

ASBA Board of Directors Meeting

Board Highlights are circulated to the ASBA Board of Directors and ASBA staff after each meeting. Directors are asked to share Board Highlights with their respective constituencies. See the ASBA website www.asba.ab.ca for draft and official minutes. For more information contact **Marian Johnson** at 1.780.451.7101.

Proposed Membership Fee Increase for 2008-09 Limited to 1 ½ %

ASBA Budget Approved

The Board of Directors is recommending a “hold the line” budget for ratification by the membership at the June Spring General Meeting. The budget – which contains a 3.3% increase in per diems for board members, an increase in transportation allowance from \$.44 to \$.48 per kilometer, and sees a 1.5% increase in membership fees – is well below the expected grant increase that boards will receive this coming year. Fee for service rates will remain frozen, but the association will begin to charge boards for a portion of travel expenditures incurred in delivering service. Watch for presentations by Carol Bazinet (CBE) and Lynda Akers (Zone 2/3) at your zone meeting in either April or May.

2008-2011 ASBA Strategic Plan Approved

The Board approved the Association’s 2008 -2011 strategic plan. Based on feedback from the members, the board retained the current advocacy priorities of infrastructure, transportation and high school completion. The board adopted early intervention/school preparedness and special education as one of its research priorities. The board agreed to survey the members to determine the level of support for research on the topic of health and wellness as it relates to students. Enhancing partnership among the education partners will be a focus of the association’s work during the three-year plan.

Fiscal Accountability initiative gets underway – ASBA Board of Directors reinforces the need for training for all school trustees

The board of directors got an advance preview of the work that has been done to provide school boards with the tools to reinforce their fiscal management and oversight responsibilities. The board emphasized the importance of **all** trustees participating in the sessions which will be held on the following dates:

Date	Location	Venue
April 2	Peace River	The Sawridge
April 3	Grande Prairie	Sandman Inn
April 7	Fort McMurray	The Sawridge
April 8	Edmonton	Delta Edmonton South
April 9	Edmonton	Delta Edmonton South
April 18	St. Paul	Legion
May 5	Calgary	Greenwood Inn
May 6	Red Deer	Red Deer Lodge
May 7	Lethbridge	Erickson's Restaurant

A session is planned for Medicine Hat – but a date has not yet been confirmed.

Zones to name representative to ASBA Policy Development Advisory Committee

In an attempt to involve the grassroots membership in the policy development process, each zone and metro board will be asked to name a representative to the ASBA Policy Development Advisory Committee. The Committee, which is chaired by ASBA Vice President Jacquie Hansen, had previously only included members from the ASBA Board of Directors.

ASBA Board of Directors makes appointment to the Joint Stakeholder Committee on Children and Poverty

The ASBA board of directors approved the appointment of Kathy Cooper, a trustee from the Prairie Rose School Board to the Joint Stakeholder Committee on Children and Poverty which is administered by the Alberta Teachers' Association.