



## Key Communiqué

### News for School Councils

#### Issue | June 25, 2021

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 |

Calgary Board of Education  
Communication and Engagement  
Services  
1221 – 8 Street SW  
Calgary, AB T2R 0L4

e | [schoolcouncils@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:schoolcouncils@cbe.ab.ca)  
t | 403-817-7986

**Feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments.**

#### Quick links |

[School councils](#)

[COSC Meetings](#)

[CBE School Council Handbook](#)

[Top news stories](#)

[Board of Trustees](#)

[CBE system messages \(RSS Feed\)](#)

[School Council Resource Guide \(ASCA\)](#)

## Highlights of the 2020-21 School Year

Dear school councils,  
Whew! What a topsy-turvy year we have just experienced. I think we can safely say that we are all looking forward to a return to normal. But in a year of challenges, it's worth celebrating some of the incredible things we accomplished together.

We learned how to:

#### **Pivot between in-person and at-home learning**

As individual students, classes, grades and entire schools moved in and out of in-person learning with the waves of COVID-19, we learned how to pivot between two very different ways of learning.

#### **Navigate online learning through the Hub model**

More than 18,000 students joined Hub online learning last fall. That number of students is larger than the entire student populations of many school boards in Alberta. The lessons that teachers, students and families learned from this unique model have been invaluable, and are already being used to further develop online learning and assessment for the future.

#### **Connect online**

School council and COSC meetings moved online all year. In some ways, this allowed for deeper connections with school councils as some families found it easier to attend meetings online. At the same time, we know that many of us have missed the opportunities to meet and discuss issues face to face. This will be a consideration as we plan for the next year.

#### **Support one another**

With thousands of staff and students isolating at any given time during the school year, all staff members worked hard to ensure students continued to feel connected to their school communities and able to access positive learning experiences.

#### **Thank you**

We could not have dreamed of accomplishing any of these things without the help and support from each of our CBE families. Public education is truly a partnership, and we appreciate your dedication, perseverance and commitment to your children, your schools and the entire CBE. Thank you.

Stay healthy and safe. We look forward to welcoming you back next year!  
Your CBE Board of Trustees

## Update | CBE CARES

On June 16, Chief Superintendent of Schools, Christopher Usih provided an update to staff on the work that has happened with regards to [CBE CARES: Collaboration for Anti-Racism and Equity Supports](#). This message is posted on the [CBE website](#).

Chief Usih states, “*There is no place for racism in the CBE. As a public school system that welcomes all, we are committed to success for all students – regardless of race, ancestry, culture, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, physical and intellectual ability, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or other factors.*”

Addressing racism and discrimination is ongoing work and The CBE is committed to positive change.

## CBE System Calendars

System calendars establish common start and end days, and 10 system-wide days for schools to schedule parent-teacher conferences, professional development and organizational days. Schools may identify additional non-instructional days, late entries or early dismissals in consultation with their school community and education director, and in alignment with Alberta Education and CBE requirements for instruction.

While most of our schools follow the traditional calendar, some use a modified calendar with an earlier start to the school year and additional breaks throughout the year.

Schools following the [2021-22 modified calendar](#) will begin classes on **Tuesday, Aug. 17**. School offices will be open on Aug. 12, 13 and 16 for registration and for questions.

Schools following the [2021-22 traditional calendar](#) will begin classes on **Wednesday, Sept. 1**. School offices will be open on Aug. 27, 30 and 31 for registration and for questions.

Please refer to your school’s website for start and end times for each day, as well as any early dismissal days, which are defined individually for each school.

## COSC Meeting Dates for 2021-22

The Council of School Council (COSC) meeting dates for the 2021-22 school have not yet been set. Dates will be confirmed in the fall.

Please refer to the CBE School Council [COSC meeting dates](#) web page for information as it becomes available.

## Child and Youth Well-Being Review

The Alberta government is inviting families to participate in a survey to better understand pandemic-related impacts on child and youth under the age of 19. Adults may take [the survey](#) until July 31, 2021. Children and youth under 19 can also share their experiences and ideas by completing the [youth survey](#).

## Thinking of Running as a CBE Trustee?

The Alberta municipal election will take place on Monday, Oct. 18. As part of the municipal general elections, Calgaryians will vote for their school board trustees.

Are you thinking of running as a trustee for the Calgary Board of Education? Visit our [election page](#) on the CBE website, the [City of Calgary elections page](#), and the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) website for [Election Resources for Trustee Campaigns](#).

Nominations for the general election are open until Sept. 20, 2021.

## Reminder | 2020-21 Year-End Annual Report Required

Under the *Education 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 annual report template can be found on the [School Councils webpage](#) in the right hand margin, under supporting documents.

The school council chair is responsible for submitting the report to the Board of Trustees **by the end of June** each school year. Although the *Education Act* states a Sept. 30 deadline, Trustees would appreciate receiving the report by the end of June. A copy of the report should also be provided to the school principal.

Please send your report to the Board of Trustees, via email to [boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca) or by Canada Post to the Office of the Board of Trustees, Calgary Board of Education, 1221 – 8 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0L4.

## CBE Finalizes Sustainable Plan to Balance Enrolment at High Schools

In May 2019, the CBE launched a community engagement initiative to develop a sustainable plan that balances enrolment across CBE high schools and gives students access, flexibility and choice in programming. Based on feedback received from stakeholders, and taking into account CBE’s values and planning principles, we confirm that the [finalized plan](#) is the same plan that was shared on June 1, 2021 for a final phase of feedback from students, staff, parents and community members. [Learn more](#)

## Information about Registering for the 2021-22 School Year

Learn more about which school to register your child at by using our [find a school](#) tool, or check our [kindergarten calculator](#) for more information about when your child can begin school.

## Free Child and Youth Emotional Wellness and Health Resources

Community Education Service (CES) delivers FREE, online, evidence-based education for parents, caregivers, and community members on topics related to child and youth emotional wellness and health. You can view [recorded and upcoming webinars](#), subscribe to the [newsletter](#), or visit the [program website](#) for a complete list of services.

## Draft K-6 Curriculum – Have Your Say

The Alberta Government is seeking feedback on the draft kindergarten to Grade 6 curriculum. Feedback will be open until spring, 2022.

Your feedback will help refine the draft K-6 curriculum before it is implemented in classrooms across the province in September 2022.

Go to the [Alberta website](#) to get involved:

- Read about the key themes
- Review one or more subject areas
- Take an online survey
- Participate in parent and public virtual sessions (new dates will be added in the weeks ahead).