

ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION
ZONE 2/3
GENERAL MEETING
AGENDA

St. Anthony Centre
March 26, 2010
9:30 a.m.
(Lunch will be provided)

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS - CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA
 - A. ACTION ITEMS
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
 - B. INFORMATION ITEMS
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
3. ACCEPTANCE of AGENDA as circulated/amended.
4. MINUTES
 - a) Acceptance of Minutes of General Meeting February 26, 2010 as circulated/amended.
 - b) Business arising from minutes
5. NEW BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS
 - a) NEW STANDING ITEM

Are there any issues coming forward from Boards within our Zone? (As per the new ASBA Board of Directors' Governance Policy #10)
 - b)
 - c) Additional Action
 - 1)
 - 2)
6. INFORMATION ITEMS - ALL REPORTS ARE REQUESTED TO BE WRITTEN
 - a) Zone Reports
 1. Chair's Report - Trustee Brower
 2. Advocacy Committee Report - Trustee Ripley

3. Labour Relations Report - Trustee Mueller
4. Financial Report - Jackie Gilbert

b) ASBA Reports

1. Zone Directors - Trustee Akers, Trustee Jespersen
2. President - Heather Welwood
3. Executive Director - David Anderson

c) Alberta Education

1. Field Services - Elsie Pawluk/Keith Jones
2. Other

d) Other

1. Advocacy Committee - debrief
- 2.

e) Additional Information

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

7. **FOCUSED CONVERSATIONS**

Book Talks - Round table sharing on our best reads recently

8. **PRESENTATIONS**

SCHOOL LIBRARY INITIATIVE (Revised Draft Policy)

Judith Sykes, Manager, Alberta Education, School Library Services

Karen Prokopowich, Library Committee Member (ASBA)

CHANGES TO THE FUNDING MANUAL - 2010

Brad Smith, Director of School Finance
Alberta Education

9. **BOARD SHARING - as time permits**

2:45 p.m. 10. **ADJOURN**

Next Meeting - General Meeting -
April 23, 2010
9:30 am
St. Anthony Centre

Zone2/3 Chair's Report – March 2010

Submitted by: Lisa Brower

March 15, 2010

- Details around agenda planning continue to be at the center of much of my time for Zone 2/3. As we strive to bring timely and meaningful speakers and PD opportunities to the zone.
- I appreciated the collaboration working with Keith Jones to bring a timely information session to zone around the changes to the funding formulas. Thanks Keith!
- If you represent Zone 2/3 on any of our external committees please see either myself or a member of the zone executive about reporting back to the zone within the next couple of months. We want to ensure you have time on our agenda to fulfill the reporting requirements as a zone representative. Thanks.
- There will be time for discussion around possible proposed policy positions/Directives for Action at our April meeting. If your board is planning to put forward a proposed policy or directive for action please provide adequate time for boards to consider their support and/or input.
- Remember to be prepared to share a book of your choosing for our focused table conversation time (voluntary of course).
- Dates to keep in mind:
 - March 25, 2010 Alberta Education Consultation and Information Regional Sessions (Must be pre-registered through Alberta Education).
 - March 26/10 Zone 2/3 General Meeting 9:30am
 - April 23/10 Zone 2/3 General Meeting 9:30am
 - May 28/10 Zone 2/3 General Meeting 9:30am
 - May 28/10 Zone 2/3 Edwin Parr Awards Banquet (evening).
 - June 7 – 8/10 ASBA Spring General Meeting (Red Deer)
 - June 18/10 Zone 2/3 General Meeting 9:30am
 - Canadian School Boards Association Congress July 7 – 9, 2010
Location: St. John's NL
- Another big thank you to the Advocacy Committee for all their work on this years' project and for representing our zone so well. Thanks also to all the Trustees for their attendance and excellent participation.

Zone 2/3 Advocacy Committee Report / March 26, 2010

From: Maria Lentz, Lauri Ann Turnbull, Lisa Brower, Clayton Jesperson, Lynda Akers and Catherine Ripley

Thank you.

First, thank you to Zone for giving us a great topic to work with and to all those who provided material and feedback to the Advocacy Committee. Second, thank you to all those trustees who came out for the breakfast with our MLAs on Feb. 26.

The Breakfast

MLAs in attendance

St. Albert	Allred	Mr.	Ken
West Yellowhead	Campbell	Mr.	Robin
Edmonton-Calder	Elniski	Mr.	Doug
Edmonton-Whitemud	Hancock	Hon.	Dave
Edmonton-Rutherford	Horne	Mr.	Fred
Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert	Horner	Hon.	Doug
Athabasca-Redwater	Johnson	Mr.	Jeff
Bonnyville-Cold Lake	Leskiw	Mrs.	Genia
Lacombe-Ponoka	Prins	Mr.	Raymond
Edmonton-Manning	Sandhu	Mr.	Peter
Edmonton-Decore	Sarich	Mrs.	Janice
Whitecourt-Ste. Anne	VanderBurg	Mr.	George
Ft. McMurray-Wood Buffalo	Boutilier	Mr.	Guy
Edmonton-Millwoods	Benito	Mr.	Carl
Strathcona	Quest	Mr.	Dave

Table Conversations: Now compiled and attached for trustees' reference. (pages 3-6)

Budget

We are still within our budget. (For future reference, if Zone wanted to do a similar video again, the budget would need to be higher. The charge for this year's video was \$3500, the quoted price, but realistically, the charge should have been \$4500 to \$5000.)

Going Forward

Still to do: Send a copy of the video & news report & PowerPoint on DVD and table conversation compilation to MLAs and one for each board. Possibly we may post these on the web as well. As of March 15, we are ensuring there would be no FOIP issues with this idea.

For Discussion on March 26 and to Inform Next Year's Advocacy's Committee

- This year, boards were invited to share their ideas for the advocacy topic in September. The new Advocacy Committee was voted in at the October meeting. Then follow up to gather information was done in late November and December. How did this process work for your board?
- What were the strengths of this year's presentation? Weaknesses?
- How did the breakfast approach work versus lunch approach? The Committee notes that the MLAs in attendance stayed approximately equal in both events. Should "the breakfast" be tried for another year or two to test its effectiveness? Would the Zone consider moving the breakfast (or lunch) to a day other than Friday (which is currently the-day-in-the-constituency day for MLAs)?
- Are there any corrections to the Table Conversation compilation?
- Do you have any suggestions for the letter to MLAs to accompany the DVD?
- How does this Zone 2/3 presentation help or hinder your own Board's advocacy efforts? Did it give you a foundation for following up with your MLAs? Or did it help to reinforce advocacy you have already done? Or neither?
- Do you have any tips for next year's committee?

To work together, as locally elected Trustees and MLAs, to sustain excellent educational opportunities for all students no matter where they live

TRUSTEES can

MLAs can....

INFORM and UNDERSTAND EACH BETTER

Understand each other's priorities

Communicate!

Communicate/have a dialogue on an ongoing basis.

Maintain communications about education challenges and successes to MLAs.

Have more open dialogue with our MLAs.

Understand the government context.

Share examples/celebrations in our communities.

Invite the Premier to ASBA/ACSTA/PSBAA conventions or MLA breakfasts to make sure we take our concerns to the top (the bossman who signs the cheques).

Keep MLAs informed of our successes and pressure points.

Keep MLAs informed on current issues.

Ensure MLAs are informed.

... and MUST meet with MLAs to discuss current issues.

Work with MLAs informally, doesn't have to be formal

Make sure the government listens to ALL voices, not just reflect the few.

Build relationships, just like the Rotary test

Learn from the successes from sister boards

Understand each other's priorities

Communicate!

Communicate/have a dialogue on an ongoing basis.

Network and Communicate

Constant communicate with locally elected boards (vital)

Understand the division context

Share examples/celebrations in our communities.

Participate in open communication such as this breakfast.

Attend more meetings and have more dialogue around "sustainability" and what that means.

Meet with Trustees

Attend Board meetings so as to be informed and have ability to inform fellow MLAs

Value the work of trustees.

Recognize that MLAs need public school trustees.

Listen and hear the messages they don't want to hear.

ASK what they can to help prior t a challenge coming forth.

WORK IN TANDEM

<p>Advocate</p>	<p>Move the message that is being advocated by trustees. Advocate with caucus.</p>
<p>Send a request to MLAs to invite the Premier to significant events in your wards.</p>	<p>Keep informed so they can discuss the issues with the Minister of Education</p>
<p>Encourage invitations to schools/classrooms to MLAs.</p>	<p>Take a request to the Premier to attend education-related events in their constituencies.</p>
<p>Take MLAs into real classrooms to see true range of abilities and challenges that teachers deal with daily and give necessary resources.</p>	<p>Accept invitations into schools/classrooms and meet with students.</p>
<p>Trust (essential)</p>	<p>Go into classrooms to see all the good things that are going on.</p>
<p>Advocate that K-12 public education must be a priority.</p>	<p>Trust (essential)</p>
	<p>Empower School Boards</p>
	<p>Foster innovation, support new approaches</p>

UNDERSTAND and RESPOND TO STUDENT NEEDS

<p>Understand the importance and implications of Inspiring Education.</p>	<p>Understand the importance and implications of Inspiring Education.</p>
<p>Keep connected and maintain awareness of the direction in which the broader global community is moving; respond to that direction</p>	<p>Respond to situations and changes as they arise (eg. population growth in Spruce Grove)</p>
<p>Advocate, advocate, advocate for all students to ensure all have an opportunity for the best education possible</p>	<p>Recognize that we need more flexibility in programming for ESL students. It is not a good use of time to have some ESL students sitting in on, for example, science classes when there is a language barrier and they don't understand what is happening.</p>
<p>Keep the students' best interests in mind first and keep representing ALL students</p>	
<p>Ensure teacher PD opportunities</p>	<p>Know the educational issues in their constituencies.</p>
<p>Speak to our MLAs about the condition of schools (for example, the francophone school in Jasper)</p>	<p>Visit schools to see the conditions firsthand (for example, francophone school in Jasper, and when capital funding projects come along, consider investing in the Francophone school in Jasper.</p>
<p>Sustain local autonomy; know your neighbourhoods/communities and know their needs</p>	<p>Sustain local autonomy; know your neighbourhoods/communities and know their needs</p>
<p>Promote and foster wraparound services on site.</p>	<p>Ensure that cuts to social services are not downloaded to schools to "fix."</p>
<p>Promote and foster success coaches</p>	

Be creative and innovative; don't expect to do things the same way they have always been done.

Rely on their teachers who know what their students need and then figure out a way to make it work.

Improve the rate of achieving high school completion and provide more hooks to catch these students before they slip away.

Raise the level of education.

Continue advocating for *sustainable* programming for all students.

LOOK AT TECHNOLOGY ISSUES TOGETHER

RE: technology (although trying hard here, not great). Need to find ways together to sustain and replace technology.

Advocate for equitable and sustainable funding to have full access to technology

Evergreen technology (smart boards)

RE: technology (although trying hard here, not great). Need to find ways together to sustain and replace technology.

Provide predictable, sustainable funding for technology and other learning resources that develop and meet the needs of all students with an emphasis on literacy and numeracy

CULTIVATE PARTNERS TO SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION

Involve all sectors in education (parents, agencies, health, policing...)

Create partnerships with the community.

Engage the local community.

Ensure cross-ministerial cooperation (education/health/mental health/ etc.)

Figure out how to take "stumbling blocks" (such as silo mentality) out of the way

Find ways to engage families.

Encourage Boards to look for more collaborative opportunities; govt. shouldn't have to tell you how.

LOOK AT ANNUAL BUDGET AND FUNDING ISSUES TOGETHER

Utilize resources to ensure a great education for both present and future

Recognize that different CTS Courses require different funding from the government

Advocate for the ability for school boards to tax locally to sustain rural schools.

Champion public education and ensure K-12 education is a priority.

Recognize that different CTS Courses require different funding from the government

Think about the fact that if we don't ensure that students have the resources to get a good education,

Keep rural areas self-sufficient; not take the easy way out.

Revisit the surpluses (reserves) and reasons they are there

Continue to advocate for and allocate resources in an equitable manner

Write to MLAs and Premier pointing out the REAL facts and implications of the current budget.

Not thank the government for a "hold the line" budget. This is a cutback budget.

Look at ways to sustain projects through new partnerships or other innovative ways.

Cooperate more with other school boards. For example, there are four high schools in one rural area (francophone, separate, public, outreach)... necessary?

Advocate for more sustainable funding (with good background as to needs)

Maintain funding; funding cuts don't help

Help to get young people interested in politics (MLAs) (where does this go?)

how can we expect them to get good paying jobs and pay enough taxes to support the government

Understand that the only way for some of the smaller boards to tighten their budgets would be to start laying off teachers, which would then start affecting student education.

Recognize that one-time funding doesn't work; budgeting shouldn't deter education.

Have more children!! (seriously)

Work toward a diversified economy.

Be the advocates for capital project funding; capital projects (schools) must be a priority and brought online in a timely manner, not on a political timeline.

Look at sustainability of innovative, one-time projects. Consider if we (the govt) is starting too many things.

Think about a law that says where numbers are very small, there will only be one school. ????

Need more creative ways to address funding shortfall. MLAs need to better understand what the needs are to effectively educate our children.

Ensure playgrounds are funded.

**ASBA ZONE 2/3
FINANCIAL REPORT - REVENUES & EXPENSES**

**2009-2010
March 12, 2010**

	2009-2010 BUDGET	2009-2010 ACTUAL	Variance Actual 0910 to Budget 0910	2008-2009 ACTUAL	
REVENUES					
24 Membership Fees	\$53,512	\$45,224	\$8,288	84.51%	\$50,535
Meal Recoveries					
MLA Presentation	\$4,000	\$1,760	\$2,240	44.00%	\$3,660
Edwin Parr Banquet	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	0.00%	\$2,640
Labour Meetings	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0.00%	\$1,400
Interest Income (Min.Bal.)	\$100	\$0	\$100	0.00%	\$577
TOTAL REVENUES	\$63,612	\$46,984	\$16,628	26.14%	\$58,812
EXPENSES					
Executive Committee					
Per Diem	\$11,000	\$5,360	\$5,640		\$10,620
Chair Allowance	\$750	\$375	\$0		\$750
Expenses	\$5,000	\$3,442	\$1,558		\$4,198
	\$16,750	\$9,177	\$7,198	54.79%	\$15,568
Advocacy Committee					
Per Diem	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$500		\$1,920
Chair Allowance	\$250	\$250	\$0		\$250
Committee Expenses	\$2,500	\$1,031	\$1,469		\$2,457
Presentation Media Expenses	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0		\$2,970
MLA Presentation	\$7,500	\$4,472	\$3,028		\$7,500
	\$16,750	\$11,753	\$4,997	70.17%	\$15,097
Ad-Hoc Committees					
Per Diem	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000		\$1,080
Chair Allowance	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Committee Expenses	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000		\$280
	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0.00%	\$1,360
Edwin Parr Committee					
Per Diem	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400		\$1,729
Chair Allowance	\$100	\$0	\$100		\$100
Expenses	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500		\$1,789
Awards Dinner	\$8,750	\$0	\$8,750		\$7,011
	\$13,750	\$0	\$13,750	0.00%	\$10,629
Labour Relations Representative					
Per Diem	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000		\$160
Expenses	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000		\$3,205
Speaker	\$250	\$0	\$250		\$0
	\$3,250	\$0	\$3,250	0.00%	\$3,365
Audit					
	\$1,500	\$1,219	\$281	81.27%	\$1,521
Bank Charges					
	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0
CSBA Conference					
	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	0.00%	\$3,253
ASBA Leadership					
	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0.00%	\$0
Guest Speakers					
	\$300	\$90	\$210	30.00%	\$243
Meeting Expenses					
	\$11,700	\$5,177	\$6,523	44.25%	\$11,764
Office Supplies, Postage, Phone					
	\$1,500	\$95	\$1,405	6.36%	\$1,326
Secretary-Treasurer Contract					
	\$5,650	\$3,583	\$2,067	63.42%	\$3,000
Support Honorarium					
	\$500	\$0	\$500	0.00%	\$700
Zone Appreciation					
	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.00%	\$46
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$79,850	\$31,095	\$48,381	38.94%	\$67,872
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(\$16,239)	\$15,889	(\$31,753)		(\$9,060)

EQUITY ESTIMATE	Budget	Actual
Opening Balance, September 1, 2009	\$25,998	\$25,998
Budgeted Excess of Revenues over Expenses	(\$16,239)	\$15,889
Closing Balance	\$9,759	\$41,887

Per Motion of September 28, 2007, a minimum operating surplus of \$10,000 must be maintained.