



May 9, 2024

Via Email: education.minister@gov.ab.ca

Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis
Minister of Education
Office of the Minister, Education
228 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Nicolaidis:

The Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) recently held its in-person provincial conference and hybrid Annual General Meeting (AGM) April 26-28, 2024. Thank you again for speaking to our 200+ delegates from across Alberta and answering their questions. We deeply appreciate your sincere efforts to build connections with parents on school councils and support their learning from multiple inspiring leaders on a wide range of education related topics.

On Sunday, April 28th, our Annual General Meeting started at 8:00 a.m. A total of 157 ASCA Member School Councils were represented for the majority of the 11.5-hour AGM. I have included a copy of the Advocacy Resolutions discussed at the 2024 AGM, identifying those carried into Advocacy Policy of the Association. ASCA Members requested several of your colleagues also be made aware of some of these Advocacy Policies, therefore separate letters containing the Advocacy Policies relevant to each Ministry or Official will be sent to the following, cc'd to you:

The Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta;
The Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health;
The Honourable Dan Williams, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction;
The Honourable Pete Guthrie, Minister of Infrastructure;
The Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Provincially, the ASCA Board and Executive appreciate the opportunity to provide the advice and feedback received from parents on Alberta's legislated school councils, with respect to new and ongoing Alberta Education initiatives. We believe a collaborative process results in an enhanced education system focused on the learning success of all Alberta's students.

Your comments and feedback would be appreciated, and, as is customary, will be shared with our Members. I am pleased to respond to any questions you may have and look forward to discussing these, and other, Advocacy Policies of our Association.

The 2024 Advocacy Policy Manual is currently being updated by ASCA staff and will be posted on this page as soon as it is available. To find a copy of ASCA Advocacy Policies previously adopted, please visit our website at <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/the-parent-voice/advocacy>.

Elections also occurred during the Annual General Meeting, and I am pleased to inform you that the ASCA Board has new leadership and Board members. Three (3) new Directors joined the ASCA Board: Meagan Parisian (2 Year Term), a parent from the Red Deer Public School Division; Stephanie Bugbee (1 Year Term), a parent from the Red Deer Catholic School Division; and Ismeria Bruce (2 Year Term), a parent from the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. Kenneth Glazebrook is ASCA's new Vice President (2 Year Term), and I, Kerry Bodell, am ASCA's President (2 Year Term). Brandi Rai is officially ASCA's Past President (1 Year Term), having been affirmed in this role by the ASCA Board immediately following our AGM.

In closing, I am respectfully requesting two meetings with you prior to the end of June 2024.

- 1) I would greatly appreciate an opportunity for myself, ASCA Vice President Kenneth Glazebrook, and ASCA Executive Director Wendy Keiver to meet with you to discuss one or more of the newly adopted ASCA Advocacy Policies, and
- 2) The new ASCA Board of Directors will be meeting virtually for a full weekend Board Meeting on Saturday, June 22 and Sunday, June 23. I would appreciate a few moments of your time on either of those days for you to join us at your convenience, and have our Directors introduce themselves to you.

I look forward to hearing back from you, Minister Nicolaidis, and to meeting with you in the near future.

Kind Regards,



Kerry Bodell
President

Cc: Education Deputy Minister, Lora Pillipow; James Johnson, Chief of Staff to Minister Nicolaidis; Melanie Gaudet, Scheduling Coordinator to Minister Nicolaidis; ASCA Board; Wendy Keiver, Executive Director, ASCA.