



**MINUTES
June 10-11, 2023**

Present: Brandi Rai, President
Greta Gerstner, Director
Richard Haggarty, Director
Edward Tse, Director (12:40 p.m.)
Chelsea Ezeagwuna, Director
Shelley Odishaw, Vice President
Krista Li, Director
Kerry Bodell, Director
Ken Glazebrook, Director

Regrets/Leave:

Guests: Jacque Surgenor Gaglione, owner, Leadership and Life 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. June 10

Staff: Wendy Keiver, Executive Director

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Rai called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. on Saturday, June 10, 2023, and welcomed everyone. She provided a Treaty and Territory Acknowledgement. President Rai then invited Directors to share ways in which they personally connect with the land. Directors then participated in a team-building activity.

2. BOARD MEETING PROTOCOLS/TEAM AGREEMENT/CULTURE CONTAINER

The ASCA Board Meeting Protocols, the ASCA Team Agreement, and the ASCA Culture Container were supplied for information and review.

3. REVIEW OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Previous Board Minutes & Action/Motion Tracking: May 24, 2023

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the May 24, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

MOTION: Directors Gerstner/Haggarty

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Consent Agenda as amended.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

4. BUSINESS: STEWARDSHIP AND REPRESENTATION

4.1 Stewardship (Association Oversight)

A. Advocacy Committee

MOTION: Vice President Odishaw/Director Li

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Advocacy and Resolutions Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Vice President Odishaw/Director Bodell

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Advocacy and Resolutions Committee's Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY



B. Fund Development Committee

MOTION: Directors Gerstner/Glazebrook

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Fund Development Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Directors Gerstner/Li

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Fund Development Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Governance Committee

MOTION: Director Glazebrook/Vice President Odishaw

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Governance Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Directors Gerstner/Glazebrook

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Governance Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Internal Finance Committee

MOTION: Directors Bodell/Gerstner

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Internal Finance Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Directors Bodell/Li

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Internal Finance Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Legacy Committee

MOTION: Directors Li/Bodell

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Legacy Committee report for information

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Directors Li/Haggarty

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Legacy Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

F. Member Engagement Committee

MOTION: Director Gerstner/Vice President Odishaw

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Member Engagement Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Directors Gerstner/Bodell

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Member Engagement Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY



Action: The Executive Director is to provide the Lead of the Member Engagement Committee with the scheduled days, times, and messages for any Social Media Challenges ahead of them being posted.

G. Nominations Committee

MOTION: Director Haggarty/Gerstner

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Nominations Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Director Haggarty/Li

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Nominations Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

H. Recognition Awards Committee

MOTION: Directors Haggarty/Glazebrook

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Recognition Awards Committee report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Directors Ezeagwuna/Li

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Recognition Awards Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

I. Education Issues and E-Scan

2023 Provincial Election Results: Impacts on ASCA

President Rai spoke of the opportunity to work with a new Minister to help them understand the education landscape as lived by parents through school councils. It will be good to learn where the Association and the Minister have alignment as we build an authentic partnership with integrity. It is important on behalf of students, and our Members, to do our best in this area.

2023 Provincial Education Budget and Funding Manual:

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/1485-5542>

Impacts on school divisions, schools, classrooms

President Rai reminded Directors of the messaging provided at a provincial level that there has been a significant investment in education, along with the local autonomy of school boards. The lived experiences being shared by students, parents, school councils, teachers, and administrators aren't necessarily reflecting this. There are layers of accountability, which school councils should be knowledgeable about and be having locally focused discussions. Once school councils can understand how funding decisions are being made locally, if it is believed more funding is required from the province, local, regional, and provincial advocacy could help. It's important to not place blame but to call people into the conversation.



September 2023 Curriculum Implementation: <https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum.aspx>

Impacts on school divisions, schools, teachers, students

The President has heard from school council members that there are still concerns and that some parents aren't engaged at the level where they understand what impact it might have on their children. She spoke to the concerns about the efforts teachers will need to invest to learn and find/utilize appropriate resources to support the new curriculum. ARPDC is working diligently to provide those resources. The President expressed concerns about the stress the implementation will have on the system as a whole and its impact on the mental health of students, families, teachers, and administrators.

Vice President Odishaw noted that other agencies may also have resources that will help educators with implementation. She also noted the issue of having to search for resources isn't acceptable as all resources should have been easily available prior to the implementation.

Roundtable: Items identified by Directors:

A director spoke of a disturbing situation at their school where the principal asked parents (school council/FRA) to fund mental health resources in the form of contributing to paying for additional staff; This is apparently happening at other schools in the division. The President will meet with the director separately to determine the best next steps. Busing in one rural school division will be more challenging as the new ridership eligibility requires the division to purchase 12 new buses, which take a long time to arrive once purchased. Some buses are already doing double routes, resulting in some students not arriving at their school until 9:00 a.m. or after. In addition, the rolling average funding is not working well in divisions where re-arranging boundaries results in lower student enrollment and, therefore, lower funding. Other directors are hearing similar comments related to the funding formula not working well. There is also concern that there are many neurodivergent students coming through the system, for which staff, administrators, and resources are ill-prepared. There are concerns from some directors about how school divisions are not addressing air quality issues and the resulting health concerns for students and teachers. Some school communities are reporting a large shift in how grade 12 graduations are being recognized and organized, with a distinct change in what schools and school divisions are doing and supporting.

J. Financial Report

- i. Income Statement on May 31, 2023, forecast and revised budget

MOTION: *Directors Li/Bodell*

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the May 31, 2023, Income Statement with Year End Forecast for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

- ii. Balance Sheet on May 31, 2023, Balance Sheet

MOTION: *Directors Bodell/Haggarty*

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the May 31, 2023, Balance Sheet for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY



MOTION: *Directors Haggarty/Bodell*

That the ASCA Board of Directors directs the Executive Director to prepare a revised 2023-2024 ASCA Budget for review at the August 31, 2023, Board Meeting.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

Action: The Executive Director is to prepare and present a revised 2023-2024 ASCA Budget for the August 31, 2023, Board Meeting.

K. Board Progress: Vision Path Destinations and Growth Goals Progress

No report.

L. Executive Director Report

- i. Monthly Activities: ED, Staff

MOTION: *Directors Haggarty/Vice President Odishaw*

That the ASCA Board of Directors adopts the Monthly Activities report for information.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

- ii. Preliminary 2023 Conference and AGM Evaluations

MOTION: *Directors Li/Haggarty*

That the ASCA Board of Directors directs the Executive Director to provide comprehensive 2023 Conference and AGM Evaluation reports at the August 31, 2023, Board meeting.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

M. Board Management

- i. Mentorship/PODs
Vice President Odishaw engaged the Board in a discussion related to the origin of their engagement with school councils.
- ii. In Camera
The Board did not move into camera during this meeting.
- iii. Review/Revise Meeting Protocols, Team Agreement, Culture and Relationships Container
Directors reviewed each of the documents guiding how the Board will work together through the next year. Directors discussed several points specifically and made moderate revisions to reflect the Board's current composition and realities.
- iv. Board Professional Development: DISC Assessment
Leadership and Life consultant Jacquie Surgenor-Gaglione presented the ASCA Board of Directors Team DISC Assessment report and explained its contents in terms of the Board working collaboratively and cohesively for the upcoming year.
- v. Director Vacancy (added during Agenda Item 3)
The Board discussed the pros and cons of filling the vacant 2-year director position via appointment (Bylaw 6.7). Through the discussion, it was recognized that the Board's Governance Policy Manual should provide clear processes and guidelines the Board should



follow if it decides to appoint now or in the future. It was determined that until those processes and guidelines are in place, the Board will not fill the vacancy via appointment. The result will be needing to hold a by-election at the AGM in 2024 for a Director to fill a then 1-year term (to AGM 2025).

Action: The Governance Committee is to provide clear processes and guidelines regarding appointing directors for the Board's consideration for inclusion in the Governance Policy Manual.

- vi. Engagement Plan with the new Minister of Education and Public Awareness of ASCA (added during Agenda Item 3)

The President provided the Board with a high-level Communications Strategy relating to how ASCA will engage with the new Minister. The Association views this as an opportunity to build a new, positive relationship and to establish and identify opportunities for collaboration on the Minister's mandate.

Action: The Executive Director will send a written invitation to Minister Nicolaides to attend a portion of the September Board Meeting, as well as an initial meeting with ASCA's Executive team, with the intention of introducing him to the Board and the Association.

Action: The Executive Director will prepare a staggered Communications Strategy for broad distribution through social media, highlighting who ASCA is, how many school councils/Albertan's ASCA represents, why/how ASCA has existed for 95 years, what ASCA does, why ASCA is important, how ASCA impacts student learning, and why funding is required.

4.2 Representation (Provincial Level Participation)

A. Director's Reports

No reports.

B. School Council Engagement Task Force: Results

No Report.

Vice President Odishaw left the meeting prior to this item.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

- i. Partner Organizations (PSBAA, ASBA) ASCA Representation
President Rai summarized her participation at the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) and Alberta School Board's Association Spring General Meetings at the beginning of June.

D. Advocacy in Action Summary

A link was provided to the ongoing summary of opportunities the President, Vice President, and Executive have had to represent ASCA at various regional and provincial committees and events.

4.3 Unfinished Business

None



5. Information Items:

5.1. Future Weekend Board Meeting Dates:

September 23-24, 2023

November 18-19, 2023

January 20-21, 2024

March 16-17, 2024

5.2. Future Weekday Evening Board Meeting Dates: August 31, 2023

5.3. Future Pre-AGM Board Meeting: April 19, 2024, @ 8:00 a.m.

5.4. Future General Meetings of ASCA: 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) April 21, 2024

5.5. Future Post-AGM Board Meeting: April 21, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

6. Meeting Evaluations (electronic): The Board was reminded to complete the online Board Meeting Evaluation prior to 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 11, 2023.

Brandi Rai

President
Brandi Rai

Wendy Keiver

Executive Director
Wendy Keiver

The ASCA Board of Directors makes decisions to ensure the Alberta School Councils' Association is: Relevant; Sustainable; Autonomous; and Innovative.