets at the door, and we found that for many of the sessions that required pre-registration many of the teachers on the list did not show up and the rooms were not filled anyway. Eventbrite also turned out to be the wrong tool for what we wanted to accomplish. We appreciate all of the feedback that we received about what was good about this, and what didn't work. For next year we will continue to explore options for managing our limited room sizes.

Q: I could not find information about Keynotes.

A: The newsletters that were sent in November and in February had some information about the keynotes and this was also available on our website and in our Facebook group. In Sched the keynotes are identified by the Keynote label.

2016 Sneak Peek...

- Eric Litwin (Mr. Eric) is a guitar strumming, book writing, harmonica blowing, song singing, folksy, fun type of guy. He is the # 1 New York Times Best Selling author of the first four Pete the Cat picture books and the author of the new musical series The Nuts. Eric is a popular performing artist who plays guitar, sings, tells musical stories and brings books to life. He is also a nationally respected keynote speaker on interactive literacy and music. Eric is the co-creator of The Learning Groove which offers parent and child music classes and preschool music curriculum. Eric likes music, books and coffee. Find him online at http://www.ericlitwin.com and https://www.facebook.com/mrericmusic.
- Tyler Durman is best known for his ability to offer wisdom through laughter and storytelling. He's sought after by schools and conferences who want to help students live better stories by caring for each other, making better choices, and becoming positive leaders, by districts and principals who want to help teachers rediscover the joy of teaching through meaningful relationships with students, by parenting groups for his unique insight into raising teenagers and preteens and helping families in crisis. Tyler is a former teacher and each year his presentations reach more than 200,000 students and adults throughout the U.S. and Canada. Learn more by visiting <u>http://bitesizedwisdom.com</u> and <u>https://www.facebook.com/tylerspage</u> and following him on twitter @tylerdurman.