



Learning Assistance Teachers' Association

Upcoming Events

Note: The following data are provided for information only. LATA does not endorse or support any of the following:

** Hyperlinks active

Dyslexia Coffee Talk with Guest:

William Van Cleave

FEBRUARY 6, 2021

Live on Facebook @DyslexiaInitiative

Uncovering the Logic of English Book Study:
series of 5 sessions

<http://scienceofreadinginfo.com/events.html>

Tapestry Conference:

February 12, 2021

<https://tapestry.ourconference.ca/>

COTA Conference: Okanagan Professional Day

February 12, 2021

<https://www.mycota.ca/conferences/february-pro-d.html>

BCTF New Teachers Conference

February 26, 2021

<https://www.bctf.ca/NewTeachersConference2021/>

Dyslexia & Literacy Instruction:

Semantics & Fluency April 21, 2021

[https://www.pdenroller.org/catalog/event/103047?](https://www.pdenroller.org/catalog/event/103047?fbclid=IwAR1Nrx1ZMgbfva52HdrozdPo_9eSLrMY0SGiiY6_pSujzrC4g3PLP9GyVKg)

[fbclid=IwAR1Nrx1ZMgbfva52HdrozdPo_9eSLrMY0SGiiY6_pSujzrC4g3PLP9GyVKg](https://www.pdenroller.org/catalog/event/103047?fbclid=IwAR1Nrx1ZMgbfva52HdrozdPo_9eSLrMY0SGiiY6_pSujzrC4g3PLP9GyVKg)

Check out the following groups on Facebook:

LATA BC

[Science of Reading: What I should have learned in College](#)

[Special Education Resource Teachers](#)

[Special Education Teacher Leaders](#)

Editor: Michelle Redman

NEWS & FEATURES

Upcoming Events
PAGE 1

Teacher Profile:
Jenifer Chobotiuk
PAGE 2

WEbinars and Articles
PAGE 3

Member Question
PAGE 4

LATs Teach ELL
PAGE 5

Free Resource Links
PAGE 6

LATA Goals
PAGE 7

Teacher Profile: Jenifer Chobotiuk

District – VSB no.39

School: Charles Dickens Elementary

Role/Title – Resource Teacher



District – VSB no.39

School – Charles Dickens Elementary

Role/Title – Resource Teacher

This year I am supporting 6 classes from grades 3–7. As a Resource Teacher I work collaboratively with Classroom Teachers and Student Support Workers (SSAs) in each of these classes. I am Case Manager for high and low incidence students, I provide Learning Assistance to students working below grade level, and I support all ELL students. School wide, I assess students using the KTEA-3 and am Chair of School Based Team.

What does your role as SBT Chair look like? As SBT Chair I am in charge of scheduling, both with school-based and itinerant staff, as well as ensuring we have referrals ready for both District and Ministry deadlines. In our District teachers complete a Pre-Referral Intervention Strategies form to outline the strengths and needs of the student they wish to bring to SBT as well as the Tier 1 interventions they have already put in place. Through discussion with the teacher, we can determine the urgency of their request to meet at SBT as well as whether other staff should be present (ie: psychologist, SLP, Counsellor, OT/PT, Indigenous Education Worker, etc.) As Chair I send out the agenda, set up the online meeting or book a space large enough to physically distance, and book supervision for the Classroom Teacher. During the meeting I ensure we stay on topic, manage the speakers list, keep minutes of the discussion, and ensure there is a plan in place moving forward.

Why did you want to become a Learning Assistance teacher? I have a strong desire to make classrooms accessible for ALL students and to help students learn about themselves and become strong self-advocates. I love my role in supporting kids, teachers, support workers, and families. I have worked in a variety of teaching roles (music teacher, classroom teacher, and enrichment/support teacher) in both elementary and middle/junior high schools. I discovered how much I was drawn to our more diverse learners and the puzzle of how to best meet their needs. I work best when collaborating with others and found that the Learning Assistance role allowed me to use this strength to support my students and my colleagues. I love to work with teachers to make their classes welcoming, supportive places for their students. I like collaborating with support workers to find unique ways of overcoming students' challenges. I appreciate all my opportunities to learn from experts in areas of literacy, math, social-emotional learning, sensory management, alternative communication, etc. I enjoy working with families so I can better understand and support their children. Finally, I especially love getting to know the students and understand what makes school enjoyable, what makes it difficult, and find ways to support them in finding success.



Learning Assistance Teachers' Association

a Provincial Specialist Association of the BCET

Jenifer Chobotiuk is the Vice-President of LATA
and the LATA Web Manager,

Free Access Webinars and Articles

Continue your professional development and lifelong learning!

DYSLEXIA CANADA:

<https://www.dyslexiacanada.org/en/webinars>

International Dylsexia Association:

<https://dyslexiaida.org/webinars/>

Provincial Outreach Program for Autism and Related Disorders (POPARD):

<https://autismoutreach.ca/category/learning-portal/>

Inclusion BC:

<https://inclusionbc.org/resource-types/inclusive-education/>

Austism Community Training (ACT):

<https://www.actcommunity.ca/>

Join the Executive:

Volunteering as a member-at-large on the LATA Executive is a great way to build cross-district relationships, to share ideas for great resources, to support others in the field, and to bring speakers to your colleagues through invitation at our annual conference in October.

Please contact us if you are interested in joining the Executive.



Learning Assistance Teachers' Association

a Provincial Specialist Association of the BCET

Members answer to January's Question:

As a school, we are looking at purchasing a subscription to a reputable website with titles for students who require a reader or audible books in order to fully access the curriculum.

Answer: Well, we didn't get a response, but there is the British Columbia Interior/North K-12 Shared Digital Collection. The annual subscription is >\$2000 and can be found here:

<https://bcnsdcca.libraryreserve.com/10/45/en/SignIn.htm?url=Default.htm>

Alternately, here is a list of free audiobook sources that have comprehensive titles and a range of readability levels as well as topic areas. National Geographic also provides free readers for past issues on their website!

1. <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>
2. <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
3. <https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>
4. <https://www.getepic.com/>
5. <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>
6. <https://www.classicly.com/>
7. <https://storyberries.com/category/age-7-12-bedtime-stories/>
8. https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/free-ebooks/nook-books/kids/_/N-ry0Z8qaZtu1
9. <https://www.vooks.com/>
10. <https://bookdash.org/books/>
11. <https://storyberries.com/>



Members' Questions:

Please send your recommendations to psac53@bctf.ca

Do you have a question that we can put to members? Send us an email:

psac53@bctf.ca

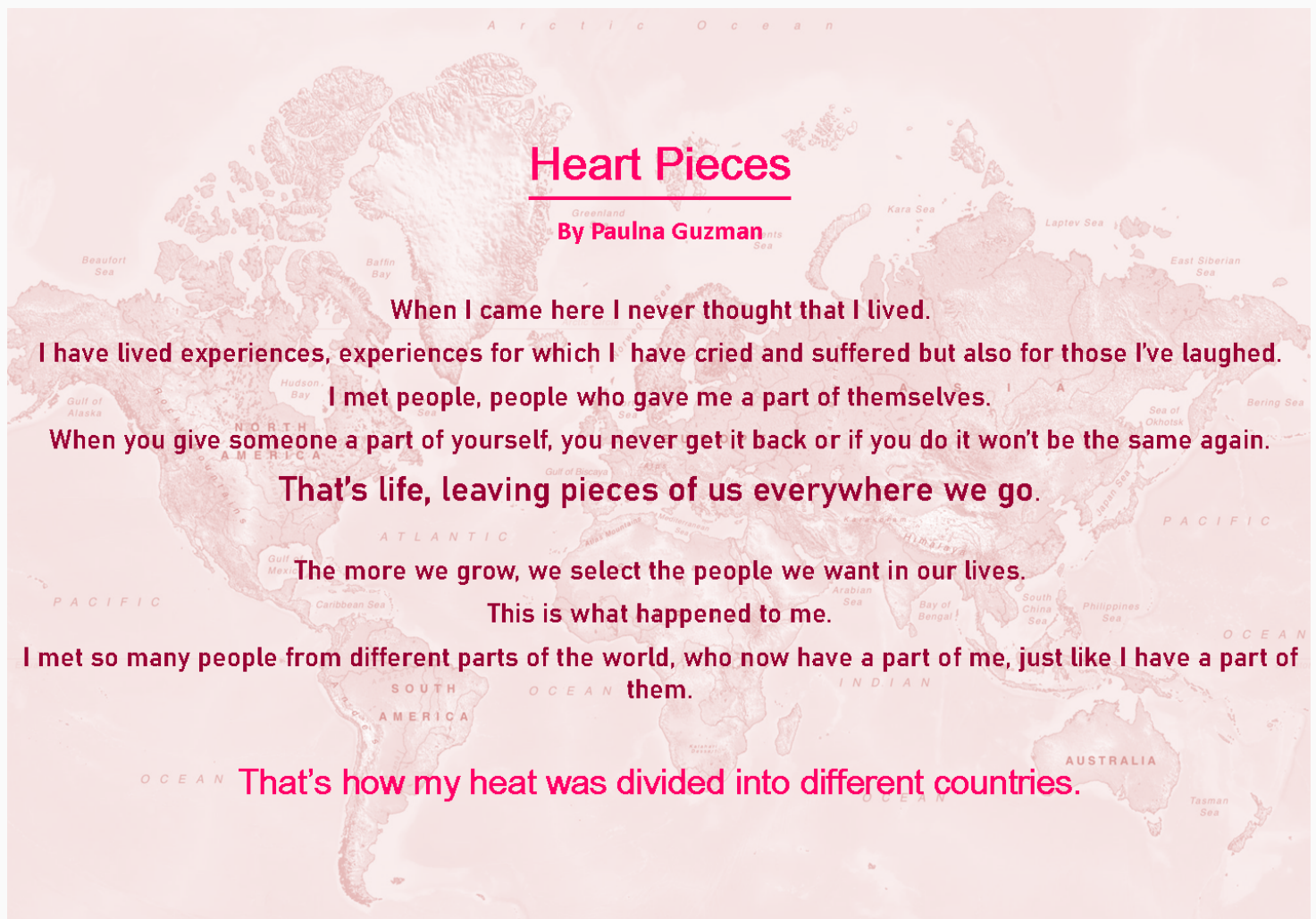


Learning Assistance Teachers' Association

a Provincial Specialist Association of the BCTF

LEARNING ASSISTANCE TEACHERS ALSO TEACH ELL!

**We are a family away from home for international students, an anchor in a world of uncertainties for students new to English...
we are teachers.**



Re-printed with permissions

Paulina Guzman was an International student in SD23 2019-2020



Learning Assistance Teachers' Association

a Provincial Specialist Association of the BCTF

FREE RESOURCES!

Visit these blog posts for information and free resources:

1. <https://sarahsnippets.com/>
2. <https://thisreadingmama.com/>
3. <https://www.themeasuredmom.com/>
4. <https://www.mrdscorner.com/>
5. <https://www.teachloveautism.com/>
6. <https://www.oneroomschoolhouse.net/>
7. <http://www.breezyspecialied.com/>
8. <https://mrspspecialties.com/>



LATA Goals

The LATA Executive continues to work towards the goals identified below:

- 1. To increase engagement with LATA members by using effective communication strategies**
 - a. Website, Email, Newsletters
 - b. Social Media
 - i. Twitter and Facebook to support
- 2. To support and to provide mentorship for those moving in to the Special Education field**
 - a. Scholarship - application available on <http://www.latabc.com/>
 - b. Connecting with new-to-district and mentorship organizations within various school districts
 - c. presentation at New Teachers' Conferences (e.g., BCTF New Teachers' Conference, January 2021)
- 3. Continue offering Learning Support/Inclusive Education professional development opportunities for members (service to members)**
 - a. Collaborative Teacher Inquiry Project (TIP)
 - i. We are fortunate to work alongside Catherine Quanstrom and Jessica Willows, BCTF Facilitators, for five half-day meetings to discuss
 1. The goal of this project is to collect data from BCTF Learning Assistance Teacher members on
 - a. the challenges faced by them in this role
 - b. to identify areas/resources/supports for members
 - c. seek guidance on ways to improve and increase support for students with learning disabilities/challenges/exceptionalities.
 2. Thank you for supporting future surveys and for reaching out to us via email with any suggestions and supports on this topic. See the BCTF Inquiry cycle.
 - b. Seeking out new and diverse speakers for workshops and the annual LATA conference.
 - c. Engage with Ministry of Education staff, University departments, etc., as appropriate.
 - d. Network and Collaborate with other PSAs
 - e. PSA Council meeting update
 - i. Three times a year, the Presidents of the 32 Provincial Specialist Associations (PSA) meet to discuss issues of importance to the membership and to represent issues faced by members. The next PSA Council meeting is on March 4. Please send your Executive (psac53@bctf.ca) any issues of importance so that we can discuss possible ways for changes to be brought about in working and learning conditions.
 - f. Workshops offered through district-based conferences (e.g., Surrey Teachers' Association (May), Victoria Teachers' Association (Feb 12, 2021))

