



Key Communiqué

News for School Councils

Issue | September 8, 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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[CBE system messages \(RSS Feed\)](#)
[Alberta Education School Council Resource Manual](#)

Welcome back!

The Calgary Board of Education is delighted to be starting another exciting new year of teaching and learning.

The start of a new school year is an exciting time with a fresh start for students and schools. Welcome back to all our returning students and welcome to many new students who are joining us year.

We are also pleased to welcome back returning school council members and welcome new school council members. We look forward to working together throughout this school year.

[About the CBE](#)

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.

On our circulation list we want to include at least two contacts for each CBE school council. One should be the Chair and the other is typically the Key Communicator or another council member chosen by the Chair.

Please go to the [School Council contacts page](#) and fill in the appropriate information:

- Name
- Title on council
- School name
- Email address

This information will be used to circulate this e-newsletter in addition to sharing information and invitations relevant to your school council and parent community.

Annual report deadline – Sept. 30, 2016

Under the *School Act*, school councils are responsible to submit an annual report to the Board of Trustees. This [report](#) helps the Board of Trustees measure and be accountable for parent and community involvement. In accordance with the *School Act*, the school council chair is responsible for submitting the report to the Board of Trustees by Sept. 30 each year.

If you have not already done so, please submit your report by the deadline.

A copy of the report should also be provided to the school principal. To send to the Board of Trustees, email to boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca or send through school mail to: Office of the Board of Trustees, Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street S.W.

Mark your calendar with COSC meeting dates

The Council of School Councils (COSC) is comprised of school council chairs or designates from all CBE schools, members of the CBE Board of Trustees and representatives from CBE administration. The purpose of COSC is to allow for effective interaction between the CBE and its school councils. Through COSC, the CBE can focus on effective, two-way dialogue with our school councils about school and student learning issues.

The 2016-17 Council of School Councils (COSC) [meeting dates](#) with the topic scheduled for each meeting are shown below.

Meeting date	Topic
Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016	Volunteer recruitment and succession planning
Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016	Supporting student mental health
Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017	Subject focus: Math
Thursday, Mar. 16, 2017	High School Success
Wednesday, Apr. 26, 2017	Year in review and planning for future COSC meetings

Meetings 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 mark these dates in your calendars and share them with your council executive.

Workshop for New School Councils and New School Council Chairs

A session for new school council chairs will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at the Education Centre. Free parking is available.

Alberta School Councils' Association will be presenting *School Council Purpose*, an information session about the purpose of school councils, roles, responsibilities and tips to get your school council up and running and up to speed. Perfect for new school councils, new chairs, or veterans who want to brush up on the basics.

School Council resources

For school councils to be well represented in school decision-making, they need to know how things work. This is all explained in the [School Councils Regulation 113/2007](#), the [Alberta Education School Council Resource Manual](#), the [CBE School Council Handbook](#) and [AR5001 – School Councils and School/Parent Societies](#).

Please take the time to look at these resources. They provide very useful information from running meetings to fundraising to recruiting new members and include templates that you may find helpful.

Board of Trustees pays for ASCA memberships for CBE school councils

The Board of Trustees will pay the cost of Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) memberships for any CBE school councils who are interested in this opportunity. ASCA provides valuable support and services to school councils across the province.

To learn more about ASCA, please visit [their website](#). To obtain a membership for the 2016-17 school year, just fill out [this form](#). A link to this form is also available on our [School Councils web page](#). Memberships run annually from July 1 – June 30.

Check out Alberta Government's back-to-school toolkit

Prepare for a new school year with the Alberta Government's back-to-school toolkit, full of helpful tips and information. If you are a student, parent, teacher or administrator, check out the [Alberta Education resource](#) webpage.

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:

- Welcome to the 2016-17 school year
- Don't miss out on school messages
- CBE provides a sneak peek and tour of the new Nelson Mandela High School
- Crescent Heights High School Alumnus takes home Olympic bronze
- Getting to know your school Resource Officers
- Learn more about the Christine Meikle program move
- Find your 2016-17 Yellow School Bus Stop

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

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