

ASBA Board of Directors Meeting

*Board Highlights are circulated to the Board of Directors and ASBA staff after each meeting. Directors are asked to circulate these highlights to their respective constituencies. Meeting agendas, draft and ratified minutes are available on the ASBA website at www.asba.ab.ca. For more information contact **Marian Johnson** at 1.780.451.7101.*

Board of directors adopts motion calling on government to fulfill its promise to pay teacher salary increases in MOA

The board of directors passed the following motion at its May meeting:

I.1 Mobilize the membership re funding:

That the ASBA call upon the provincial government to honour its commitment to fully fund increases in teacher compensation called for in the November 2007 Alberta Government-ATA Memorandum of Understanding.

That the ASBA Board of Directors put this matter forward to the membership for endorsement at the 2010 ASBA Spring General Meeting.

School boards across the province are struggling to sustain services to students as they cope with teacher salary increases without the funding the government promised for those increases when the deal was struck with the ATA in November 2007. School boards will be asked to consider this motion at the Spring General Meeting.

New report identifies fundamentals of effective governance

The board of directors adopted a six-page report which sets out:

- What is good governance?
- What are the essential roles and responsibilities of trustees?
- What are the elements of effective governance?

Members of the ASBA Governance Task Force:

Serafino Scarpino, Task Force Chair, Calgary Catholic

Karen Kryczka, Calgary Board of Education

Anne-Marie Boucher, Director Zone 5, Greater Southern Francophone RA No. 4

Ralph Wohlgemuth, Zone 1 Grande Prairie RCSSD No. 28

Jeff Thompson, Zone 2/3 Fort McMurray Public School District No. 2833

Cheryl Smith, Zone 4 Battle River Regional Division No. 3

Don Zech, Zone 6 Palliser Regional Division No. 26

The task force will present its findings at the upcoming Spring General Meeting.

High School Completion report complete

The High School Completion Task Force presented its report summarizing a 2009 survey of school boards which asked boards to:

- identify current initiatives aimed at improving high school completion rates
- identify supports that would help boards address this challenge
- indicate their interest in sharing information about this issue through a symposium.

The report is en route to the printers and is scheduled for formal release at the end of June.

These individuals serve on the High School Completion Task Force:

Board of Directors members

Jackie Swainson, Director, Zone 4, *Chair*

Marilyn Bergstra, Director, Edmonton Catholic

Kerry Milder, Director, Zone 6

Zone representatives

Bryan Imray, Zone 1, Peace River SD

Bernie Huedepohl, Zone 2/3, Buffalo Trail Public Schools RD

Ken Checkel, Zone 4, Clearview SD

Rosemarie Goerlitz, Zone 5, Calgary Catholic

Karen Bartsch, Zone 6, Grasslands RD

Alberta Education representatives

Becky Pretli, Education Manager, Project Lead

Progress report: Strategic Plan (2009-2012)

The latest report outlining progress on the ASBA's strategic plan will be posted on the ASBA website shortly.

Other news of note

President **Heather Welwood** and Executive Director **David Anderson** will serve on the government committee exploring separate school district formation. The input into the process is being gathered as part of the *School Act* review.

The Public School Boards Association and the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association will also participate in the discussion which will focus on the establishment process – not the constitutional rights of minority faith-based groups to establish separate school districts.

As announced on Twitter by Education Minister Dave Hancock:

- the *Inspiring Education* report will be issued June 2
- the *Setting the Direction* report will be issued June 11