



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS (COSC)
MEETING HELD AT THE PARKLAND SCHOOL DIVISION CENTRE
FOR EDUCATION IN STONY PLAIN, ALBERTA ON 14 OCTOBER 2010**

ATTENDANCE:

School Councils

High Park School
École Broxton Park School
Spruce Grove Composite
Wabamun School
Memorial Composite High School
Parkland Village School
Millgrove School
Greystone Centennial Middle School
Blueberry School
École Meridian Heights School

Board of Trustees

Trustee Kilduff, Board Vice Chair

Administration

Tim Monds, Superintendent

Recording Secretary

Darlene Smith, Executive Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Add 6.a – Announcement about parent seminar being offered, at École Broxton Park School, by Alberta School Council Association (Rhonda Schumm)

Add 7.a – Assistance with resolution being submitted to Alberta Transportation re: signage near Keephills School (Sharon Topping)

Moved by Carol Humphries that the Agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF 13 MAY 2010

Moved by Sherry Greenbank, that the Minutes of 13 May 2010 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. INTRODUCTION TO COSC – Setting the Purpose (Connie McKenna)

Connie McKenna, COSC Chair, stated that her goal this year is to see that each school has representation at the COSC meetings. COSC meetings provide opportunity for school councils to collaborate, share, learn, and assist in resolving issues if presented. Connie plans to attend one school council meeting per school this year which will enable her to touch base with each School Council. Connie then requested that everyone introduce themselves, the school they represent and why they are here.

5. NO MORE BORING MEETINGS

A representative from the Alberta School Councils' Association Workshop presented the "No More Boring Meetings" workshop. Following the presentation, School Councils were encouraged to utilize the workshops available to Councils through ASCA. They customize workshops to suit the needs of individual school councils. All workshops are free of charge. The ASCA website has very valuable resources. (www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca)

6. FUTURE ROLE OF SCHOOL COUNCILS (Rhonda Schumm, ASCA)

The Alberta School Councils Association is looking for feedback (by November 15, 2010) from school councils on the draft "Future Role of School Council". It is a discussion paper on parental engagement and the potential enhanced role for the future of school council. It reflects some of the themes emerging from **Inspiring Action** and the **Ideas Forum** on school councils on the Alberta Education Engage website.

Intended to be a starting point for discussion on the topic, **ASCA President, Marilyn Sheptycki** is hoping school councils will be inspired to share their thoughts and comments via email to build on ideas, hopes and dreams for greater parental engagement in the future of education in Alberta.

6.a COSC Parent Workshop – Critical Thinking

École Broxton Park School's School Council is hosting a parent workshop on Critical Thinking on November 3 at 7:00 pm, facilitated by Cheryl Eidick. Rhonda will provide invitations to all School Council Chairs, requesting they be sent home with students. RSVPs are required.

7. BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT – Dorcas Kilduff

Trustee Kilduff encouraged School Councils to have a conversation about The E4 Framework, developed by the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA), and more specifically, to respond to the following questions:

- What can Albertans reasonably expect all children to demonstrate when they graduate from high school?
- Do you agree or disagree with the underlying convictions.
- Are your expectations similar or different to those of other Albertans?
- Will the E4 Framework ensure a strong start in life for all children?

The PSBAA welcomes comments and will eagerly and seriously consider the suggestions of any additional elements for inclusion in future editions of The E4 Framework.

Trustee Kilduff asked what areas of the E4 Framework require school council involvement.

Board Announcement: Superintendent has been selected. The Board is waiting for approval from Minister of Education before an announcement can be made.

7a. HIGHWAY SIGNAGE – KEEPHILLS SCHOOL – Sharon Topping

Current and emergent issue in the Keephills School area. Bus is required to stop in a dangerous area on the highway. Last year, Brian Hauptman, Manager, Student

Transportation had put up a flashing yellow sign on highway. In July, the Dept. of Transportation removed the sign because it did not meet the Transportation Association of Canada global standards for signage. The Keephills' School Council has prepared a draft of a resolution requesting signage on the highway and asked for COSC's assistance in the final wording, prior to submitting it to Dept. of Transportation. Shirley was referred to contact Tracy at Alberta School Councils Association who would assist her in the wording.

8. CONFIRMATION OF SUGGESTED MEETING DATES (Connie McKenna)

Connie suggested the perhaps COSC meetings could be held at various schools.

- November 18 (Leighann Wolkoski will see if Blueberry School is available)
- January 20 (Toresa Regan will see if Millgrove School is available)
- March 17
- April 21 (date may change because it conflicts with Easter Break)
- May 19 (date may change because it conflicts with long weekend)

March meeting should be specific to discussion of resolutions/paperwork for the Alberta School Councils Association AGM conference.

There was also discussion on COSC's presence on Parkland School Division's website. Representatives were asked to bring their ideas to the next meeting and they would be forwarded to Paula Whebby, PSD's Website Coordinator. Paula would be invited to the following meeting to respond to COSC's requests.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.