



May 9, 2024

Via Email: premier@gov.ab.ca

Honourable Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta
Office of the Premier, Executive Branch
307 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Smith:

On Sunday, April 28th, the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) starting at 8:00 a.m. A total of 157 ASCA Member School Councils, acting on behalf of parents in their school communities, were represented for the majority of the 11.5-hour AGM. A complete copy of the approved Advocacy Policies has been sent to the Minister of Education, the Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides.

In addition, ASCA Members requested you and Ministers whose portfolios intersect with education be made aware of some of these Advocacy Policies. Separate letters containing the Advocacy Policies relevant to each Ministry will be sent to the following, cc'd to Minister Nicolaides:

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 and/or legislation/policies impacting education. We believe a collaborative process results in an enhanced education system focused on the learning success of all Alberta's students.

ASCA Member adopted Advocacy Policies which include reference to the Premier or the Government of Alberta are:

ER24-01 – Opposing the Alberta Government's Proposed Policies Re: "Preserving Choice for Children and Youth"

That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education and the Premier of Alberta to increase support of 2SLGBTQIA+ students to protect them from discrimination and bullying in the classroom.

That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education and the Premier of Alberta to dedicate funding, resources, and programming that serve to better educate parents, caregivers, and peers on gender diversity and the importance of acceptance and inclusion.

ER24-02 – Preserve Non-Partisan Elections for Alberta School Board Trustees

That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education, and the Government of Alberta for the preservation of non-partisan elections for school board trustees.

A summary of the results of all ten (10) Advocacy Resolutions presented to ASCA Members can be found on this page of the ASCA website: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-general-meeting/meeting-documents-2024> The 2024 Advocacy Policy Manual is currently being updated by ASCA and will be posted 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> .

Your comments and feedback would be appreciated and 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.

I look forward to hearing back from you, Premier Smith.

Kind Regards,



Kerry Bodell
President, Alberta School Councils' Association

Cc: Education Minister, Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis; ASCA Board; Wendy Keiver, Executive Director, ASCA.