



FALL GENERAL MEETING 2009 FINAL WORDING OF POLICIES

PROPOSED POLICY POSITIONS

1P/FGM09 Accountability Pillar

That the following section be added to the Accountability section under “Accountability Pillar”:

Accountability Pillar results reporting should provide an accurate representation of what is being assessed.

Alberta Education, in consultation with the Alberta School Boards Association and other stakeholder groups, should review the Accountability Pillar with the intent to address issues.

(Carried: 92% school boards; 95.24% students)

2P/FGM09 Funding (Alberta SuperNet)

That the following be added to the Education Finance (Funding) section under Base Funding:

In addition, funding for high-speed connectivity of the Alberta SuperNet should be increased to cover service costs for 100/20 Mbps connection speeds at all educational sites.

(Carried: 95% school boards; 79.26 students)

3P/FGM09 Funding (Technology)

That the following be added to the Education Finance (Funding) section under Base Funding:

Funding should be based on a current Total Cost of Ownership and the appropriate networking infrastructure and technical support for these learning technologies, on a five-year lifecycle replacement schedule.

(Carried: 79% school boards; 69.92% students)

4P/FGM09 Funding Model

That the following section under Facilities (Funding Model) be reaffirmed and amended as follows:

The provincial government should provide funding for capital projects based upon a funding model which gives school boards annual, sustained funding for capital projects required to meet the needs of a growing and/or changing population as well as aging education infrastructure.

(Carried: 90% school boards; 95.33% students)

5P/FGM09 Infrastructure Preservation Funding

That the following section under Facilities (Infrastructure Preservation Funding) be reaffirmed as amended:

The provincial government should provide preservation funding to school boards that is equivalent to the industry standard of two percent per year of school facility replacement costs and that this amount be above and beyond funding for major modernizations.

(Carried: 92% school boards; 95.76% students)

6P/FGM09 Class Size Initiative

That the title of the “Implementation of Provincial Initiatives” section be amended to “Provincial Initiatives” and that the following be added:

Class Size Initiative

Methods used to calculate the class size ratio should include all on-site teachers who work directly with children, including teachers of students with special needs.

(Defeated: 21% school boards)

7P/FGM09 Supervision of School Extra-Curricular Activities

That the following section be added under Personnel and Employee Relations:

Supervision of School Extra-Curricular Activities

The *School Act* should be clarified to indicate that all appropriately qualified staff, regardless of whether they hold a teaching certificate, be allowed to supervise extra-curricular activities.

(Carried: 81% school boards; 64.45% students)

8P/FGM09 Educational Assistants

That the following section be added under Personnel and Employee Relations:

Educational Assistants

The appropriate government ministries should make the training of educational assistants a high government priority.

(Carried: 74% school boards; 85.61% students)

9P/FGM09 Accommodations for Students Writing Provincial Exams

That the title of the “Accommodations for Assistive Technology” section under Student Assessment be changed to “Accommodations for Students Writing Provincial Exams” and that the following underlined section be added:

The Alberta School Boards Association supports the use of authorized assistive technology, including approved text to speech software programs and assistance of a reader and/or CD version and/or scribe, as an accommodation for students when they write achievement tests and diploma exams.

(Carried: 83% school boards; 91.63% students)

PROPOSED EMERGENT ISSUES

10EM/FGM09 Reaffirmation of Current Student Assessment Policy, Provincial Diploma Examinations

The design of provincial diploma examinations should provide for a balance of multiple choice and open-ended questions in all subject areas tested.

(Carried: 87% school boards; 75.16% students)

11EM/FGM09 Revise Weighting of Diploma Exams

Beginning in the 2010/2011 school year, in calculating students' final marks for all subjects with diploma exams, the weighting for all such exams should be 30% of the final mark, with the remaining 70% to be determined by the school awarded mark.

(Deferred to SGM 2010: 89%)

12EM/FGM09 Reserve Claw-backs

Original Motion *(as amended):*

That the provincial government ensure that no claw-backs be taken from school boards' reserves. If reductions are decided by the Alberta Government, such reductions should be done equitably and fairly based on a shared reduction in funding under the Alberta Education Funding Framework.

Substitute Motion *(as amended):*

We are opposed to any funding cuts to public education; however, if reductions are forthcoming, the Alberta School Board Association urges the provincial government to proceed on the following basis:

- Make the amount of the reduction to the K-12 system as small as possible
- Ensure all expenditures by Alberta Education directly support/enhance student learning, with those department initiatives less directly impactful on student learning either cancelled or deferred
- Allocate any remaining reductions to individual school boards, charter schools, private schools on an equitable basis. In implementing such reductions equitably and fairly, principles of the funding framework should apply "in reverse"
- Within this framework, leave decisions on where to implement cost reductions to individual school boards so that they can determine the best way to meet the needs of their communities
- Claw-backs will not be directed at school board reserves.

(Defeated: 56% school boards)

A simple majority was required to determine whether the original motion (as amended) or the substitute motion (as amended) was selected. The Substitute Motion was selected with a vote of 51%.

A double majority of 60% was required to adopt the amended substitute motion. It was defeated with only 56% of school boards voting in favour.

Business Arising Motions from 12EM/FGM09:

Note: Each business arising motion required a 2/3 majority vote (66.67%) to be eligible for consideration by the assembly.

Motion #1: As public education is an investment in our government's future generations, be it resolved that the Alberta School Boards Association believes the government is responsible to fully fund the K-12 education system.
(Defeated: 40% in favour)

Motion #2: The Alberta School Boards Association supports no further cuts to public education.
(Defeated: 66% in favour)

Both business arising motions were lost.

13EM/FGM09 Bill 206 (Grande Prairie Public SD #2357)

Did not meet the criteria for emergent consideration.

14EM/FGM09 Bill 206 (Calgary Board of Education)

That the Alberta School Boards Association believes that the proposed amendments to the *School Act* as detailed in Bill 206 "School (Enhanced Protections of Students and Teachers) Amendment Act" should not be supported.

(Carried: 97% school boards; 97.6% students)

15EM/FGM09 School Act Review – Ministry of Children and Youth

Did not meet the criteria for emergent consideration.