



Volunteer Appreciation

April 19 – 25 is national volunteer week and the Board of Trustees wants to express its deepest appreciation for the many volunteers who contribute to the success of our students and schools through their countless hours of service.

Our schools could not offer the variety of extra-curricular activities, field trips or off-campus activities without the support of parents.

Each of our schools also has a school council, which is run by parent volunteers. These councils work with the principal and other stakeholders on a variety of issues related to the school. Each school council also has a Key Communicator who shares information, ideas and concerns as part of a system-wide network of involved parents.

Another important group of volunteers are those people who are part of the Grandparents program. Grandparent volunteers drop by schools to read, play games or just chat with students.

Of course, we cannot forget our students who volunteer in various capacities from serving food at school functions to mentoring younger students.

If you're interested in volunteering at your child's school, please contact the school principal to find out what opportunities are available.

Health and Safety in Schools

The new Trustee-zine is available on-line at www.cbe.ab.ca/Trustees/ezineMar09/. This issue features health and safety in schools. It highlights Teaming UP! 4 Healthy Learners, a new comprehensive health strategy that is being used in 55 CBE schools. The strategy focuses on three key principles: healthy eating, physical activity and positive social behaviors. Also included

is information on bus safety, internet safety, bullying and student behavior.

The Future of Public Education in Alberta

Two Trustees along with members of the CBE's administration and four delegates nominated by the Board of Trustees attended the Alberta School Boards Association's 2009 Summit on Public Education on March 13th & 14th.

The Summit focused on how school boards can involve people who do not have children in school in public education.

We recognize that clear communication with the public is essential to ensuring that the CBE continues to meet the needs of students into the future.

You can learn more about ASBA's *Putting the Public Back in Public Education* initiative at www.asba.ab.ca.

We also encourage you to take part in Alberta Education's *Inspiring Education: A Dialogue with Albertans*. The discussions will focus on five key values – opportunity, fairness, citizenship, choice and diversity.

Community Conversations will be held in Calgary on May 23rd and June 17th.

To learn more or to register please visit: www.inspiringeducation.alberta.ca

The Board of Trustees