

## speaking notes

Amber Stewart  
Vice-Chair  
Board of Trustees

### Sept. 23 Council of School Councils Meeting Closing Remarks

On behalf of my colleagues, I would like to thank you all for coming tonight. Like you, we are parents so we appreciate that you have taken time from your families to be with us tonight. And we hope that you found the discussion valuable.

While most of this meeting was focused on providing you with information about how school councils can be effective overall, we now wanted to spend a little bit of time making sure you understand how school councils work at the CBE. So now I'm going to turn it over to Karen Drummond, a Communications Advisor at the CBE, to go over some of those key points with you.

Thanks, Karen. Hopefully the information we have provided you with this evening will help you and your school council get the year off to a great start. And now I just have a few closing thoughts to share with you before we wrap things up.

First, there are feedback surveys on your tables to let us know your thoughts on the meeting this evening (or for some of you who aren't as shy – I'm sure you will tell us in person!). Please take a few minutes to fill those out for us, we do review them after each meeting and make efforts to modify and improve aspects of the meetings based on your feedback.

Secondly, I know Karen mentioned this in her comments but I want to be sure that you all remember to submit your annual reports to your school principal and to us, the Board of Trustees, by September 30. That is really important and the date is fast approaching. If you have any questions about that, feel free to ask Karen.

Of course, I also want to extend a big thank you to the Alberta School Councils' Association (or ASCA) for coming to present this evening. The

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Board of Trustees values the work ASCA does with school councils throughout the province. We know they provide valuable information and services to their members. So if you haven't signed up already, you may want to consider it.

Thanks also to the CBE staff who are here tonight. We appreciate your support because let's face it, we couldn't do this without you!

Our next meeting is November 5th and right now, we are nailing down possible topics. As soon as we have the topic decided, we will let you know. If you have any ideas of topics that you would like to see, please include them on the feedback survey. There is also a list of all of our upcoming meeting dates for the year on the CBE website.

Finally, tonight was a full agenda and in future, we are going to try and allow more time for group discussion and Q & A. However, Trustees will be around for the next 30 minutes or so for you to connect with one on one. For those who we haven't met before (hint hint to Wards 11 & 13 reps), please come and introduce yourself – we always appreciate the chance to put a face to the name.

Again, thank you all for coming and contributing. We look forward to seeing you on November 5th.