



## Issue | May 19, 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](#)

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## April 28 COSC meeting material posted

The final Council of School Councils meeting of this year was held on April 28 and approximately 60 school council representatives were able to attend. Feedback from the meeting was very positive.

The notes/materials from the meeting have been posted on the CBE school council web pages. Please feel free to share these with members of your school council.

[CBE School Councils meeting follow-up page](#)

## Pre-register for transportation

Through our recent public engagement on transportation, we heard that parents need to know their proposed yellow school bus routes much earlier to help them plan for the upcoming school year.

In response, we are asking that parents/guardians pre-register for transportation for the 2016-17 year as soon as possible so we can begin planning routes. Registration is due by **Monday, June 6, 2016**. Pre-Registration for transportation can be completed online through your [My CBE Account](#).

We anticipate being able to communicate bus plans to parents/guardians by the end of July. In September, a confirmation email will be sent to all parents/guardians who have submitted a pre-registration form. It will include transportation fee information and payment options. Parents can cancel their transportation pre-registration with no financial penalty by filling in the cancellation option in the confirmation email and replying to the CBE before Sept. 30, 2016. More information is available on our [website](#).

## Provide feedback on draft community engagement framework

We now have a [draft community engagement framework](#) posted and available for public feedback. We look forward to hearing what members of the CBE community think about it. We will also have a companion summary available soon that provides an overview of the framework contents.

We encourage you to have a look through the framework and provide us with your feedback. There is a short survey you can complete, which will be open until June 5, 2016. If you are interested in sharing your feedback in-person or over the phone, please [email](#) us and we can arrange a time to connect with you. The final framework will be shared before the end of June.

## Complete survey about existing schools impacted by new school openings

Opening new schools is an exciting time for the CBE and for Calgary. 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.

In April, each CBE Area held an open house to share information and get community feedback on the opportunities that are available to schools that will have additional learning spaces once the new schools open.

Everyone is also invited to complete [our online survey](#) to share their ideas. The survey deadline has been extended until May 31, 2016. Visit [cbe.ab.ca/dialogue](http://cbe.ab.ca/dialogue) to learn more.

## 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](mailto: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 awards go to Tuscany and William Reid School Councils

The Alberta School Council's Association (ASCA) is the provincial association representing parents on school council. The ASCA School Council Award of Merit recognizes effective school council practices that have an identifiable impact on supporting student learning and school improvement at the school level, the district level or the provincial level. **Tuscany School Council and William Reid School Council were both selected to receive the 2016 Award of Merit.** Congratulations to both school councils.

In addition, Tuscany School Council Chair, Nkechi Odina-Seale, was one of the recipients of the ASCA School Council Parent of Distinction Award. The School Council Parent of Distinction Award recognizes an individual who demonstrates ability to promote parental engagement and involvement in the public education system. Truly exceptional in their dedication and initiative, this individual has dynamic leadership qualities and encourages opportunities to influence student learning success in the school community. Congratulations Nkechi.

## 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:

- Chair Basics – May 25, 2016
- Meeting Management – June 1, 2016
- Masterful Minutes – June 8, 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 please fill out [CBE School Council Request Form](#) from the [Alberta School Councils](#) web page. ASCA memberships are paid for by the Board of Trustees.

## Coming this fall: you will need to subscribe to stay informed

Due to Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL), starting in the 2016-17 school year we will need parent/guardian permission to continue to send you email or text messages on topics such as picture days, field trip costs, student fees, yearbooks, fun lunches and more. If you want to receive text messages from your child's school, you will also need to opt-in for texts.

Watch for information to come in the fall on how to subscribe to stay informed. It will only take a minute!

## 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:

- Diploma Exams update for evacuated students
- CBE students "Got it Covered"
- Fort McMurray students share their stories with local media
- CBE to discuss support for Fort McMurray evacuees in our schools
- Excellence in Teaching semi-finalists announced
- CBE student helps build his own school

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