

**Zone 4 ASBA
Regular Meeting
September 28, 2009
10:00 A.M.
Hosted by Battle River School Division**

MINUTES

Present:

Doug Coffin	Alberta Education
Donna Engel	ASBA, Director
Jacque Hansen	ASBA, Vice President
Rebecca Heiberg	Battle River School Division
Peter Miller	Battle River School Division
Ken Offord	Battle River School Division
Kendall Severson	Battle River School Division
Vic Petruk	Battle River School Division
Cheryl Smith	Battle River School Division
Colleen Butler	Chinook's Edge Regional Division
Jackie Swainson	Chinook's Edge Regional Division, ASBA Zone 4 Director
Ken Checkel	Clearview School Division
Patti Dittrick	Clearview School Division
Karen Holloway	Clearview School Division
Cheri Neitz	Clearview School Division
Lloyd Baumgarten	Red Deer Catholic Regional Division
Diane MacKay	Red Deer Catholic Regional Division
Dianne Macaulay	Red Deer Public School District
Cathy Peacocke	Red Deer Public School District
Donna Hogg	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
Barb Johnson	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
Glenn Norby	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
Deanna Specht	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
Ed Zacharko	Wetaskiwin Regional Public School
Mary Jeanne Hofman	Wild Rose Public School Division
Keith Warren	Wild Rose Public School Division
Trudy Bratland	Wolf Creek Regional Division
Karin Engen	Wolf Creek Regional Division
Bob Huff	Wolf Creek Regional Division
Lorrie Jess	Wolf Creek Regional Division
Donna Peterson	Wolf Creek Regional Division
Agnes Watt	Recording Secretary

- 1. Call to Order:** L. Baumgarten called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

A Memorial Silence was held in honour of Cathy Ollenberger, Trustee for the Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Division who passed away recently.

Approval of Agenda:

#53/09 **Moved by Glenn Norby that the agenda be approved *with one addition:*
3i) *Diploma Exam***

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes:

#54/09 **Moved by Lorrie Jess that the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated May 25,
2009 be approved as presented.**

CARRIED

2. Old Business

There was no old business.

3. New Business

3a) 2009-2010 AUDIT

Chair, L. Baumgarten asked trustees to check with their Secretary Treasurer and inquire if he/she would be interested in preparing the audit for the ASBA Zone 4 books for the 2009/2010 school year.

3b) REVIEW ZONE BY-LAWS

Chair, L. Baumgarten reminded trustees to review the Zone By-Laws which were attached to the May 25, 2009 minutes. Any changes requested, will be discussed at the October meeting. Copies were printed and distributed.

3c) ZONE AGM MEETING

The Zone Annual General Meeting will be held on October 26th in Stettler. The various positions to be filled will be posted on the October agenda.

#55/09 **Moved by Bob Huff that names for nominations for President, Vice-President
and Committees should be sent in to Lorraine Askin by October 15. Lorraine
will then forward the names to Zone 4 reps.**

CARRIED

Further discussion centered on the organizational meeting and that nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

It was also intended that the By-Laws may be revised to stipulate the above motion.

want to continue to support trustees in working together to find the best solutions particularly in this time with the budget cuts. She stressed that when parents are aware, engaged and informed, they can be a board's greatest ally. A question and answer period was held. ASCA will e-mail a copy of the changes they would like in the "School Act" to ASBA. This information will then be forwarded to Board chairs.

Chair L. Baumgarten thanked Michelle and Marilyn for the very positive, enlightening possibilities of working together.

Michelle Mulder and Marilyn Sheptycki left the meeting.

3h) 2009 FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD

Chair Lloyd Baumgarten presented a brief overview of what Central Alberta Regional Consortium offers to the education community of central Alberta. CARC offers in-service, training, best practices updates, and professional development activities to administrators, parents, teachers, trustees, school councils, and support staff. The services they offer directly impact the positive growth of the staff and students of central Alberta.

Bob Huff, Chair of the Friends of Education Award's Committee, presented the ASBA Zone 4 "Friends of Education Award" to Mrs. Donna McRae, Executive Director of the Central Alberta Regional Consortium honouring its contribution to Education in Central Alberta.

3i) DIPLOMA EXAMS

Colleen Butler of Chinook's Edge Regional Division, expressed concerns regarding the diploma exam schedule and the new government initiative to remove the written portion of the Math and Science exams. Jacquie Hansen, Vice-President of ASBA, indicated that this concern is already on the books. Therefore, it was agreed that Chair Lloyd Baumgarten would send a letter to Heather Welwood, President of ASBA on behalf of Zone 4 re-affirming the issues regarding diploma exams. (*Copy of the letter is attached.*)

4. Reports

- 4a) Financial - Chair Lloyd Baumgarten spoke to the budget on behalf of Rod Steeves. A copy of the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Revenue and Expenses was distributed. The 2010 forecast indicates a \$900 surplus. Treasurer, Rod Steeves suggested re-visiting the fees and possibly decreasing them for 2010-2011. It was also noted that the cost for the Speech & Debate came in well below budget. After a discussion, it was decided to leave the fees as is because part of this surplus will be needed to pay for the possible expenses of our Alberta Coalition for the Healthy School Communities Committee rep. At the Edwin Parr Banquet, 14 complimentary tickets were given out to the finalists. Three complimentary tickets were also given to ASBA and staff and one to Alberta Ed staff. In future, complimentary tickets will be reserved for the nominees and their guests, the ASBA President and the ASBA Executive Director.

#58/09

Moved by Barb Johnson that we write off the extra ticket given to ASBA and to AB Ed.

CARRIED

- 4b) Labour Relations – Trustee Karen Holloway had no report as information has been going directly to Board Chairs.
- 4c) Consortia – Colleen Butler reported that there has been no meeting since the spring wind-up. The next meeting will be held the end of October. Colleen indicated she will not be putting her name forward as rep for this committee and asked trustees to think about putting their name forward for this position.
- 4d) Zone 4 Director to ASBA – Jackie Swainson reported the summer Banff Leadership Conference was a good, hard-working meeting and focused on the strengthening of Zone structures and expressed how important it is to have Zone chairs attend. The Board of Directors signed a ten-year lease to stay in their current location as it was the most fiscally responsible choice. This results in a 3% increase for the association. ASBA did their annual report card evaluating their many accomplishments. Advocacy plans for the three priority areas transportation, high school completion and infrastructure are in place. Reports will go out to the Boards. Strategic Plan information along with a lot of info and reports is on their up-dated website. The governance handbook will be looked at next. Diane Macaulay would like to have Zone 4's information put on the ASBA website. She offered to work with Lorraine Askin to get it up and running. Diane and Lorraine will need to get in touch with Suzanne Lundrigan, Communications Director.
- 4e) ASBA – Jacquie Hansen, ASBA, Vice President reported on behalf of Heather Welwood who sent her regrets. Ms. Hansen requested for a motion to go “in-camera”.

#59/09

Moved by Patti Dittrick that the meeting move to “in camera” for a report on the financial issues facing Boards.

CARRIED

#60/09

Moved by Barb Johnson that the meeting adjourn the “in-camera” session.

CARRIED

The proposed policies are in their final draft form. Any changes must be sent in by September 29.

Jacquie Hansen re-iterated that the Leadership Retreat was a success and to remember to budget for our Zone chair to attend.

Work will begin for the Governance Task Committee, headed by Serafino Scarpino, as membership response was overwhelmingly in favor.

The ATA, the ASCA and ASBA have embarked on a joint advertising campaign highlighting education as an investment, not a cost. All the material is vetted before it is released to the public.

The Annual Report has been distributed. It is a good, easy to read report and any feedback should go to Suzanne Lundrigan, Communications Director.

Jacque reported that regional discussions are being presented to Zones for input into the School Act. This is about a three hour presentation. As well, five teleconference sessions across the province will be set up during mid October. Chair Lloyd Baumgarten asked trustees if they would like to book the presentation regarding the School Act during the next meeting in place of a showcase. Mr. Baumgarten then asked Clearview school trustees if it would be okay that they forego their showcase because of the time limitation. Clearview trustees felt it would be okay and the general consensus was to have ASBA present the presentation regarding the “School Act” at the October 26th meeting.

4f) Alberta Education - Doug Coffin spoke to the ASBA Director’s Report, which was attached to the agenda, highlighting the following:

“Inspiring Education: A Dialogue with Albertans” - A Provincial Conversation is scheduled October 18 – 20 in Edmonton. Mr. Coffin encouraged trustees to attend.

Capital Planning – Mr. Coffin confirmed AB Ed is still very committed and the Modular Classrooms Program is high priority.

Speak Out – Some dates have been scheduled and these will go out through the superintendents’ offices.

Trustee Barb Johnson expressed her concern that when she spoke with students she felt they were unaware of resources that were already in place. She felt there needs to be better communication. Mr. Coffin will take this back to the committee.

H1N1 – Alberta Ed has excellent resources on their website including info for administrators.

It was mentioned that Chinook’s Edge has a very impressive 45 page document specific to health and safety, including a school pandemic plan.

Section 18.1 – Disclosure of information will be removed from the Student Record Regulation as it is now in the Public Health Act.

Health Behaviour in School-aged Children – A representative from Queens University will be contacting school boards to participate in a survey. Mr. Coffin encouraged boards to be supportive of this survey as it is only done every four years.

4g) Drug Awareness – Patti Dittrick had no report as their meeting has not been held yet.

5. REMINDER

The MELRA Awards Presentation will be held on November 30 at the Wetaskiwin Best Western Wayside Inn. Breakfast will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the awards presentations from 10:00 – 10:30. All trustees are welcome, however, the Minister will pay for five trustees per Board. Chair Lloyd Baumgarten will send this information out in a letter.

SHOW CASE – Battle River Regional Division provided a very informative presentation on “Connecting to Your Vision in Crisis”. Their division has a vision of *Every Student, Every Day, A Success*. In order to achieve their vision, they developed a profile for trustee excellence. Mr. Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent, spoke about their profile and how a crisis can tax one’s vision and make it difficult “to stay the course”. Mr. Jarrett and Ms. Diane Hutchinson, Communication Officer spoke about the hazing incident and how it impacted students from Grades 1 – 12. A very informative conversation was held amongst trustees. Trustees then broke into five groups to brainstorm five questions regarding hazing in communities. Feedback was handed in to Mr. Jarrett. Trustees expressed that they would like to receive a copy of the information that was collected.

Chair Lloyd Baumgarten, along with other trustees, commended the Battle River School Division for having the courage to step in recognizing that this is an on-going cultural issue.

Trudy Bratland adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on October 26, 2009 hosted by Clearview School Division.

Mr. L. Baumgarten – Chair

Mr. R. Steeves – Zone Secretary/Treasurer

ASBA Zone 4 Executive Meeting

Present: Lloyd Baumgarten, Colleen Butler, Patti Dittrick, Karen Holloway, Bob Huff, Diane Macaulay, Cheri Neitz, Ken Offord, Cathy Peacocke, Jackie Swainson, Agnes Watt

L. Baumgarten called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

The Friends of Education committee will nominate the Zone 4 2009 “Friends of Education Award” to ASBA for a Provincial Award. Bob Huff, Paula Lamoureux and Ken Offord are on this committee. Agnes Watt will forward the Awards Committee info to Bob Huff.

The Work Plan was reviewed. In October the “*Establish schedule for Executive Meetings*” can be removed as Executive Meetings always follow the Regular Meeting.

The Meeting Dates for the Year were discussed. Diane Macaulay asked Lloyd Baumgarten if Red Deer Catholic would like to take the April 26, 2010 meeting as the May 31, 2010 meeting is always combined with the Edwin Parr Awards Evening. Lloyd will get back to Diane on this.

The following items were discussed for New Business at the October meeting:

- Election of Officers
- Review Policy/Directives
- Reports
- ASBA - School Act Presentation/Discussion

Colleen Butler adjourned the meeting @ 3:10 p.m.