

ASBA EFFORTS RAISE PROFILE OF FUNDING ISSUES PLAGUING PROVINCE'S BOARDS

Working with school boards around the province, and using data gathered for the recently published *Missing the mark* reports, ASBA President **Maureen Kubinec** drew attention to the funding shortfalls plaguing school boards across the province.

Thursday, June 22 the association issued a media release highlighting the central conclusions in the *Missing the mark* reports and encouraging reporters to contact school boards around the province for their individual stories.

As well as referencing the *Missing the mark* studies, the June 22 release features testimonies from each of the province's metro school boards outlining the specific challenges they are facing. Including the four metro school boards, 26 school boards volunteered to participate in this initiative.

See the ASBA website www.asba.ab.ca for a copy of the June 22 media release, executive summaries of each of the *Missing the mark* reports and the complete reports.

Additional copies of the *Missing the mark* reports are available at the ASBA office. School boards interested in working with their parent and local communities to raise these issues with MLAs may wish to access the executive summaries posted on the association website.

ASBA LEGAL DEVELOPS GUIDE FOR GUARDIANSHIP ISSUES AND QUESTIONS

In the wake of recent changes to the definition of "parent" under the School Act, which are premised on a codification of legal guardianship rights

under Alberta's Family Law Act, the ASBA legal department has developed a Question and Answer guide to help jurisdiction and school-based administrators who respond to these matters on a day-to-day basis.

For information about the *Parents and Legal Guardians – Are they one and the same?* guide, contact Jennifer Elsinga at jelsinga@asba.ab.ca

STEERING COMMITTEE SEEKS FEEDBACK: SMALL URBAN BOARDS STUDY

Representatives of the 27 school boards participating in the ASBA's Small Urban Boards study received a copy of the draft report at a June 6 meeting in Red Deer.

Following the presentation, the study's steering committee invited the participating school boards to review the draft report and to provide feedback to it before July 5, 2006. Please respond to Suzanne Lundrigan slundrigan@asba.ab.ca.

The next step in the Small Urban Boards study will see the steering committee meet August 11 to review the participating school boards' feedback, with a view to finalizing the report for presentation to the ASBA Board of Directors in the fall.

Who is on the Small Urban Boards study steering committee?

MAJOR URBAN CENTRES
Lloyd Baumgarten
Red Deer Catholic Regional Division
Morag Pansegrau
St. Albert Prot. Separate School District

SMALL CITIES
Brenda Herder
Battle River Regional Division
Rob Reimer
Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools

SUBURBAN

Jean Boisvert

Elk Island Catholic Sep. Reg. Division

Wendy Metzger

Rocky View School Division

Maureen Kubinec

President ASBA *ex-officio*

Kath Rhyason

Fort McMurray Public, CASS

Christine Lee

Lethbridge Public, ASBOA

Consultant **Steve Cymbol and Suzanne Lundrigan**, ASBA staff, are providing support to the steering committee.

CONSULTANT NAMED TO CONDUCT ASBA GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Don Beeken, *Key Consulting*, will serve as the consultant who will guide and facilitate the ASBA's upcoming governance review. The review is scheduled to start next September.

Beeken has been consulting since 1987. His practice has dealt with most workplace issues including management, leadership and governance.

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED ON ASBA BOARD

The following people were installed as new officers on the ASBA Board of Directors:

Heather Welwood

ASBA vice-president

Carol Bazinet

Calgary Board of Education

Wendy Olson-Lepchuk

Zone 1 Director

Gerry Steinke

Zone 23 Director

Doug Gardner

Zone 5 Director

See the ASBA website for photos and biographies for all the ASBA Board of Directors, as well as meeting agendas and minutes.