



Issue | Apr. 25, 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.

CBE quick links |

[School councils/COSC](#)
[CBE School Council Handbook](#)
[Top news stories](#)
[Board of Trustees](#)
[CBE system messages \(RSS Feed\)](#)

School Council resources |

[Alberta School Councils' Association](#)
[Alberta Education](#)
[Alberta Education – School Councils](#)
[Alberta Education School Council Resource Manual](#)
[CAPSC](#)

If you are having problems viewing this publication please [click here](#)

Final COSC meeting of the year – Apr. 28

We would like to remind you that the final COSC meeting of this school year will be held on Thursday, Apr. 28, 2016. Please plan on joining us. The meeting will be held at the Education Centre, Learning Commons room, 1221 – 8 Street S.W. from 7 – 9 p.m. with free parking available for attendees.

Topics for this meeting will include updates on system topics such as the budget and new CBE communication channels. The meeting will include time for table discussions with other school councils about what has worked well for your school council and goals for next year.

To help us plan for the meeting, please [RSVP](#) with the number of attendees including names, positions and the school you represent. If you prefer you can RSVP by phoning 403-817-7986.

Share your thoughts on options for closing the transportation budget gap

May 3 and 4 Community Forums - Employees, students, parents and community members are invited to participate in community forums on transportation services happening May 3 and 4 (6:30 – 8:30 p.m.). Possible options for closing the budget gap will be shared and discussed at these sessions. Decisions about closing the gap could affect families whose children do not take the bus. Please come out to share your thoughts and encourage others to do the same. You can register for a session at cbe.ab.ca/dialogue.

Online Feedback Next Week – We will also provide an online opportunity for everyone to provide feedback on possible options. Look for that next week on the website and encourage people to participate.

Schools impacted by new school openings

The new schools opening in the 2016-17 school year will create additional space in some existing schools and result in future changes for some of our schools.

Video - There is a video posted on our Public Engagement – Schools Impacted by New School Openings [website](#) that outlines the effect that opening new schools is having on our system. We encourage you to check it out and share it with your school community.

Open Houses - We've already held open houses in four of our five areas this month to explore how we can best use spaces in our schools. The final open house will take place in Area IV at Central Memorial High School on April 28 from 6 – 8 p.m. You can [register](#) on our website.

Online Survey - Please encourage parents to share their thoughts and ideas online. The [survey](#) is open until May 25, 2016.

Visit cbe.ab.ca/dialogue to learn more.

Board of Trustees' response to 2016-17 Provincial budget announcement

The Board of Trustees are encouraged that the April 14 Provincial budget continues to put a priority on educating the next generation of Albertans.

We are grateful to be funded for growth and to know that the approximately 1,500 new students in the CBE next year will be fully funded. However, we will continue to be challenged with inflationary pressures.

Over the next few weeks we will be developing our detailed budget based on our values and needs of the community. ([PDF of Media statement](#))

Year-end reports requested by June 30

Under the *School Act*, school councils are responsible for submitting an annual report to the Board of Trustees. This report helps the Board of Trustees measure and be accountable for parent and community involvement. The school council chair is responsible for submitting the report to the Board of Trustees by the end of June.

The report template can be found on the school council [website](#).

Please send the completed report to the Board of Trustees via email at boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca or mail through inter-school to: Office of the Board of Trustees, Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street S. W., Calgary, AB T2R 0L4

ASCA Webinars

ASCA is pleased to present Webinar Wednesdays with scheduled training, instructional sharing, partner connections and focus group sessions for the 2015-16 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 – May 11, 2016
- Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose – May 18, 2016
- Chair Basics – May 25, 2016

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 2015-16 membership fill out [CBE School Council Request Form](#) from the [Alberta School Councils](#) web page. 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:

- Cranston School teachers win "Classroom of the Future" Challenge
- REDx Talks & Indigenous tasting menu
- Campus Calgary / Open Minds celebrates 100,000 students
- Calgary elementary school adds bikes to classrooms to help kids focus
- Students prepare for Provincial Skills Competitions
- School Bus Orientation program for First-Time Riders
- Arbour Lake students dazzle at MakeFashion
- Culinary students help make graduation dreams come true

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