

**DATE:** May 22, 2012

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Trustee Sarah Hoffman, Chair, Issues and Resolutions Committee  
Trustee Dave Colburn, Issues and Resolutions Committee  
Trustee Cheryl Johner, Issues and Resolutions Committee

**SUBJECT:** ASBA Proposed Bylaw Amendment for 2012 ASBA Spring General Meeting

**RESOURCE**

**STAFF:** Tash Taylor, Director, Executive and Board Relations

**REFERENCE:** N/A

---

**ISSUE**

The Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) is requesting the membership vote on a proposed amendment to Bylaw No. 9, Section 11. The Board is to decide on its voting position prior to the Spring General Meeting taking place at the end of May.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Edmonton Public School Board not support the proposed amendment to Bylaw No. 9, Section 11 (Attachment I).**

**BACKGROUND**

The Issues and Resolutions Committee met on May 15, 2012 to examine the proposed amendment sponsored by the Grande Prairie Public School District No. 2357. The proposed amendment moves to change the bylaw from requiring two-thirds majority vote on amendments to orders of the day when the agenda has already been adopted, to requiring a simple majority instead.

The committee unanimously agreed that the Board should continue supporting the purpose and function of weighted voting principles. As such, the committee is recommending the Board take the position of maintaining the ASBA's current rules of procedure where two-thirds majority is required to amend the orders of the day when the agenda has already been adopted.

**CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS**

Given the size of the District, the number of students, and ASBA's weighted fee structure, it remains fair that the weighted voting be maintained.

**NEXT STEPS**

Subject to the Board's approval of the recommendation, the Board's voting position will be shared at the ASBA spring general meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES**

Attachment I                      Motion 2A/SGM 12: Bylaw 9.11 – Representation and Voting at General Meetings

TT:ee

# Motion 2A/SGM12: Proposed Bylaw Amendment

## Bylaw 9.11 – Representation and Voting at General Meetings

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Alberta School Boards Association Bylaw No. 9, Section 11 be amended to read as follows (proposed amendments shown in underlined text):

### **Background**

At the 2010 Spring General Meeting, an update on work being done by the Association was scheduled on the order paper. The order paper and rules of procedure were adopted at the outset of the day (as parliamentary motions, determined by a majority of votes cast).

A motion was subsequently placed before the assembly to formally discuss and vote on the matter which gave rise to the update and question and answer session (the development of a communications protocol boards could chose to use, if they so wished). Pursuant to the rules of procedure adopted, a two-thirds majority was required to amend the orders of the day and consider the extraordinary

motion, as the agenda had already been adopted. Though a majority of boards (>50%) voted in favour, the two-thirds majority was not met and the matter was not added as a formal discussion/decision item to the order paper.

The proposed amendment would allow for the order paper to be amended when a topic arises during the course of a meeting that a simple majority of voting boards want to discuss. Any motion arising out of such discussion would still be subject to the double majority voting method outlined in Bylaw 9.

Sponsored by Grande Prairie Public School  
District No. 2357