



Key Communiqué

News for School Councils

Issue | Oct. 13, 2016

One of the most significant ways parents and community members can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students is through school councils. By connecting students, schools and communities, school councils help nurture and inspire our students to achieve their full potential

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Feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments.

Quick links |

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Workshop for New School Councils and New School Council Chairs: Oct. 18 from 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Chairing a school council meeting can be exciting, confusing or down-right scary! Having confidence with a clear understanding of chair responsibilities and processes will help to keep meetings focused, productive and fun! This workshop will include an overview of the roles of the Chair, agenda preparation, duties of other members, communication, meeting management tools and skills.

Alberta School Councils' Association will be presenting this informative workshop for new school council chairs on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at the Education Centre. Free parking is available.

To help us plan for the meeting, please [RSVP](#) to rsvpcommunications@cbe.ab.ca or telephone 403-817-7986 providing your name and the school you represent.

Nominate CBE alumni who make a difference.

The CBE Legacy Award celebrates public education in Calgary and the individuals who have contributed to our communities.

Legacy Award recipients will embody the work of the public education system and represent the legacy of the CBE: preparing students for life, work and inspiring life-long learning.

Nominate someone today!

Nominations for the Legacy Award are accepted year round. The form is available on the CBE website at <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/about-us/board-of-trustees/Pages/legacy-award.aspx>

Learn more about the first recipient

The Board of Trustees is honoured to announce the [first recipient](#) of the CBE's new Legacy award, Marguerite Trussler.

The next COSC meeting is Nov. 16

The next COSC meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 16 and the discussion topic for the evening will be, "Supporting student mental health."

This meeting will be held at the Education Centre (1221 – 8 Street S.W.) from 7 – 9 p.m. and free parking is available for attendees.

Please remember to RSVP for this meeting, when the invitation is sent out closer to the meeting date, as it helps us to plan appropriately.

Update your school council information

Please update your 2016-17 school council contacts with us. Even if you haven't had any changes to your executive this year, please confirm the contacts for this school year by either entering them into the contact form **or** sending the requested information to schoolcouncils@cbe.ab.ca.

CBE celebrates student achievement on Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Exams

Calgary Board of Education students achieved high standards on the 2015-16 Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) and Diploma Exams once again.

Provincial achievement testing is one of several ways the CBE measures student success. Other measures include report card data, student survey data and the province's Accountability Pillar.

Student results will be posted on the Provincial Assessment & Reports page on our [website](#).

Schools Impacted by New School Openings

The opening of 15 new Calgary Board of Education schools in the 2016-17 school year means changes for many of our existing schools. As thousands of students can now attend school in their own communities, space has become available in the schools they previously attended.

We are gathering feedback on scenarios under consideration for use of learning space at affected schools, then making decisions to be implemented in the 2017-18 school year or later. By March 2017 the CBE will communicate plans for the sustainable use of learning space across our system.

Ways to get involved:

- School-based sessions at affected Area V schools have been scheduled. [Register](#) online.
- School-based sessions at affected schools in Areas I and II will be held the week of October 24. Review possible [scenarios](#) and watch for session details.
- Complete the online survey when it becomes available.
- Attend a community open house in early December.

Please see the [dialogue](#) page for more information and to subscribe to updates.

If you have trouble seeing this publication please [click here](#).

dialogue - Our Commitment to Community Engagement

Throughout the 2015-16 school year, the CBE worked with stakeholders to develop a new approach to community engagement. That new approach, our *dialogue* framework, is now available, and a toolkit that will accompany and support this framework will be available soon.

We will continue to update the framework document as needed into the future. This reflects our desire to be continuously improving and ensuring we are connecting with our communities in the most effective ways possible.

Stay informed by checking out our [dialogue page](#).

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) announces the release of the NEW School Council Resource Guide.

This Guide replaces the Alberta School Council Resource Manual.

More than an updated version, the new Guide is 20 pages (not 104 as in the old manual), and is designed as a digital document containing (over 40) electronic links to relevant resources. It encompasses all elements relating to school council as indicated in the original manual, and serves as a compact, concise handbook.

As the current School Act and corresponding Regulations are still in effect, little has changed in the content prescribing school councils in Alberta. What has changed are the relevant resources available that align with Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) materials utilized in workshops, webinars and the website.

The Guide helps to encourage common practice and enhance school council effectiveness in the province.

The Guide can be found on the ASCA website at <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/?page=SCRGuide2>

ASCA Webinars

ASCA is pleased to present Webinar Wednesdays with scheduled training, instructional sharing, partner connections and focus group sessions for the 2016-17 school year. These one-hour sessions are offered at 9:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. on the dates noted below.

The next scheduled webinars are:

- School Council Purpose – Oct. 19
- Chair Basics – Oct. 26
- Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose – Nov. 2
- Meeting Management – Nov. 9
- Masterful Minutes – Nov. 16
- Tools for Effective School Councils – Nov. 23
- Competencies: Who, What, When, Where & Why – Nov. 30

Please go to the [ASCA website](#) for more information.

An ASCA membership and pre-registration for a webinar is required. If your school council does not have an ASCA 2016-17 membership fill out [this form](#). ASCA memberships are paid for by the Board of Trustees.

Recent stories featured on the CBE website

The CBE posts news and stories about the activities that happen across our system throughout the year. Here are some of the stories we are featuring now:

- Career and Technology Centre named Greenest School in Canada
- Students Benefit from Dual Credit Carpentry Partnerships
- What does it mean to be a scientist?
- CBE 2016 Enrolment Numbers
- Altadore School celebrates community garden with Harvest Festival
- Ernest Manning student raises awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
- Thank you to all of our amazing teachers
- Kenneth D. Taylor School brings the community together
- Jack James High School modernization provides new spaces and new opportunities

Check out the latest stories on our home page under [CBE News](#).