



Key Communiqué

News for School Councils

Issue | Dec. 19, 2019

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 |

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Feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments.

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A Year-End Message from Trustees

2019 has been a year of highs and lows quite unlike anything we've seen in the recent past. From celebrating outstanding academic results to facing significant budget challenges, we continue to come together as an organization to do what is right for our students.

What is abundantly clear to us as trustees is that at our heart, we are an organization of people; people who support and care for our students each and every day; people who must make difficult decisions on how best to use a finite number of resources to provide the greatest support.

We have heard from students, staff and families that the past few months in particular have taken a toll as our administration has worked through various options to minimize the impact of a significant budget reduction.

Teaching the future leaders of our society is a tremendous responsibility and Calgarians should be rightly proud of our organization and what we can and do accomplish together.

As 2019 draws to a close, we want you to know that your commitment to our students, schools and system is appreciated.

We also want to reassure you that as a board, we continue to advocate for what's best for our students and our system, and are optimistic about finding solutions to address our challenges in future.

More information about our advocacy efforts is posted on [our website](#). We also encourage you to [contact your MLA](#) with any concerns.

Wishing you all the joys of this holiday season. We hope you take the time to relax and share time with friends and family.

With gratitude,

Marilyn Dennis – Wards 5 & 10
Trina Hurdman – Wards 1 & 2
Richard Hehr – Wards 8 & 9
Mike Bradshaw – Wards 12 & 14

Althea Adams – Wards 3 & 4
Lisa Davis – Wards 6 & 7
Julie Hrdlicka – Wards 11 & 13

COSC Dec. 12 Materials Posted Online

At the Dec. 12 COSC meeting, attendees listened to a presentation on 2019-20 budget challenges. Trustees also circulated a flatsheet with key budget information.

These materials have been posted on the [CBE school council web page](#). Please feel free to share this with members of your school council and school community.

Mid-year Changes to Transportation Service Levels and Fees

Parents received an email on Dec. 11, 2019 outlining an update on changes to CBE transportation service levels and fees. For the 2019-20 school year, the majority of CBE students will have a [similar transportation service](#) as they had in the previous school year. We will continue to ensure the delivery of safe and efficient transportation for students. The proposed fee for the 2019-20 school year is \$365 and is subject to board and ministerial approval. Please visit our [Service Levels and Fees page](#) for updated information.

Last Calgary Flames Fundraiser is Jan. 2

Students, staff, and their families can enjoy a Flames game while supporting their school. Tickets can be purchased online at www.flamesgroups.com/CBE for \$40 each (plus fees \$46.25). Ten dollars from every ticket purchased goes to your school or a school of your choice. Schools that purchase fewer than 20 tickets will have their donations pooled and donated to the CBE's Fuel for School Breakfast Program.

The last CBE Fundraiser game is on Jan. 2 at 7 p.m.

Details can be found on our [website](#).

School Council Contact Information

If you have not already done so, please confirm or update the information for your 2019-20 school council executive members at schoolcouncils@cbe.ab.ca.

Keeping this information current ensures that messages intended for school councils will be sent to the correct people.

System Calendar Dates

A reminder about the following [system dates](#):

Monday, Jan. 6.

Traditional calendar schools reopen

Thursday, Jan. 9

Modified calendar schools reopen

Friday, Jan. 31

System-Wide Non-Instructional Day, schools closed

Feb. 13 & 14

Teachers' and Staff Association Convention

All schools closed

Monday, Feb. 17

Family Day Holiday, all schools closed

Friday, March 20

System-Wide Non-Instructional Day, schools closed

Mar. 23 – 27

Spring Break, all schools closed

Monday, March 30

Traditional calendar schools reopen

Monday, Apr. 6

Modified calendar schools reopen

Friday, Apr. 10

Good Friday, all schools closed

Monday, Apr. 13

System-Wide Non-Instructional Day, schools closed

Friday, May 15

System-Wide Non-Instructional Day, schools closed

Monday, May 18

Victoria Day Holiday, all schools closed

Monday, June 29

Last day of school for students

Please be sure to check your school's website and calendar for other dates that are school specific.

Dates for 2019-20 COSC meetings

Please mark your calendar with the following dates for COSC meetings for the rest of the 2019-20 school year.

- Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020
- Thursday, Apr. 16, 2020 (tentative)

All COSC meetings are held at the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW, unless otherwise noted.

Invitations will be sent out prior to each meeting and will include the topics for that evening.

Updated details and information will be posted on the [CBE website](#) as they are made available.

ASCA Membership

If your school council does not have an [Alberta School Councils' Association](#) (ASCA) 2019-20 membership, please fill out [this form](#). ASCA memberships are paid for by the Board of Trustees. However, memberships need to be renewed, by the school council, each school year (July 1 – June 30).

The benefits of an ASCA membership can be found on their [website](#).

ASCA Awards of Recognition

Alberta School Councils' Association is proud to present the following awards of recognition in support of school council efforts in Alberta

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

Please see the [ASCA website](#) for a detail description of each award and [guidelines](#) to submit a nomination. Nominations close on Feb. 28, 2020.