



Key Communiqué

News for School Councils

Issue | March 20, 2018

One of the most significant ways parents and community members can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students is through school councils. By connecting students, schools and communities, school councils help nurture and inspire our students to achieve their full potential.

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Feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments.

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The Next COSC Meeting is Apr. 11, 2018

Please mark your calendar with the next Council of School Councils (COSC) meeting which will be held on Wednesday, Apr. 11, 2018. The meeting will take place in multipurpose room of the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW from 7 – 9 p.m. This will be the **last** COSC meeting for the 2017-18 school year.

Free parking is available for attendees in the building parkade accessible from 12 Avenue.

An invitation for this meeting was emailed on Mar. 16, 2018 to our current school council distribution list. To help us plan for the meetings, we appreciate an [RSVP](#) to meeting invitations.

COSC Mar. 1 Meeting Materials Posted Online

The Mar. 1 COSC meeting was attended by approximately 75 school council representatives. The meeting topics included the Capital Planning process, system updates and review of possible survey questions to gather public input to help inform the new Chief Superintendent during their period of transition. Trustees are reviewing all of the feedback collected about the survey questions and are grateful for the honesty and perspectives of meeting attendees.

The presentation [materials](#) and [poll everywhere results](#) are posted on our School Council webpage. Please share these with members of your school council and your school community.

Provide Your Input on the CBE's Budget

Our budget decisions are shaped by our shared values: students come first, learning is our central purpose and public education serves the common good.

We encourage our community to provide input on educational spending. Our finance team reads each comment we receive, and all input will be considered when making decisions on our budget.

Please visit our [budget feedback form](#) to provide your thoughts.

ActivateYYC Grants

ActivateYYC is a new, one-time microgrant program that centers on local community projects that bring people together to walk, play and be neighbourly. These projects focus on quick, temporary, and low-cost initiatives that help to transform a space and let people experience it in a different way. These projects help to create a place where everyone is comfortable and welcome, and can potentially address many issues in a community: crime, traffic, litter, abandonment, poor lighting, etc.

ActivateYYC will provide grants up to \$750 to organized groups to experiment with temporary local projects and events that motivate Calgarians to walk, play and be neighbourly. Projects are encouraged to take place in any season of the year, to occur all around the city and to be any size.

Past approved school projects include a Gr. 5 community cleanup, a pair of friendship benches between 2 community schools, multiple sidewalk/road painting projects, and a traffic calming measure along 17th Ave.

Registration Deadline is July 3rd, 2018. Contact engageinplanning@calgarycommunities.com or visit <https://calgarycommunities.com/activateyyc/> for more information.

Longer-Term Strategy for French Immersion programs in Northwest and North Central Calgary

On March 6, 2018 we hosted an in-person session at Sir Winston Churchill High School and on March 21 and April 9 we will host additional in-person sessions. At these sessions, participants will learn more about the factors that need to be considered in making decisions and have opportunities to share their thoughts on possibilities for the future of the northwest and north central French Immersion Program. We plan to provide additional opportunities (online and in-person) over the next several months before making any decisions.

The schools identified to participate in this engagement process include: Banff Trail, Branton, Georges P. Vanier, Hidden Valley, King George, Valley Creek and Varsity Acres.

See our community engagement page to [learn more](#).

Board of Trustees Approves New Mission Statement

The CBE is committed to inclusive learning environments for all our students and making schools safe, caring, welcoming and respectful. On Tuesday, Mar. 13, 2018, the Calgary Board of Education Board of Trustees unanimously approved an amendment to Results 1: Mission, amending the CBE's mission statement to include language which respects gender identity and gender expression.

The new mission statement is as follows:

“Each student in keeping with their individual abilities and gifts, will complete high school with a foundation of learning necessary to thrive in life, work and continued learning.”

“Language does matter. It's about making sure that our words are inclusive and take into account the feelings and lives of others. This may be a small change of a few words, but these words matter,” said Board Chair Trina Hurdman.

The amendment was first introduced to the Board of Trustees by Trustee Julie Hrdlicka in December 2017. The amended mission statement will take effect immediately.

Webinar Recordings by ASCA

As part of ASCA support, learning opportunities are provided through webinars and videos to assist with school council effectiveness.

Webinars are now available to view at any time on the [ASCA webinar website](#). Webinars available include:

- Masterful Minutes
- Meeting Management
- Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose
- Chair Basics
- School Council Purpose
- Tools for Effective School Councils

School council members can access these webinars using their ASCA membership.

ASCA Conference & AGM

The ASCA Conference and AGM will be held at the Delta Edmonton South, Apr. 20-22, 2018. Hotel reservations at the Delta need to be booked before Mar. 29. Online registration is available until Apr. 16 at noon. For more information and registration please see the [ASCA School Councils Conference website](#)

Recent Stories Featured on the CBE Website

The CBE posts news and stories about the activities that happen across our system throughout the year.

Here are some of the stories we are featuring now:

- 2019-2022 Capital Plan Approved by the Board of Trustees
- Robert Warren School Students Help Calgary Families in Need
- North Haven School Students Take Action to Help Gorillas
- Nelson Mandela High School Hosts Second Annual Wellness Symposium 2018
- Piitoayis Family School Students Learn from Women's Olympic Hockey Team

Check out the latest stories on our home page under [CBE News](#).

If you have trouble seeing this publication please [click here](#).