



Council of School Councils

March 2, 2016





Agenda

- Welcome
- System Updates – David Stevenson
 - Gender and sexual minority youth – creating conditions for all students to thrive – Jeannie Everett
 - Engagement – Marla Martin-Esposito and Karen Drummond
 - Transportation - Carrie Edwards
 - Budget – Brad Grundy
- Table discussion – Amber Stewart
- Wrap-up



System Updates



Gender and sexual minority youth

- The CBE is committed to creating safe and caring communities for everyone, including our LGBTQ youth.
- Alberta Education recently released its "Guidelines for Best Practices: Creating Learning Environments that Respect Diverse Sexual Orientations, Gender Identities and Gender Expressions."
- CBE is bringing together current documents and completing supporting guidelines that align to provincial guidelines.
- A parent FAQ document is available on our website. If you have further questions, please contact your principal or Alberta Education.



Public Engagement

- We are committed to doing a better job of involving people in decisions that affect them.
- Engagement has been identified as a priority for the 2015-16 school year and beyond.
- Developing our framework is an important first step.
- While we develop the framework, we are continuing to engage on issues important to parents.
- For info: cbe.ab.ca/dialogue

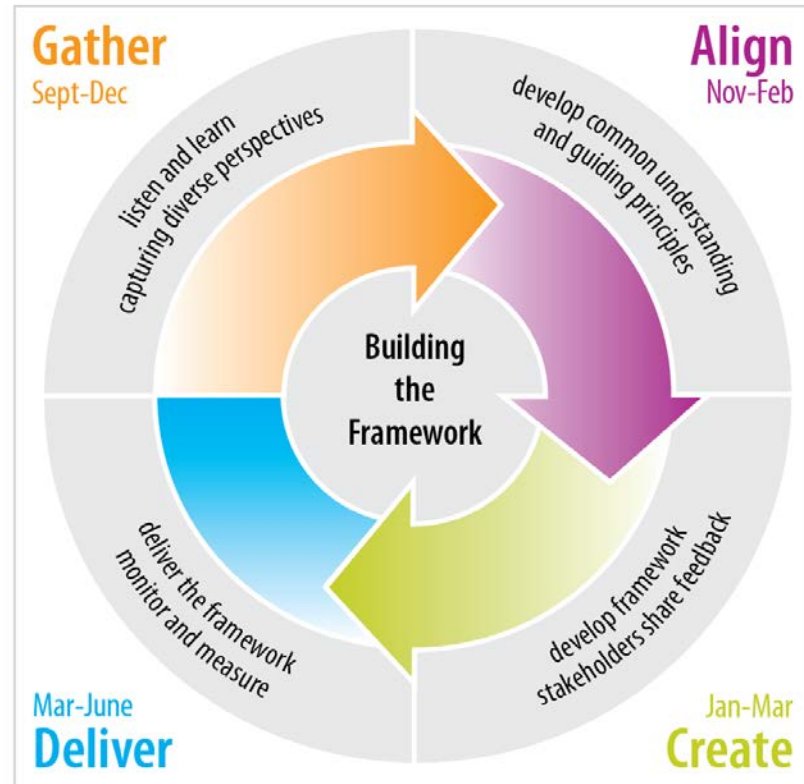


Goals for Public Engagement

- Our goal is to develop a public engagement framework that:
- Is well understood and accepted.
- Gives stakeholders a clear understanding of their roles, responsibilities and how their contributions influence decisions.
- Is applied consistently and effectively.
- Is monitored and evaluated over time.



Where we are today



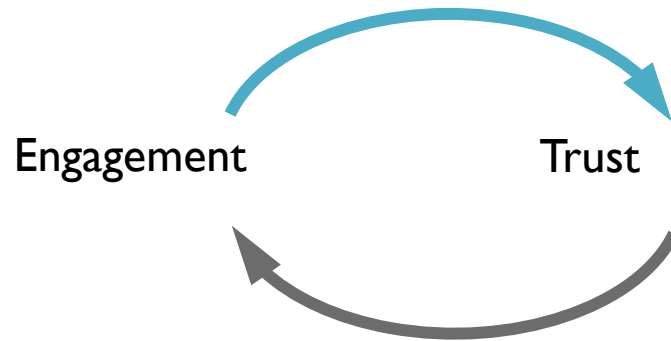


What we heard

- It was important for us to listen, learn and capture diverse perspectives.
- It was also important to work with an external resource.
- What we heard supports the direction we are taking with the framework development.
- It also provides baseline data to mark our progress.
- We would like to share some of the highlights, particularly parent perspectives, from the engagement.

“Improve transparency so we actually know what types of decisions are in the process of being made. With more information and all of the facts it would be easier to form educated opinions around issues and explain how we might feel we would be affected.”

Parent



Engagement will build trust. But more trust is required to support engagement.

Overcoming skepticism

There is a need to overcome significant skepticism about the sincerity of current engagement.

“Either sincerely look for feedback and build it into the decision or don't bother to ask for input. Consultation that does not truly affect a decision wastes everybody's time.”

Parent

But some are hopeful that we are changing our approach to engagement

“Personally, I think what CBE is currently doing is great. I am grateful for the opportunity as an employee to share my voice and hopefully contribute to streamlining our practices and working better, and smarter together.”

Employee

“I love that you are looking for input from parents - please continue to do this!”

Parent

3 stages of engagement

- Parents, teachers, employees and students conceptualize three stages of engagement:

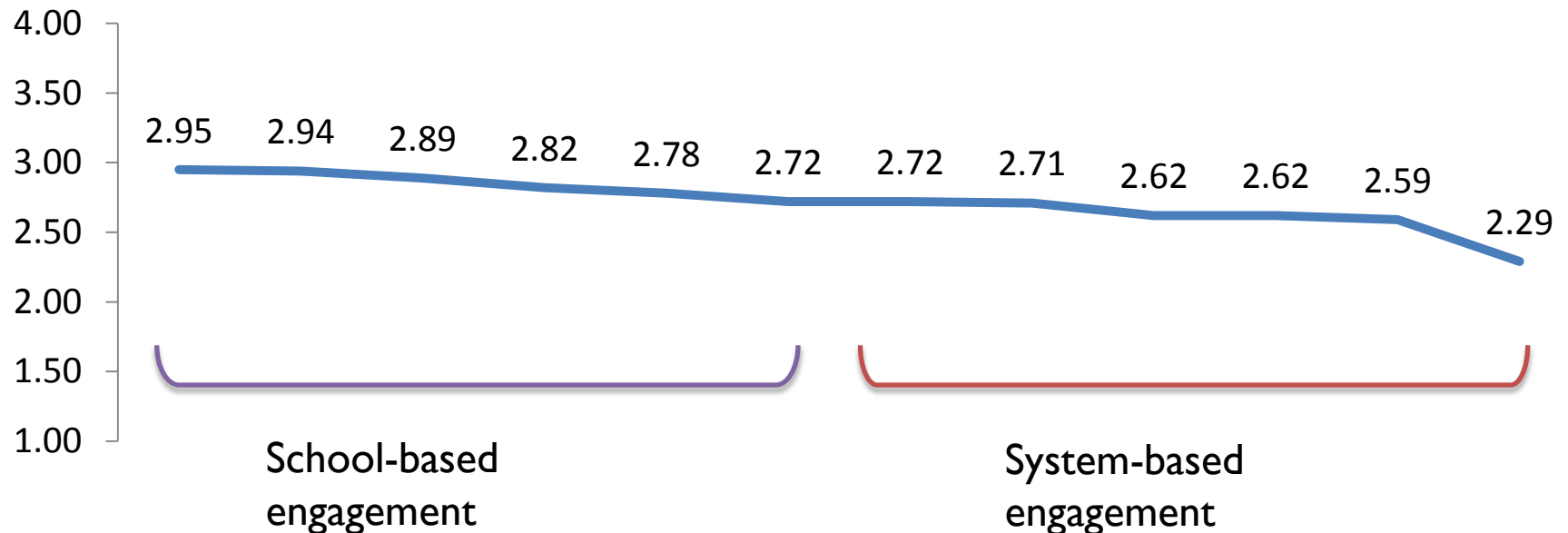


CBE is credited with doing the best job with the providing opportunities for input

The primary opportunity to improve engagement is to improve the feedback loop.

Classroom-centric

As topics move further from the classroom, parent and public experience with engagement declines.



School council

School council has many of the characteristics of a successful engagement tool: access to the principal, focused on the school and the classroom, regularly scheduled, two-way dialogue.

“Opportunities to discuss CBE topics at school council meetings is great. It's an effective way to hear from parents, admin and teachers at once.”
Parent

But

“Parents have questions, but wouldn't come to School Council. They're worried about making a commitment of any kind.”
Employee

“School Council is too small of a group to be representative of the rest of the parent community.”
Employee

Opportunities for improvement

1. Develop a fair and open engagement process.
2. Keep participants informed throughout the whole engagement process. People want to know about the purpose, process and progress of engagement.
3. Ensure people feel heard and valued. This involves listening to understand, valuing individual opinions and ensuring that their participation makes a difference.
4. Close the loop. Share the results of engagement with all stakeholder groups and help participants understand how their input influenced decisions and outcomes. And if their input was not used, provide the rationale for what was used.
5. Provide multiple ways for people to learn about topics and share their opinions. (Online and in-person opportunities)

Opportunities for improvement

6. Work closely with schools. Parents view teachers, principals and schools as the most effective ways to connect with the CBE. These connections are critical.
7. Be inclusive. When applicable, encourage direct participation from as many stakeholder groups as possible. Consider providing more opportunities for the public to share their perspectives.
8. Simplify the location of information for employees.
9. Make the engagement as relevant to learning and the classroom as possible.



Transportation

- Need to continue to deliver safe, efficient and cost-effective transportation that is financially sustainable.
- Technical review is complete and will be released publicly.
- Long-term changes will take time, but we're committed to engaging with you on changes and communicating more clearly and with more notice.
- Opportunities to participate April 6, 7 and 12. Details are posted at cbe.ab.ca/dialogue



Budget

Excellent student results

Provincial Achievement Tests in Grades 6 and 9

- CBE results exceeded those of the province in every subject at the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence.
- In Knowledge and Employability (KAE) English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. The percentage of CBE students achieving the acceptable standard was above that in the province as a whole, the percentage of students who achieved the standard of excellence was equal to or slightly above that of the province.

Grade 12 Diploma Exam results

- Over 85 per cent of CBE students achieved the acceptable standard in eight of the eleven subjects.
- In ten of the eleven examinations, the percentage of CBE students achieving the acceptable standard was equal to or above that of students in the province as a whole.
- The percentage of CBE students achieving the standard of excellence exceeded the percentage in the province as a whole on ten of eleven examinations.

Where are we now?

	Sept 30 2016	Subtract One time items	Add System growth & new schools	Projections
Gov't Revenue	1,207,573	(17,000)	37,882	1,228,455
Fees	49,651	-	6,431	56,082
Other Sales	23,196	-	598	23,794
Invest. & other	22,145	-	464	22,609
Total Revenue	1,302,565	(17,000)	45,375	1,330,940
Teacher Sal & Ben	767,467	(15,491)	38,061	790,037
Support Sal & Ben	256,462	(203)	7,958	264,217
Supply & Service	237,524	(23,022)	9,389	223,891
Amortization	52,115	-	21,095	73,210
Interest & uncollectible	6,926	-	164	7,090
Total Expense	1,320,494	(38,716)	76,667	1,358,445
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(17,929)	21,716	(31,292)	(27,505)

Request for input

In crafting the 2016-17 and future budgets, what should the CBE consider stopping, starting and continuing in supporting success for each student?

Keep up-to-date

cbe.ab.ca/budget



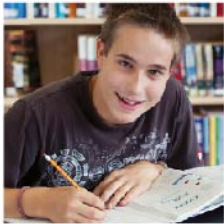
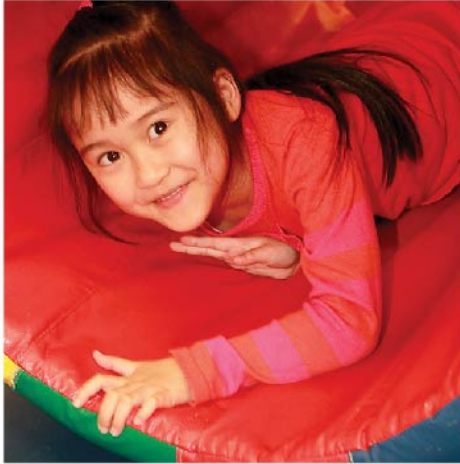
Table Discussion



Wrap-up



Final meeting of the
year:
April 28, 2016



Thank You