

October 5 is World Teachers' Day, and on behalf of Elk Island Public Schools, I wish to applaud and acknowledge the exceptional dedication, compassion and innovative spirit teachers throughout the Division exhibit daily.

Many of us have a story about a teacher who provided the inspiration to pursue a given career path, and it's no different for me. Mr. Gainer was my Chemistry 30 teacher, and I like to tell people that he taught students, not chemistry. In every class, he demonstrated how much he valued his students as individuals, focused on making the learning meaningful, and ignited a love of the subject matter through his own excitement about science. Most importantly, he was a role model and set an example for his students as they began their own journeys after graduation. He inspired me to want to be a better learner and a great teacher.

For all of you who are determined to make school a positive, safe place and who are using your talents to fuel the dreams of students—thank you! Thank you for your enduring commitment for teaching, for facing each challenge as it comes, and for always keeping the students top of mind.

Cathy Allen EIPS Board Chair

