



Key Communiqué

News for School Councils

Issue | Feb. 14, 2017

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.

Contact |

Calgary Board of Education
Communication Services
1221 – 8 Street SW
Calgary, AB T2R 0L4

e | schoolcouncils@cbe.ab.ca
t | 403-817-7986
f | 403-294-8172

Feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments.

Quick links |

[School Councils](#)

[COSC Meetings](#)

[CBE School Council Handbook](#)

[Top News Stories](#)

[Board of Trustees Webpage](#)

[CBE System Messages \(RSS Feed\)](#)

[Alberta Education School Councils Regulation](#)

[ASCA School Council Resource Guide](#)

The Next COSC Meeting is Mar. 16, 2017

Please mark your calendar with the next Council of School Councils (COSC) meeting which will be held on Thursday, Mar. 16, 2017. The meeting will take place in multipurpose room of the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW from 7 – 9 p.m.

Free parking is available for attendees in the building parkade accessible from 12 Avenue.

A meeting invitation will be sent out closer to the meeting date. To help us plan for the meetings, we appreciate an RSVP to meeting invitations.

COSC Jan. 26 Meeting Materials Posted Online

The Jan. 26 COSC meeting was attended by approximately 100 school council representatives. Discussion topics included Board of Trustee policy work and the Calgary Board of Education (CBE)'s Math Strategy Engagement.

The Math Strategy Engagement pre-read materials as well as meeting materials are posted on our [School Council webpage](#). Please feel free to share these with the members of your school council and your school community.

Last COSC Meeting for 2016-17

The final COSC meeting for this school year will be held on Thursday, Apr. 26, 2017.

- Discussion topic: year in review and planning for future COSC meetings

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

K-12 Math Strategy Engagement

As discussed at the Jan. 26 COSC meeting, the CBE is developing a K-12 mathematics strategy. Over the next couple of months, we will be engaging with parents and guardians on what we should consider when writing the strategy.

Our goal for the K-12 math strategy is to create a common understanding of math teaching and learning across the CBE and to share best practices and resources among teachers to help our students to be more successful. We also want to deepen parent and community understanding of the research and best practices around teaching and learning in math.

Thank you to everyone who has already signed-up to participate in our upcoming in-person engagement sessions.

All parents and community members are welcome to fill out the online survey that will be available from Feb. 22 to Mar. 15. The survey asks the same questions that are being discussed at the in-person sessions.

We look forward to getting your input on this important topic. Please visit our [Math Strategy Engagement webpage](#) for more information.

Feb. 22 is Pink Shirt Day

On Feb. 22 staff and students will demonstrate their commitment to creating welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments and promoting healthy relationships at all of our schools by:

- wearing a pink shirt; and
- using social media with the hashtag #PinkShirtPromise. (Shaw will donate \$1 to bullying prevention programs for every positive message posted online prior to Feb. 22.)

More information about Bullying Prevention can be found on the [Alberta Education Bullying Prevention webpage](#) or on the [CBE School Culture & Environment webpage](#)

ASCA Membership

If your school council does not have an Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) 2016-17 membership, please fill out [this form](#). ASCA memberships are paid for by the Board of Trustees and need to be renewed each school year.

Decisions for Area I, II and V Schools Impacted by New School Openings

The CBE has undertaken an extensive engagement process to understand what is important to students, parents, staff and community members as we make changes to the use of learning space in 27 CBE schools.

After careful review and thoughtful consideration, we are implementing the plans presented at the January 2017 open houses. We have also made decisions about where Woodlands and Woodbine students will attend junior high.

We believe the plan provides the best use of learning space for our students, schools and communities as a whole. It also balances our values and planning principles with what we heard from our students, staff, parents and community.

Thank you to everyone who participated at in-person sessions, open houses and through online surveys throughout the engagement process. Your thoughtful contributions have made a meaningful difference in decision-making.

To learn more about the decisions and what we heard, please visit our [Community Engagement webpages](#).

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:

- Feb. 22 – Benefits of Inquiry/Project Based Learning
- Mar. 1 – School Council Purpose
- Mar. 8 – Chair Basics
- Mar. 15 – Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose
- Mar. 22 – Meeting Management
- Apr. 5 – Masterful Minutes

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

An ASCA membership and pre-registration for a webinar is required.

ASCA Awards of Recognition

Alberta School Councils' is proud to present the three awards of recognition in support of the school council efforts in Alberta. The awards are:

- School Council Award of Merit
- Excellence in Learning Partnerships Award
- School Council Parent of Distinction Award

Nomination forms, including the criteria and guidelines for each award can be found on the [ASCA website](#).

Nominations must be received in the ASCA office by Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2017.

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:

- New School Opening Celebrations
- CBE Explores Expansion of South Mandarin Bilingual Program
- Louise Dean School's Rita Dickson Named One of Canada's Outstanding Principals
- Keeping the Joy of Literacy Alive
- Marlborough School Student Honoured with IODE Award

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