

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 13, 2007

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee B. Esslinger, ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee
Trustee D. Fleming, ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee
Trustee G. Gibeault, ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee

SUBJECT: Policies Bulletin for the 2007 ASBA Fall General Meeting

RESOURCE

STAFF: Betty-Lou Ayers, Jenise Bidulock, Dennis Huculak, June Mielnichuk, Lorne Parker, Tanni Parker, Dean Power, Anne Sherwood, Betty Tams, Corrie Zeigler

RECOMMENDATION

That the board's position with respect to each of the ASBA policy and directives for action proposed for the 2007 ASBA Fall General Meeting, as outlined in Appendix I and Attachment #1, be approved.

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Attached is the Policies Bulletin for the upcoming ASBA Fall General Meeting which contains proposed policy and directives for action positions which will be voted on at the Association's business session on Monday, November 19, 2007.

The board's ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee sought and reviewed recommendations and comments from the administration. The committee's recommendations are printed on the pages noted in Appendix I.

As a result of recent changes in the ASBA bylaws, all resolutions shall be determined under a double majority voting method. Unless another board member is designated in writing prior to the general meeting, the bylaws assume that the board chair shall have the power to cast the board's vote. This change requires that the board adopt a position on each of the proposed resolutions. Voting for the President and Vice-President and other parliamentary motions and amendments to motions will be determined by a majority of votes cast based on a one board/one vote rule. This will require the board chair to determine the board's position on these matters in consultation with the trustees present at the general meeting.

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- APPENDIX I - Chart of Committee Recommendation Pages
- APPENDIX II - ASBA Bylaws
- Attachment #1 - ASBA Policies Bulletin November 2007

CODE	TITLE	RECOMMENDATION	ATTACHMENT I - PAGE
1P/FGM07	Student Conduct and Discipline	Support	5-5a
2DA/FGM07	Standards for School Library Programs	Support	6-8a-c
3DA/FGM07	School Speed Zone Hours	Support	9-9a
4DA/FGM07	Transition from High School to Post Secondary Education	Oppose	10-10a
5DA/FGM07	Alberta Education Budgeting Process	Support	11-11a

ASBA Bylaws

Bylaw No. 1 - Interpretation

1. In these Bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) "Association" or "The Association" shall mean the Alberta School Boards Association.
 - (b) "Board" shall mean the board of trustees of a district or school or regional division or education region, or the board of a regional authority.
 - (c) "Full member" shall mean a board of trustees of the school district or a school division or a school or a regional division or education region that has publicly elected members according to the *Local Authorities Election Act* and that is an operating board as defined in the *Alberta School Boards Association Act*, and any board of trustees of a publicly supported school system of the City of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories and the board for a regional authority.
 - (d) "Associate member" shall mean:
 - (i) elected First Nations boards of education under the auspices of band councils; and
 - (ii) Metis boards of education that operate school buildings.
 - (e) "Constitution" as used in these Bylaws shall mean the *Act of Incorporation of the Association*, which is defined as the *Alberta School Boards Association Act* being Chapter A-32 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 2000 as amended from time to time.
 - (f) "District" shall mean any Alberta school district established under or governed by the *School Act* but shall not include a school or regional division or education region
 - (g) "Division" shall mean a school division or school or regional division or education region established under or governed by the *School Act*.
 - (h) "General Election" shall mean an election held for all of the Boards in accordance with the *Local Authorities Election Act*.
 - (i) "Honorary Life Membership" shall mean a membership of recognition to an individual by way of having met certain established criteria approved by the Board of Directors and which excludes certain rights and privileges afforded regular members.
 - (j) "President" shall mean President and Chairman of the Board of Directors.
 - (k) "Minister" shall mean the Minister of Education for the Province of Alberta.
 - (l) "School Act" shall mean the *School Act* being Chapter S-3.1 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 2000 as amended from time to time or any legislation hereinafter enacted in substitution therefore.
 - (m) "School trustee" or "trustee" shall mean a member of a board, or Francophone Regional Authority, having full member status, or an official trustee.
 - (n) "Zones" shall mean branches of the Alberta School Boards Association established on a geographical or other basis pursuant to the provisions of the Bylaws of the Association.
 - (o) "Student" shall mean any person enrolled in a school or schools operated by a member board for

which a grant is paid under the Alberta School Foundation Fund:

- a student enrolled in a school of a member board that receives payment from the Government of Canada in respect of him;
- a person enrolled in a school or a school district established to educate children of employees of the Government of Canada; or
- a child enrolled in an Early Childhood Services program of a member board for which a grant of monies is paid.

(p) "Vice-President" shall mean Vice-President and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors.

2. In these Bylaws the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular; and the masculine shall include the feminine.

Bylaw No. 2 - Powers of Full and Associate Members

1. Full member boards of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be entitled to:
- (a) Association communications materials except those designated as confidential to specific audiences;
 - (b) Direct services from Association staff officers at fees established annually by the Association;
 - (c) Access to Association conferences and workshops at a conference rate established by the Association; and
 - (d) Unrestricted participation in the business affairs of the Association.
2. Associate member boards of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be entitled to:

- (a) Association communication materials except those designated as confidential to specific audiences;
- (b) Direct services from Association staff officers on a cost-recovery basis at fees established annually by the Association plus expenses for staff officers' travel, meals, and accommodation;
- (c) Access to Association conferences and workshops at 125 percent of the conference rate established for full members by the Association; and
- (d) Attendance as guests at the General Meeting at 125 percent of the General Meeting rate established for full members.

Bylaw No. 3 - Board of Directors and Executive Committees

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the:
- (a) President;
 - (b) Vice-President;
 - (c) One director for each Zone, excepting where any Zone is made up of more than 20 school boards, then that Zone shall be represented by two directors; and
 - (d) Four Metro Directors.
2. The Executive Committee of the Board shall consist of the:
- (a) President;
 - (b) Vice President; and
 - (c) Executive Director (non-voting).
3. Three non-voting observers at Board of Directors Meetings may include:
- (a) One from the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (Zone 7);
 - (b) One from the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (Zone 8); and,

- (c) One from the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (Federation of Francophone School Authorities)(Zone 9).
4. The Minister of Education shall be the Honorary President of the Association.

Bylaw No. 4 - Election of the Board of Directors

1. Election of the President and the Vice-President shall take place at a General Meeting of the Association. Nominations shall be made openly from the floor for the positions of President and Vice-President and voting shall be by secret ballot on the basis of one vote per Full member board in attendance. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes will be the successful candidate. The President and Vice-President shall take office at the conclusion of the General Meeting at which they are elected.
2. Election of the Zone and Metro Directors shall be completed and confirmed in writing to the Executive Director of the Association before the opening of the General Meeting specified in Bylaw No. 4(5). Members so elected shall take office at the conclusion of the General Meeting.
3. (a) Every candidate for office shall be a trustee.
(b) Any Director ceasing to be a trustee shall vacate his office, which shall be filled in accordance with provisions hereinafter set out in the Bylaws.
4. (a) Election of the President and Vice-President shall occur during the month of November immediately following a Local

Authorities Election and approximately 18 months thereafter in the month of June.

- (b) The President, the Vice-President, the Zone Directors and the Metro Directors shall be elected for terms of approximately 18 months and shall be eligible for re-election for one successive term of approximately 18 months. The President, Vice-President, Zone Directors, and the Metro Directors may be elected for more than two terms, provided they are not successive.
 - (c) Any trustee who fills a vacancy in the office of President, Vice-President, Zone Director, or Metro Director shall be deemed to have completed a term if they served in that capacity for more than nine months.
5. Election of the other Directors shall be for approximately 18-month terms.
- (a) Elections shall be held approximately every 18 months following the pattern of November 2005, June 2007, November 2008, June 2010 for:
 - (i) one from the Edmonton School District No. 7 plus an alternate Director;
 - (ii) one from the Calgary RCSSD No. 1 plus an alternate Director;
 - (iii) one from Zone No. 4 plus an alternate Director;
 - (iv) one from Zone No. 6 plus an alternate Director; and
 - (v) one from Zone No. 2/3 plus an alternate Director.
 - (b) Elections shall be held approximately every 18 months following the pattern of June 2006, November 2007, June 2009, and November 2010 for:
 - (i) one from the Edmonton RCSSD No. 7 plus an alternate Director;

- (ii) one from the Calgary School District No. 19 plus an alternate Director;
 - (iii) one from Zone No. 1 plus an alternate Director;
 - (iv) one from Zone No. 2/3 plus an alternate Director; and
 - (v) one from Zone No. 5 plus an alternate Director.
- (c) Metro school boards shall elect their Director and alternate Director to the Board of Directors at the relevant meeting of the board preceding a General Meeting.
- (d) Zones shall elect their Director(s) and alternate Director to the Board of Directors at the relevant Zone Meeting preceding a General Meeting.
6. A Director and alternate Director of the Board of Directors shall be a trustee of a member board.
7. (a) If a vacancy occurs in the office of President, it shall be filled automatically by the Vice-President.
- (b) Notwithstanding any provisions in these Bylaws governing the election of a Vice-President, the Board of Directors may, in the event of a vacancy in that office, fill the vacancy from among its members.
- (c) In the year of a general election, if the President does not run for the office of trustee or is defeated in the general election, the President may complete his/her term of office through to the election of the new President at the AGM.
8. If a member of the Board of Directors, elected by a metro board or zone, is subsequently elected President or Vice-President, then his/her office as a member of the Board of Directors from a metro board or zone shall be filled by the alternate, until such time as a by-election has been held.
9. When a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors (except in the case of the President or the Vice-President), the metro board or zone shall arrange for a by-election to fill the vacancy.
10. If a metro board or zone fails to appoint a Director and/or an alternate Director to the Board of Directors in accordance with the requirements of these Bylaws then the Board of Directors shall have the power to arrange for a by-election to fill the vacancy.
11. An alternate Director shall be entitled to attend Board of Directors meetings in the absence of the Director they are replacing. The alternate Director, while so acting, shall have the full rights and privileges of the Director, including voting powers. An alternate Director shall only be entitled to fill a vacancy of the Director for the metro board or Zone they represent, until such time as a by-election to fill the vacancy has been held.
12. In the event a Director fails to attend three consecutive meetings without giving due and timely notice as to the cause of non-attendance, the Board of Directors may declare the seat vacant and arrange for a by-election to fill the vacancy.
- Bylaw No. 5 - Representation and Voting at Board of Directors Meetings and at Executive Committee Meetings**
1. (a) The President, the Vice-President, and the other Directors shall each carry one vote at Board of Directors meetings.

- (b) At Executive Committee meetings, where consensus is not possible, the President shall determine the course of action to be taken.
 - (c) An alternate Director who attends a Board of Directors meeting, in the place of the Director, shall carry one vote at Board of Directors meetings.
 - (d) In the event that both the Director and the Director's alternate are unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors, the chair of the Zone or metro board that the Director or alternate Director represents may attend that meeting of the Board of Directors and shall be entitled to vote.
2. One representative from the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (Zone 7), one representative from the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (Zone 8), and one representative from the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (Federation of Francophone School Authorities – Zone 9) may attend Association Board of Directors meetings in a non-voting capacity, and at the expense of their respective Associations.

Bylaw No. 6 - President's Duties

- 1. The President shall provide leadership to the Association, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee.
- 2. The President shall be accountable to the Board of Directors and to the membership.
- 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and shall open all conferences or General Meetings of the Association and

preside until such meeting elects or appoints a chair. In the President's absence or inability to preside, the President's place shall be taken by the Vice-President.

- 4. The President shall act as the primary spokesman for the Association.
- 5. The President shall submit or cause to be submitted to each General Meeting of the Association the report of the Board of Directors as to financial standing and general business of the Association.
- 6. The President is (ex officio) a member of all committees.

Bylaw No. 7 - Board of Directors — Powers and Duties

- 1. The business and affairs of the Association shall be under the direction and control of the Board of Directors which may exercise all powers of the Association as are, not by the *Act of Incorporation of the Association*, or by these Bylaws, required to be exercised by the Association in General Meeting.
- 2. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing the Board of Directors:
 - (a) Shall appoint an Executive Director as Chief Executive Officer of the Association, establish his term of employment and salary, prescribe his duties, and monitor and evaluate his performance;
 - (b) May delegate any or all of its powers to the Executive Director, Executive Committee of the Association, or a committee appointed by it;
 - (c) May appoint either from its own members or others such special committees as it may from time to

- time deem advisable and prescribe their duties and functions;
- (d) Shall pay the reasonable out-of-pocket expenses of its members and others;
 - (e) Shall pay a per diem allowance, as determined at the General Meeting, to its members and others;
 - (f) Shall make provision for the payment of honoraria, as determined by the General Meeting, to Board of Directors members;
 - (g) May adopt policy positions on matters which arise between General Meetings and shall submit these for ratification at the next General Meeting;
 - (h) Shall designate a newly created board to belong to an Association geographic zone, on an interim basis. With final designation to which geographic zone such board shall belong, to take place at the General Meeting, next following the date of creation of such board;
 - (i) Shall set long-range and short-range objectives for the Association;
 - (j) Shall review and approve long-range plans to guide the Association's business and affairs;
 - (k) Shall evaluate the Association's effectiveness in achieving the established objectives;
 - (l) Shall communicate and support the Association's position on issues, policies, and practices to appropriate internal and external publics.
3. The Board of Directors shall delegate to the Executive Director responsibility for the establishment of fair salaries and reasonable working conditions for staff.
4. (a) Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such time and place as may be set by resolution of the Board of Directors.
- (b) Special meetings may be called by request in writing to the Executive Director:
 - (i) by the Executive Committee; or
 - (ii) by any seven voting members of the Board of Directors.
 Such requests shall state the business in respect of which it is desired to hold a meeting.
 - (c) Upon request for a special meeting the Executive Director shall call such meeting:
 - (i) by giving eight days' notice in writing (exclusive of the day on which the notice is mailed and exclusive of the day for which notice is given), postage prepaid and addressed to the member at his address as recorded in the records of the Association; or
 - (ii) by oral or shorter notice following receipt of written consent or waiver from the members of the Board of Directors.
 A message delivered by any electronic means shall be regarded as a written notice.
 - (d) Every notice of a special meeting of the Board of Directors shall state the hour, date and place of meeting and the business to be transacted.
 - (e) Any seven voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of that body and a majority vote of the members present, including the chairman, shall decide all questions except on a resolution to call a special General Meeting in which case the affirmative vote of seven voting members of the Board of Directors shall be required. In the event of a tie vote the question is lost.

5. (a) Meetings of the Board of Directors shall at all times be open to the membership of the Association unless a majority of the Board of Directors votes to hold part of the meeting in private.
- (b) Votes of each Director at Board of Directors meetings shall be recorded whenever a recorded vote is requested by any Director.

Bylaw No. 8 - General Meetings

1. Two General Meetings shall be held each year.
2. Unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors:
 - (a) the Spring General Meeting shall be held during the first full week of June;
 - (b) the Fall General Meeting shall be held during the third full week in November; and
 - (c) the place of the meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.
3. Special General Meetings of the Association may be held following an affirmative vote of seven voting members of the Board of Directors at a meeting of the Board of Directors.
4. At least twenty-one days notice of any General Meeting (exclusive of the day on which such notice is mailed and exclusive of the day for which the notice is given), specifying the place, the day, and hour of the meeting, and the general nature of such business, shall be given to each district, school division, school or regional division or education region.
5. Notwithstanding provisions herein, a Special General Meeting may be called by the Board of Directors, giving seven days written notice to the Chair of each Board, if deemed necessary to

deal with high priority or emergent issues that require urgent direction/action and which have significant implications for all boards. Such notice shall

- (a) specify the purpose, date, time and place of the meeting;
- (b) provide background detail to enable Boards to discuss the matter and be prepared to vote the Board position at the Special General Meeting.
- (c) In the case of a proposed amendment to the Bylaws, ensure that 60 days prior written notice of the proposed amendments are provided to Full member boards.

Bylaw No. 9 - Representation and Voting at General Meetings

1. All school trustees shall be entitled to attend any General Meeting of the Association.
2. It shall be the duty of all delegates including the Board of Directors to register before taking part in any General Meeting of the Association.
3. Each registered delegate shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of the General Meeting other than the right to vote by ballot which right shall be as set out in Sections 6 to 12 herein. It shall be assumed that the board chair of each Full member board shall have the power to cast the vote to which each Full member board is entitled, unless another trustee for that board is designated, in writing, to the Executive Director, prior to any General Meeting or Special General Meeting, or in an emergency situation, by the Full member board at the General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

4. The Executive Director shall, subject to such directions as may be given from time to time by the Board of Directors, make all necessary arrangements for registration of delegates and for voting as may be necessary.
5. At the general meeting voting shall be by secret ballot for election of the president and the vice-president.
6. At any General Meeting of the Association, including a Special General Meeting, all resolutions shall be determined under the double majority voting method, as follows:
 - (a) Sixty (60) percent or more of Full member boards who are in attendance, who cast a vote, and who vote in the affirmative, based upon one vote per Full member board; and
 - (b) Full member boards who are in attendance, who cast a vote, and who vote in the affirmative, represent 60 percent or more of the students registered, for the most recently reported period, with the Full member boards who voted in the affirmative.
7. The total number of votes cast in favour of any resolution and/or opposed to any resolution shall be calculated in accordance with the double majority rule specified herein.
8. For the purposes of Section 6(b) of Bylaw No. 9, the percentage of students enrolled in any Full member board shall be determined utilizing the total student enrollment figures reported to the Association as set out under Bylaw No. 10.
9. At any General or Special meeting, for the purposes of Section 6(b) of Bylaw No. 9, the percentage of students to be allocated to each Full member board in attendance will be determined by dividing the number of students enrolled in each Full member board by the total number of students enrolled in all Full member boards in attendance, resulting in a percentage (rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent).
10. When a mail-in ballot is used to amend the Bylaws, as provided for in Bylaw No. 11, Section 1, the vote shall be by ballot following the double majority voting method, as follows:
 - (a) Sixty (60) percent or more of Full member boards who cast a vote and who vote in the affirmative, based upon one vote per Full member board; and
 - (b) Full member boards who cast a vote and who vote in the affirmative, represent 60 percent or more of the students registered, for the most recently reported period, with the Full member boards who voted in the affirmative.

The percentage of students will be determined by dividing the number of students enrolled in each Full member board, by the number of students enrolled in all Full member boards, resulting in a percentage, (rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent).
11. The double majority voting method shall apply to votes on all resolutions made at any General Meeting, including a Special General Meeting, with the exception of:
 - (a) Voting for the President and Vice-President, which vote will be cast as provided for under Bylaw No. 4, Section 1; and
 - (b) Voting on parliamentary motions and amendments to motions will follow the one vote/Full member board rule and shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast,

unless otherwise required by Robert's Rules of Order.

12. A balloting committee shall be appointed at the opening of every general meeting. It shall be the duty of the balloting committee to conduct the ballot voting.

Bylaw No. 10 – Fees

1. Budget
 - (a) The financial year of the Association shall be September to August.
 - (b) The budget of the Association shall be adopted at the Spring General Meeting in June of the year prior to the year for which it is established.
 - (i) Voting on the budget, other than amendments to the budget, will follow the double majority voting method.
 - (ii) Voting on amendments to the budget will follow the one-vote-per-Full-member-board rule, and shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast.
 - (iii) Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in these Bylaws, or in the rules of procedure governing disposal of resolutions, the budget shall be open to amendment until adopted.
 - (c) The budget and analysis shall be presented in writing to member boards not later than 60 days prior to the day the Spring General Meeting is to commence.
2. Fees
 - (a) The fees assessed to member boards shall be presented in writing by the Board of Directors no later than 60 days prior to the

day the Spring General Meeting is to commence.

- (b) This assessment will include:
 - (i) the formula for determining the annual fees including the basic fee and the weight rate per student enrolment.;
 - (ii) the total annual fees payable by full member boards;
 - (iii) the number of students used in the calculation of fees payable by a board which shall be the total student enrollment reported to Alberta Education in the most recent reporting period;
 - (iv) the annual fees payable for any full member board which shall not exceed ten percent of the total annual full member membership fees; and
 - (v) the annual fees payable for each associate member board which shall be \$500.00 less than the basic membership fee for full member boards.

3. Each Full member board shall be required to report to the Executive Director the number of students enrolled in the jurisdiction, on an annual basis, using the number of students reported to Alberta Education for the most recent reporting period.

Bylaw No. 11 - Amendments to the Bylaws

1. Substantial amendments to these Bylaws may only be made and/or approved at a Spring General Meeting, unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Directors. Amendments of a housekeeping nature to these Bylaws may be made by a mail-in ballot. The vote, in either case, shall be by ballot

following the double majority method, as outlined in Bylaw No. 9.

2. An amendment to these Bylaws shall take effect on the day following the conclusion of the Spring General Meeting at which such amendment is made, unless an effective date other than the close of the Spring General Meeting is so specified in the resolution.
3. Notice of motion of any Bylaw amendment shall be given in either of two ways:
 - (a) By 60 days notice in writing to all member boards exclusive of the day on which such notice is mailed and exclusive of the day on which the Spring General Meeting is to commence; or
 - (b) By publication on the Association website not later than 60 days prior to the day the Spring General Meeting is to commence.
4. Any Bylaw amendment of a housekeeping nature shall be forwarded, along with a ballot to each Full member board at least 60 days prior to the ballot return date specified within the notice of motion. Voting will follow the double majority voting method as outlined in Bylaw No. 9, Section 10. Completed ballots must be returned to the Association by the date specified within the notice of motion.

Bylaw No. 12 - Honorary Life Memberships

1. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to grant honorary life memberships in the Association in accordance with the following provisions:
 - (a) The Board of Directors shall establish a list of criteria upon which

the granting of honorary life membership will be based.

- (b) The Board of Directors shall establish the procedures for nominations for honorary life memberships and shall have the power to accept or reject nominations.
- (c) The Board of Directors may select and arrange for the preparation of a suitable plaque, certificate, or award signifying an honorary life membership.
- (d) The granting of an honorary life membership shall not entail the payment of any fees by the recipient.

Bylaw No. 13 - Zones of the Association

1. All member boards shall belong to a Zone of the Association.
2. Subject to the provision of Bylaw 7(2)(h), for the purpose of the formation of geographic zones of the Association, the Province shall be divided as follows and each geographic zone shall consist of the designated divisions, and districts excepting Zone No. 7, 8, and 9, which shall be as defined under Bylaw 3(3).

(a) Zone No. 1

School Districts

Grande Prairie RCSSD No. 28
Grande Prairie Public School
District No. 2357

School Divisions

Fort Vermillion School Division No. 52
High Prairie School Division No. 48
Northland School Division No. 61
Peace River School Division No. 10
Peace Wapiti School Division No. 33
No. 76

Regional Divisions

Holy Family Catholic Regional Division
No. 37

Education Regions

Northwest Francophone Education
Region No. 1

(b) Zone No. 2/3**Education Regions**

East Central Francophone Education
Region No. 3

Greater North Central Francophone
Education Region No. 2

School Districts

Edmonton Catholic Separate School
District No. 7

Edmonton School District No. 7

Fort McMurray RCSSD No. 32

Fort McMurray Public School District
No. 2833

Lakeland RCSSD No. 150

Lloydminster RCSSD No. 89

Lloydminster Public School District
No. 1753

St. Albert PSSD No. 6

Yellowknife Education District No. 1

Yellowknife Separate Education
District No. 2

School Divisions

Northern Lights School Division No.
69

Parkland School Division No. 70

Sturgeon School Division No. 24

Regional Divisions

Aspen View Regional Division No. 19

Black Gold Regional Division No. 18

Buffalo Trail Public Schools Regional
Division No. 28

East Central Alberta CSS Regional
Division No. 16

Elk Island Public Schools Regional
Division No. 14

Elk Island Catholic Separate Regional
Division No. 41

Evergreen CS Regional Division No.
2

Grande Yellowhead Regional Division
No. 35

Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional
Division No. 29

Living Waters Catholic Regional
Division No. 42

Northern Gateway Regional Division
No. 10

Pembina Hills Regional Division No.
7

St. Paul Education Regional Division
No. 1

St. Thomas Aquinas RCS Regional
Division No. 38

(c) Zone No. 4**School Districts**

Red Deer Public School District No.
104

School Divisions

Clearview School Division No. 71

Chinook's Edge School Division No.
73

Wild Rose School Division No. 66

Wolf Creek School Division No. 72

Regional Divisions

Battle River Regional Division No. 31

Red Deer Catholic Regional Division
No. 39

Wetaskiwin Regional Division No. 11

(d) Zone No. 5**Education Regions**

Greater Southern SC Francophone
Education Region No. 4

Greater Southern Francophone
Regional Authority No. 4 (P)

School Districts

Calgary RCSSD No. 1

Calgary School District No. 19

School Divisions

Foothills School Division No. 38

Golden Hills School Division No. 75

Rocky View School Division No. 41

Regional Divisions

Canadian Rockies Regional Division
No. 12
Christ the Redeemer CS Regional
Division No. 3
Prairie Land Regional Division No.
25

(e) **Zone No. 6**

School Districts

Lethbridge School District No. 51
Medicine Hat School District No. 76

School Divisions

Horizon School Division No. 67
Livingstone Range School Division
No. 68
Prairie Rose School Division No. 8
Westwind School Division No. 74

Regional Divisions

Grasslands Regional Division No. 6
Holy Spirit RCS Regional Division
No. 4
Medicine Hat CS Regional Division
No. 20
Palliser Regional Division No. 26

3. Each geographic Zone numbered 1, 2/3, 4, 5, or 6 shall be governed by Bylaws No. 1 to No. 11 inclusive and Schedule A of the Alberta School Boards Association Bylaws, together with such other Bylaws established by the zone which are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of the Association.
4. The objects of the geographic Zones shall be to work in cooperation for the mutual benefit of all members of the Alberta School Boards Association, to consider matters relating to education

and school administration which are of particular interest to their areas, to encourage better understanding between trustees and the public, to work for continued improvement in the educational system, and to make recommendations to the Alberta School Boards Association.

5. **Zone 7**

- (a) Zone 7 of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be open to all Roman Catholic boards in the Province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories of Canada.
- (d) Zone 7 shall be known as the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association.

6. **Zone 8**

- (a) Zone 8 of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be open to all public boards, other than Roman Catholics, in the Province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories of Canada.
- (b) Zone 8 shall be known as the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta.

7. **Zone 9**

- (a) Zone 9 of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be open to all Francophone authorities in the Province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories of Canada.
- (b) Zone 9 shall be known as the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (Federation of Francophone School Authorities).

SCHEDULE A: FORMING BYLAWS FOR ZONES 1, 2/3, 4, 5 AND 6

(As referred to in Bylaw No. 13, Section 3)

Bylaw No. 1 - Membership

Membership in Zones shall be determined by Bylaw No. 13 of the Alberta School Boards Association.

Bylaw No. 2 - Finance

Each Zone may set membership fees and vary same from time to time; the same to be in such sum as is necessary to cover operating expenses and such projects as may be undertaken by the Zone.

Bylaw No. 3 - Meetings

1. Each Zone shall hold an annual meeting:
 - (a) during a 30-day period preceding the Fall General Meeting of the Alberta School Boards Association, such period ending eight clear days prior to the opening date of the Fall General Meeting;
 - (b) in case of exceptional circumstances, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors may arrange with a zone to hold its annual meeting on a date falling outside the 30-day period.
2. Zones shall hold a meeting during the 30-day period immediately preceding the relevant General Meeting to elect the Zone Director(s) to the Board of Directors in accordance with Bylaw No. 4(5).
3. Other meetings of the Zones may be held in accordance with provisions hereinafter set out in Bylaw No. 7.
4. Any trustee of a member board of the Zone may attend the annual or other

meeting of the zone and take part in the business of the meeting.

Bylaw No. 4 - Voting

1. (a) Voting for the election of the Zone Director(s) and alternate(s) to the Board of Directors of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be by secret ballot on the basis of one vote per member board.
 - (b) The boards of the cities of Edmonton and Calgary shall be excluded from voting for Zone Directors and the Zone Director's alternate to the Board of Directors of the Alberta School Boards Association.
2. (a) Voting on ordinary business or motions at annual Zone meetings shall be based upon one vote per Full member board in attendance, unless otherwise provided for in the Zone Bylaws.
 - (b) Voting for Zone Chairman or Vice-Chairman shall be by secret ballot on the basis of one vote per member board. The election for Chairman shall take place before the election for Vice-Chairman.

Bylaw No. 5 - Alberta School Boards Association Board of Directors

1. Each Zone shall elect its Director(s) and alternate Director(s) to the Board of Directors of the Alberta School Boards Association at such time and for such terms as the Bylaws of the Association may provide. The alternate shall attend, participate and vote only when the regular member is absent.
2. A trustee elected to the Board of Directors of the Alberta School Boards Association shall be a trustee

of a member board of the Zone other than the boards of the cities of Calgary and Edmonton.

Bylaw No. 6 - Zone Executive

1. A member of the Zone Executive shall be a trustee of a member board of the zone.
2. The Zone Executive shall consist of:
 - (a) a Chairman and Vice-Chairman to be elected at large at the annual meeting;
 - (b) one board representative to Zone to be elected annually by each board in the Zone; and
 - (c) the Zone Director(s) or alternate(s) representing the Zone;
3. A majority of the members of the Zone Executive shall constitute a quorum.
4. Any Zone Director ceasing to be a trustee shall vacate his office, which shall be filled in accordance with provisions hereinafter set out in these Bylaws.
5. If the office of Chairman becomes vacant, it shall be automatically filled by the Vice-Chairman.
6. If a vacancy occurs among the directors the board or boards represented may elect a new director to fill the vacancy.

Bylaw No. 7 - Duties and Powers of the Zone Executive

1. The business and affairs of the Zone shall be managed by and be under the direction of the Zone Executive.

2. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Zone Executive:
 - (a) shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer who shall hold office until his successor is appointed;
 - (b) shall appoint such standing committees as it may deem necessary;
 - (c) shall appoint such delegates as may be required to represent the Zone;
 - (d) shall appoint, either from its own members or others, such special committees as it may from time to time deem advisable and prescribe their duties and functions;
 - (e) shall meet when necessary as determined by the Chairman or by a majority of the members;
 - (f) shall forward minutes of all meetings to member boards of the Zone and to the Alberta School Boards Association;
 - (g) shall arrange such other meetings of the Zone as are deemed necessary to fulfill its objectives; and
 - (h) shall arrange to fill by election from the Zone membership a vacancy occurring during the unexpired term of office of Vice-Chairman at a meeting of the Zone providing the membership of the Zone is given ten clear days' notice of the intent.

Bylaw No. 8 - Bylaws

The Zone may establish such other Bylaws for the conduct of its affairs not inconsistent with the Bylaws of the Alberta School Boards Association.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION

The *School Act*

The provincial legislation most relevant to school boards and their work is

- *The School Act*

Other Relevant Legislation

- *Labour Relations Code*
- *Employment Standards Code*
- *Government Organization Act*
- *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*
- *Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act*

Queen's Printer

Copies of Alberta's legislation (acts and regulations) are available from Publication Services in Calgary and Edmonton for a nominal fee. Contact:

Publication Services

Queen's Printer Bookstore, Main Floor
John J. Bowlen Building
602, 620 - 7th Avenue SW
CALGARY AB T2P 0Y8

Telephone: (403) 297-6251

Fax: (403) 297-8450

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POLICIES BULLETIN

November 2007

Please bring this bulletin with you to the business session at the ASBA Fall General Meeting, Westin Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta on November 19, 2007. Please review the *Rules of Procedure* before the meeting. This document is posted on the ASBA website at www.asba.ab.ca.

This policies bulletin was prepared by the 2007 ASBA Policy Development Advisory Committee
Heather Welwood, ASBA Vice-President, Chair
Debbie Cavaliere, Calgary Board of Education
Karen Holloway, Zone 4 Director

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Rules of Procedure

In order to expedite the disposal of motions to adopt policies at General Meetings, it is necessary to approve certain rules of procedure. Some of these may be specific parliamentary procedures, as in *Robert's Rules of Order*, while others are less formal and reside with each individual in the interests of courtesy, cooperation, and respect for all concerned as well as for the business at hand. With respect to the last concern, the Board of Directors recommends:

1. that, unless directed otherwise by the General Meeting, motions be considered in the order in which they appear in the Policy Bulletin. However, should an Extraordinary Motion pertaining to an area of concern before the meeting (e.g., finance) arise, it may be brought forward by *consent of a two-thirds majority* of the General Meeting delegates.
2. that any delegate be permitted to introduce a "Business Arising" Motion immediately following the report on action taken on motions passed at the preceding General Meeting, provided that the "Business Arising" Motion is directly related to a motion passed at the preceding General Meeting.
3. that the proposed motion be read by the Chairman who will immediately ask for a mover and a seconder.
4. that as soon as the proposed motion has been moved and seconded, the Chairman call upon the mover to speak.
5. that a delegate wishing to speak to a motion first obtain recognition by the Chairman and clearly announce his/her name and school jurisdiction represented.
6. that a delegate wishing to speak to a motion be encouraged to limit remarks to a maximum of two minutes.
7. that guests be permitted to speak at the discretion of the *General Meeting delegates*, but not be permitted to move or second a motion, or vote.
8. that the Chairman ask if any delegate wishes to speak against the proposed motion. If no delegate so wishes, the question will be immediately called.
9. that, if there is evidence of opposition, debate subsequently continue until the question is called in the usual manner. The mover will have the right to be the final speaker in the debate.
10. that any delegate speaking to a motion or amendment be allowed to speak to that motion or amendment as often as the Chairman, at his or her discretion, will permit.
11. that a delegate may, at any time during the debate on a motion, move an amendment to the motion, providing it is relevant to, and deals with, the

same subject matter as the original motion. A motion to amend must be seconded.

Further, with respect to the election of the President and the Vice-President, the following excerpt from Bylaw No. 4(1) applies:

- a) ...voting shall be by secret ballot on the basis of one vote per member board.

Further, with respect to the Bylaws, the following excerpts from Bylaw No. 11(1) and (2) apply:

1. Substantial amendments to these Bylaws and requests to amend the Constitution may only be made and/or approved at a general meeting. Amendments of a housekeeping

nature to these Bylaws may be made by a mail-in weighted ballot. The vote, in either case, shall be by weighted ballot and two-thirds of the votes cast shall be required to carry the resolution.

2. An amendment to these Bylaws shall take effect on the day following the conclusion of the general meeting at which such amendment is made, unless an effective date other than the close of the general meeting is so specified in the resolution, save and except amendments affecting representation at a general meeting and such amendments shall become effective one month after the amendment(s) is made.

ASBA Foundation Statements

Vision Statement

- ASBA is a respected and influential provincial association of locally elected school boards.
- ASBA supports publicly elected school boards in their efforts to ensure that students in Alberta have the opportunity to reach their highest potential.
- ASBA is the leading voice advocating for public education in Alberta.
- ASBA is energized by the enthusiastic participation of its members.

Mission Statement

Promoting excellence in public education.

Mandate Statement

The Alberta School Boards Association is a province-wide organization of locally elected school boards. Providing leadership focused on continuous improvement of the public education system, the Alberta School Boards Association:

- Advocates provincially and nationally on public education issues, with a strong voice, on behalf of locally elected school boards.
- Provides timely, well-researched information on public education issues to school boards.
- Encourages networking and interaction among school boards and stakeholders on education issues.
- Works with other provincial organizations, national education organizations and governments to improve public education.
- Provides services to school boards.

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles are high-level directional statements that define the Alberta School Boards Association's values and parameters.

- Public education - public, separate and francophone jurisdictions - must be governed by locally elected school boards.
- School boards must have the autonomy to make decisions in the best interests of the students and communities they serve.
- School boards must have access to equitable long-term stable funding to fulfill the mandate of educating their students. A portion of this funding must come from property taxes.
- Direct access to the local property tax base and the ability to tax are fundamental to school board autonomy, accountability and responsiveness to their communities.
- The Alberta School Boards Association will sponsor or provide input to any amendments to the School Act and regulations.
- School boards are responsible for communicating with their communities about the local public education system.
- School boards are responsible for providing quality public education to their students.

Proposed Policy/Directives for Action Positions

1P/FGM07: Student Conduct and Discipline

The ASBA believes that school board autonomy in judiciously guiding and applying student conduct and discipline policies that include expulsion is essential for the development and enforcement of fair and equitable discipline procedures at the school and system level.

Background

Section 25 of the Province of Alberta School Act defines the responsibilities of a Board in expelling a student. The act of expulsion of a student is further defined through policies and regulations and further through interpretations of these policies and regulations. An example of this interpretation is that Boards cannot expel a student over two school years. This interpretation severely affects a Board's ability to discipline students in a fair and equitable manner. That is, students with similar behaviour patterns can be recommended for expulsion for similar behaviours with a significant different consequence given the time of

year the behaviour occurs (e.g. A student who brings contraband to school in September may receive a far more significant consequence than a similar student bringing this same contraband to school on the second last day of the school year).

Current legislation must provide increased autonomy and flexibility to provide for student conduct and discipline in a fair and equitable manner.

Submitted by Zone 23
Initial Sponsoring Board: Grande Yellowhead
Regional Division No. 35

1DA/FGM07 – Student Conduct and Discipline

RECOMMENDATION: Support

Rationale:

It is recommended that the board support the intent of the proposed policy position to provide school boards with increased autonomy and flexibility to deal with student conduct and discipline in a fair and equitable manner. However, a change in legislation is not required.

Although Section 25 of the School Act specifies that an expulsion must be for a period of more than 10 school days, it does not place any restrictions on the maximum length for an expulsion. As well, Section 25 allows, but does not require, a board to re-enrol a student who has been expelled. Taken together, these provisions make it clear that it is up to school boards to determine whether a student is expelled for a prescribed time period.

Alberta Education officials claim that legislation, policies, and regulations do place limits on the length of time a board can expel a student. The board believes that Alberta Education's interpretation is not consistent with the legislation. Resolution to this matter lies in a change to Alberta Education's interpretation and not in a change to legislation.

2DA/FGM07: Standards for School Library Programs

That ASBA urge Alberta Education to adopt the standards for school library programs that are outlined in *Achieving Information Literacy; Standards for School Library Programs in Canada*, edited by Asselin, M., Branch, J., and Oberg, D., with the goal of reaching the exemplary standard in all Alberta schools by 2015.

Background

The standards document (Achieving Information Literacy) represents a collaborative effort between Canada's two national school library associations and the provincial/territorial associations, as well as over fifty leaders in both the school library and broader educational community. It addresses four goals identified by the committee:

1. To ensure all children have equal access to quality school library programs and services;
2. To provide schools with guidelines that facilitate long-range planning for school libraries and Information literacy instruction;
3. To provide links for school library programs to all curricula in any setting, kindergarten through senior high; and,
4. To provide evaluation tools to ensure that high standards of school library programs be available to all Canadian students.

The standards address key elements that have been identified as critical to the success of the school library program and provide a basis for continuing review and assessment. They provide a framework for the Information Literacy Program and include tables to assist with assessment including:

- Staffing school libraries
- School library facilities

- School library collections
- Information and communications technologies.

Focus on Inquiry, the 2004 update of *Focus on Research: A Guide to Developing Students' Research Skills*, Alberta Education, 1990 refers to the need to:

Work with a teacher-librarian to plan inquiry-based learning units together. The teacher-librarian brings to the activity expertise in inquiry-based learning, resource selection, web site selection and evaluation, and, most importantly, strategies for integrating information literacy skills into the inquiry (Chapter 4, Step 2).

Introducing computer technology and access to the Supernet in all Alberta schools was a valuable first step. Usage statistics for online databases provided by the province show that students are not making use of these excellent resources. There is more than adequate evidence that a trained professional, encouraging the informed use of digital information and media tools in a vibrant, well-designed physical setting, over-seeing a carefully selected collection of print materials, will affect student achievement in a significant, positive and measurable way. By adopting the *Standards*, Alberta Education will have accepted the need to recognize and fund this valuable learning component.

The results of studies in a number of U.S. states including Alaska, Colorado, Iowa,

New Mexico, Massachusetts, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Texas yield consistent results:

Reading scores tend to rise with levels of:

- Professional and support staff in the school library,
- The size of the library collection,
- Spending on library collections, and
- The extent of school-wide networks that extend access to collection resources. (Source: Lance, K. & Loevtshev, D. [2003] *Powering Achievement: School library programs make a difference: The evidence.*)

A more recent study by Queen's University and People for Education found similar conclusions and recommended that the Ontario government:

1. Immediately update the education funding formula salary benchmarks, so that funding for school libraries can be spent on school libraries; and
2. Develop policy to ensure all Ontario students – no matter what the size of their school is or its geographic location – have access to well stocked and professionally staffed libraries. (Source: *School libraries & student achievement in Ontario*, a study by Queen's University and People for Education. The Ontario Library Association, 2006.)

One of the best resources available online for Canadian information about school libraries is SLIP: *Canadian School Library Information Portal*: <http://cla.ca/slip/> This site provides access to Canadian school library documents on advocacy, management, professional development,

research, school library programs and standards and policies.

Studies on the Impact of School Libraries

School Libraries and Student Achievement in Ontario

In 2006 Queen's University and People for Education conducted the first Canadian analysis of the relationship between student achievement and library resources and staff. This study is available online:
http://accessola.com/asla/graphics/eqaopfe_study_2006.pdf

There are many U.S. studies that demonstrate the positive impact of school libraries on student achievement. These studies are available online on the Library Research Service's website.
<http://www.lrs.org/impact.asp>

Reports on the State of School Libraries in Canada

Elementary and Secondary Schools: The Role, Challenges and Financial Conditions of School and School Library Resources in Canada, 2001.
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/9/14/index-e.html>

The Crisis in Canada's School Libraries: the Case for Reform and Reinvestment Haycock, Ken, 2003.
http://www.cla.ca/slip/final_haycock_report.pdf

Print resources

Powering achievement: school library media programs make a difference, the evidence. Lance, Keith Curry and David Loertscher. Hi Willow Research & Publishing, 2001.

Powering achievement: school library media programs make a difference, the evidence mounts. Lance, Keith Curry and David Loertscher. Hi Willow Research & Publishing, 2002.

How school libraries improve outcomes for children: the New Mexico study. Lance, Keith Curry and Marcia Rodney, Christine Hamilton-Pennell. Hi Willow research, 2002.

How school librarians help kids achieve standards: the second Colorado study. Lance, Keith Curry, and Marcia Rodney, Christine Hamilton-Pennell. Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 2000.

Increasing academic achievement through the library media center: a guide for teachers. Loertscher, David V. and Douglas Achterman. Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 2002.

Reinventing school library media programs in the age of technology: a guide for principals and superintendents. Loertscher, David V. Hi Willow Research and Publishing, 2001.

Submitted by Zone 23
Initial Sponsoring Board: Northern Gateway
Regional Division No. 10

2DA/FGM07 – Standards for School Library Programs

RECOMMENDATION: Support

Rationale:

There is a significant body of research to support the recommended standards for school library programs.

“The vision of a school library: a resource centre, filled with our literature and a wealth of national and international information resources, which acts as a national endowment for all our children and youth...”

“Schools are responsible for teaching children how to adapt to change and how to make decisions and solve problems based on accurate and authentic information. Critical thinking skills are essential to evaluate information and to apply information creatively and responsibly to solve problems.”

The major learning outcome for the school library program is to develop students who are *information literate*.

An *information literate* citizen:

- ✓ Works independently and collaboratively to solve problems
- ✓ Analyzes information critically in all its formats and in all media contexts
- ✓ Applies information strategically to solve personal and social problems
- ✓ Makes decisions based on accurate and current information
- ✓ Uses information and communication technologies
- ✓ Respects information sources and diverse perspectives
- ✓ Honors intellectual property and privacy rights
- ✓ Appreciates the aesthetic qualities of various creative and scientific expressions
- ✓ Communicates effectively and expressively using a variety of information and media formats.

Re-visioning Canadian School Libraries

Five key areas have been identified as an integral part of the re-visioning process:

- A. **Active learning environments** –School libraries are places in which students develop and practice the information literacy skills and habits of lifelong learners under the leadership of the teacher-librarian working in collaboration with classroom teachers.

- B. **Student learning centers** – School libraries are places where students are taught how to:
- Access information effectively and efficiently
 - Solve problems strategically
 - Apply critical thinking skills
 - Make responsible decisions
 - Apply information accurately
 - Create new information products
 - Use effective and creative communication skills
 - Use information appropriately and respectfully
 - Develop independent reading and learning habits.
- C. **Gateways to the world** – School libraries are access points for rich and diverse resources, gateways to global information sources, acting as portals through which students and teachers find diverse ideas and perspectives from around the world.
- D. **Resource-based teaching and learning** – School libraries must provide access to a rich range of print, non-print, media-based, electronic, and digital resources – tools that students and teachers can use for formal and informal learning.
- E. **Collaborative teaching and learning** – Research clearly indicates that the development of student competence in information literacy skills is most effective when integrated with classroom instruction through collaborative program planning and teaching by the teacher-librarian and the classroom teacher.

Efficient and effective management procedures that facilitate the implementation of the information literacy program **must** be in place in order to ensure quality library programs. The following key elements have been identified as being *critical* to the success of school library programs:

- ✓ A **staffing model** that includes qualified teacher-librarian(s) supported by clerical/technical staff
- ✓ A **funding model** that is consistent, on-going, and involves long range planning
- ✓ A **wide range of appropriate learning resources**, carefully selected to meet the needs of all learners
- ✓ **Information and communication technologies** that are current, readily accessible and supportive of curriculum expectations
- ✓ **Facilities** that are safe, flexible, spacious and well designed to accommodate a variety of learning activities

Thus *school library standards* have been developed around each of the above five areas through a collaborative effort between Canada's two national library associations and provincial/territorial associations. They provide a framework for information literacy programs and provide a basis for continuing review and assessment. Standards can also be used by school districts striving for improvement and to celebrate successes.

District and School Support

“Key to the success of teacher and teacher-librarian collaboration and the school-wide development of information literacy is the Principal.”

Principals facilitate this collaboration through providing opportunities for it to happen, setting up professional development for all staff on its benefits, and by celebrating and sharing the positive impact this collaboration has on student learning.

At the district level, leadership for school library programs starts with the superintendent’s knowledge about the effect of school library programs on student achievement and commitment to a district-wide support of strong school library programs.

As the district level, consultants are needed to lead the professional development necessary for achieving information literacy outcomes. In addition, technical services are needed to provide support for computer systems in libraries as well as the network of information and communication technologies essential up-to-date school library programs.

3DA/FGM07: School Speed Zone Hours

That the ASBA lobby the provincial government to change school speed zone hours to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days.

Background:

We believe that students are arriving at school and leaving school at times that school speed zone hours are not in effect. Many school jurisdictions have early release days to accommodate staff meetings, professional development and other local needs.

Under the Traffic Safety Act, a municipality may, by bylaw, extend the hours of the speed zone. However, when the zone is on a primary highway, the

Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation must approve the request.

In order to ensure the safety of all students it is important that the Province standardize the times of the school speed zones across Alberta. This would reduce confusion to motorists who may travel to many communities in the province.

Submitted by Zone 4
Initial Sponsoring Board: Clearview School
Division No 71

3DA/FGM07 – School Speed Zone Hours

RECOMMENDATION: Support

Rationale:

School zones with reduced speed limits have not been used in Edmonton since the early 1970's. The City of Edmonton uses a combination of education, engineering and enforcement measures to help prevent vehicle-pedestrian collisions involving children. School Area Signs are posted at Elementary and Junior High schools to warn drivers of the potential presence of pedestrians.

The district would support the proposal provided major urban centres continue to have the flexibility to determine which roadways would be posted with school zone signs and school area signs. The most prominent traffic concerns occur during school drop-off and pick-up times and these times do vary with early release days, professional development and other local needs. Therefore, a single change referring to times would be supported.

4DA/FGM07: Transition from High School to Post Secondary Education

That the Alberta School Boards Association advocate with Alberta Education to replace the four-year transition rate from high school to post secondary education with the six-year rate, as a measure included within the Accountability Pillar Overall Summary.

Background:

Alberta Education provides school authorities with both a four-year rate and a six-year rate with respect to the rate at which students transition from high school to post secondary education. The four-year rate measures the extent to which students enter post secondary education in the year immediately following completion of high school (i.e. within four years of beginning grade 10). The six-year rate measures the extent to which students enter post secondary education within two years of completing high school (i.e. within six years of beginning grade 10). However, Alberta Education publishes only the four-year rate in a jurisdiction's Accountability Pillar Overall Summary.

By publishing only the four-year rate, Alberta Education implies that the most desirable option for all students, upon completing high school, is to transition directly into post secondary education. The experience of many individuals and families suggests that an immediate

transition to post secondary education is not necessarily a preferred choice, even though they are committed to pursuing post secondary studies. Many students find value in spending some time in travel, work, or other pursuits before continuing their education. Many parents encourage their children in this regard.

Although it is important for students to enter programs of post secondary education, it is not necessarily important for them to do so immediately after completing high school. The six-year transition rate is a better measure for inclusion in the Accountability Pillar Overall Summary, in that it reports the rate at which students transition from high school to post secondary education, while at the same time accommodating the preference of many students to pursue other endeavours in the year immediately following the completion of high school.

Submitted by Zone 4
Initial Sponsoring Board: Red Deer Public School
District No. 104

4DA/FGM07 – Transition from High School to Post-Secondary Education

RECOMMENDATION: Oppose

Rationale:

This position is not supported by Edmonton Public Schools. The four-year rate is a more meaningful and timely statistic for school jurisdictions to use as a measure in the Accountability Pillar Overall Summary. Jurisdictions and high schools are still very aware of the student body to which the four-year rate refers and can make inferences as to why the rate may be either increasing or decreasing. In contrast, the six year rate refers to a group of students who graduated from high school three years ago. As a result, information about these students would come years after a Board's elected term of office. For example, the six year transition rate for students graduating in 2007 would not be available to jurisdictions until the spring of 2010.

Alberta Education makes the six-year transition rate available to jurisdictions and schools. However, school districts have much less of a direct influence on transition to post-secondary for this group. A variety of other factors may have impacted decisions about post-secondary attendance for these students during the two years that they have been out of school.

Edmonton Public Schools does not agree with the supposition that publishing the four-year rate implies that students should attend post-secondary immediately upon graduation. Many students may decide to delay post-secondary for a variety of reasons, and therefore, the six-year transition rate to post-secondary would definitely be higher for all jurisdictions than the four-year rate. However, the Accountability Pillar Overall Summary uses the four-year rate for all jurisdictions, so the numbers are comparable from one jurisdiction to the next.

5DA/FGM07: Alberta Education Budgeting Process

That the ASBA requests Alberta Education to release by March 1 its Funding Manual for the next school year to ensure school boards can effectively plan and deploy resources to schools and central service departments.

Background

Public education in Alberta represents a commitment by the province to ensure all children have equitable access to a quality education. It is the responsibility of the government to determine the mandate, goals and standards of the education system and to provide the financial resources to school boards to achieve its goals.

Alberta Education allocates funds to school board through a renewed funding framework that promises to distribute funds equitably and aims to provide maximum flexibility to accommodate local decision-making. Allocations made through this framework are announced to school boards in mid-April and released to jurisdictions for the proceeding school year, beginning in September.

School boards are large, complex organizations that deploy the majority of their resources to a multitude of school sites. Not unlike the board, each school site is required to build an education plan and deploy its resources to support the plan, taking into consideration the unique needs of the school community, such as projected enrolment, student achievement, unionized contracts, and

specialized student services. As expected by the province, these plans and budgets are built in consultation with parents, school councils, staff, and system and school administration.

It is the view of Rocky View School Division that the effective management of this process is being impeded by the timelines of Alberta Education's grant announcements. Its mid-April schedule does not afford a jurisdiction sufficient time to plan and fully consult stakeholders for the redeployment of these funding resources to school sites. Further, the lateness of the announcement is prolonging and/or creating issues revolving around unionized contracts and anticipated student services.

While Rocky View appreciates the government's effort to introduce a renewed funding framework that promises universal access to public education, its commitment to Albertans will only be realized if school boards have the time and tools required to fulfill the government's mandate.

Submitted by Zone 5
Initial Sponsoring Board: Rocky View School
Division No. 41

5DA/FGM07 – Alberta Education Budgeting Process

RECOMMENDATION: Support

Rationale:

Effective April 17, 2007, the current sitting of the legislative assembly approved an amendment which states that the government shall provide to the legislative assembly a budget and estimates for the ensuing fiscal year on the second Thursday in February.

The Funding Manual should then be available shortly after the provincial budget is approved.

Membership Fees and Student Enrollment

Alberta School Boards Association
September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008

Zone	Jurisdiction	Total Students*	Membership Fees
23	Aspen View Regional Division #19	3,315	\$27,181
4	Battle River Regional Division #31	6,895	\$44,395
23	Black Gold Regional Division #18	8,547	\$51,838
23	Buffalo Trail Regional Division #28	4,565	\$33,895
5	Calgary RCSSD #1	43,904	\$132,110
5	Calgary Board of Education	101,592	\$214,234
5	Canadian Rockies Regional Division #12	2,343	\$21,266
4	Chinook's Edge School Division #73	11,148	\$63,562
5	Christ the Redeemer Catholic SRD #3	7,136	\$45,476
4	Clearview School Division #71	2,584	\$22,733
23	East Central Alberta CSSRD #16	2,932	\$24,849
23	East Central Francophone Ed. Region #3	582	\$10,435
23	Edmonton Catholic Separate School District #7	32,344	\$108,663
23	Edmonton Public Schools	80,631	\$185,893
23	Elk Island Catholic Separate Regional Division #41	5,903	\$39,926
23	Elk Island Public Schools Regional Division #14	16,195	\$75,907
23	Evergreen CSRD #2	3,296	\$27,060
5	Foothills School Division #38	6,787	\$43,908
23	Fort McMurray RCSSD #32	4,254	\$32,489
23	Fort McMurray School District #2833	4,872	\$35,274
1	Fort Vermilion School Division #52	3,546	\$28,581
5	Golden Hills Regional Division #15	6,575	\$42,948
1	Grande Prairie RCSSD #28	3,684	\$29,426
1	Grande Prairie School District #2357	6,107	\$40,845
23	Grande Yellowhead Regional Division #35	5,266	\$37,052
6	Grasslands Regional Division #6	3,657	\$29,257
23	Greater N. Central Francophone Education Region #2	2,319	\$21,117
23	Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division #29	6,946	\$44,625
5	Gr. S. Francophone Public Regional Authority No. 4	870	\$12,301
5	Gr. Southern SC Francophone Ed. Region No. 4	802	\$11,888
1	High Prairie School Division #48	3,525	\$28,459
1	Holy Family Catholic Regional Division #37	2,195	\$20,367
6	Holy Spirit RCSR #4	4,668	\$34,355
6	Horizon School Division #67	3,513	\$28,385
23	Lakeland RCSSD #150	2,016	\$19,271
6	Lethbridge School District #51	8,124	\$49,932
23	Living Waters CRD #42	1,816	\$18,054
6	Livingstone Range School Div. #68	4,215	\$32,313
23	Lloydminster Public School Division #1753	2,260	\$20,759
23	Lloydminster RCSSD #89	1,117	\$13,802
6	Medicine Hat CSRD #20	2,967	\$25,059
6	Medicine Hat School District #76	6,352	\$41,947

**Membership Fees and Student Enrollment
September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008**

Zone Jurisdiction	Total Students*	Membership Fees
23 Northern Gateway Regional Division #10	5,584	\$38,486
23 Northern Lights School Division #69	5,980	\$40,271
1 Northland School Division #61	2,788	\$23,970
1 Northwest Francophone Education Region #1	343	\$8,819
6 Palliser Regional Division #26	4,492	\$33,564
23 Parkland School Division #70	9,547	\$56,348
1 Peace River School Division #10	3,418	\$27,803
1 Peace Wapiti School Division #76	5,757	\$39,263
23 Pembina Hills Regional Division #7	5,466	\$37,952
5 Prairie Land Regional Division #25	1,699	\$17,344
6 Prairie Rose Regional Division #8	3,499	\$28,297
4 Red Deer Catholic Regional Division #39	6,359	\$41,981
4 Red Deer Public School District #104	9,552	\$56,368
5 Rocky View School Division #41	15,247	\$73,987
23 St. Albert Protestant SSD #6	6,628	\$43,191
23 St. Paul Education Regional Division #1	4,057	\$31,603
23 St. Thomas Aquinas RCSR #38	2,502	\$22,233
23 Sturgeon School Division #24	4,549	\$33,821
6 Westwind School Division #74	4,063	\$31,630
4 Wetaskiwin Regional Division #11	4,201	\$32,252
4 Wild Rose School Division #66	5,433	\$37,803
4 Wolf Creek School Division #72	7,488	\$47,065
23 Yellowknife Education District #1	2,275	\$20,847
23 Yellowknife Catholic Schools	1,460	\$15,891
Totals	554,752	\$2,712,624

*Note: Student totals were compiled from a report on Student Population for the 2006/2007 school year published by Alberta Education.

Disposition of Motions

ASBA FGM 2007

Motion (#)	Motion Title	Page	Carried	Defeated	Other (Amended, Postponed, Referred, Withdrawn, etc.)
PROPOSED POLICY AND DIRECTIVE FOR ACTION POSITIONS					
1P/FGM07	Student Conduct and Discipline	5			
2DA/FGM07	Standards for School Library Programs	6			
3DA/FGM07	School Speed Zone Hours	9			
4DA/FGM07	Transition from High School to Post Secondary Education	10			
5DA/FGM07	Alberta Education Budgeting Process	11			
EMERGENT POLICIES/DIRECTIVES FOR ACTION					
1EM/FGM07		Hand- out			
2EM/FGM07		Hand- out			
3EM/FGM07		Hand- out			
4EM/FGM07		Hand- out			

Amendment Forms

Amendment to Issue No. _____

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Moved by:

School Jurisdiction:

Seconded by:

School Jurisdiction:

Amendment to Issue No. _____

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Moved by:

School Jurisdiction:

Seconded by:

School Jurisdiction:
