

# ASCA OVERVIEW

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION – COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS



**Alberta  
School Councils' Association**

**Promoting parent engagement in public education**



# INTRODUCTIONS

- Territory Recognition
- Presenters
  - A bit about us
- Participants
  - A bit about you



## ASCA'S NEW MISSION & VISION:

- **MISSION:**

*ASCA will engage and empower Alberta school councils while advocating for the parent voice in the education system.*

- **VISION:**

*A respected and empowered school council in every Alberta school.*

# WHAT DOES ASCA DO?



- **DEVELOPMENT**
  - Site Services
  - Resources
  - Online Learning
  - Annual Conference
- **COMMUNICATION**
  - E-News
  - Surveys
  - Social Media
- **REPRESENTATION**
  - Consultation
  - School Council Engagement Task Force
  - AGM
  - Advocacy

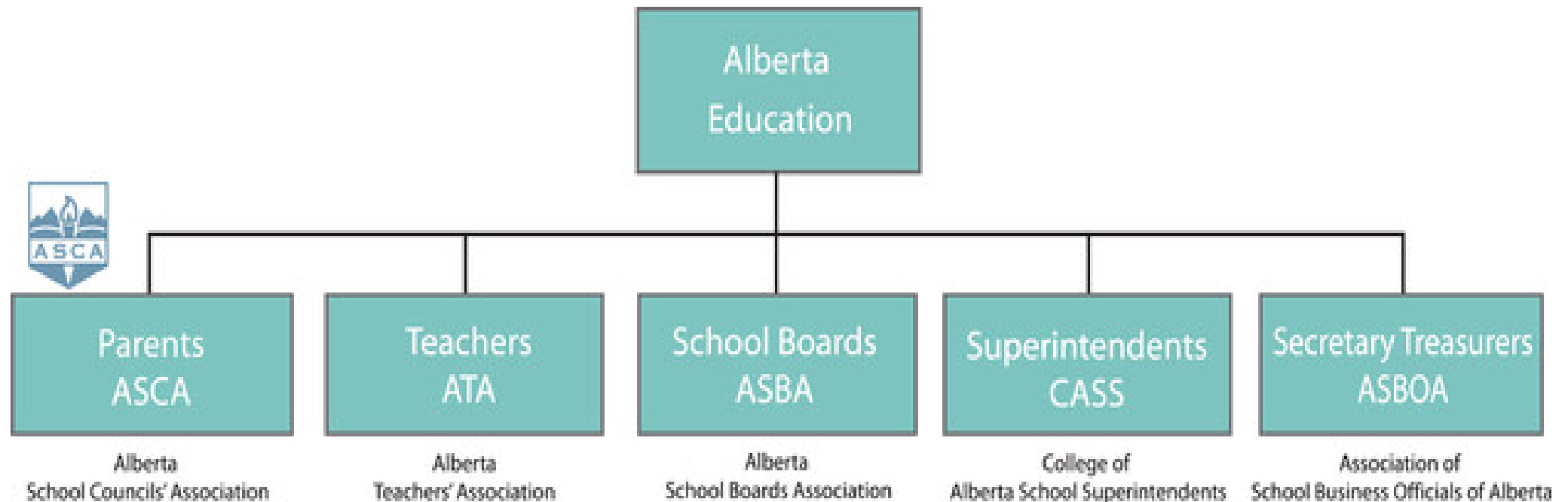
# MEMBERSHIP = YOUR VOICE

## Member School Councils have a Voice:

- Can participate on School Council Engagement Task Force
- Can submit an Advocacy Resolution for consideration by all Member School Councils (deadline: January 15, 2019)
- Can participate in decision making at the AGM (Vote)
- Can represent other Member School Councils if asked (Proxy Carrier)
- Can nominate a parent candidate for the ASCA Board of Directors



# WHAT DOES ASCA DO WITH THE “VOICE”?



# COMMUNICATION – TWO WAY

## ■ INFORMATION WE SHARE:

- ❑ E-News
- ❑ Website pages with ABEd initiatives
- ❑ Website pages with tips for SCs
- ❑ Facebook
- ❑ Twitter



## ■ HOW WE HEAR BACK:

- ❑ SCETF (Member School Councils only)
- ❑ General Surveys
- ❑ What We Heard page of website
- ❑ Workshop Evaluations
- ❑ Director's visits to SCs

# SCHOOL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT

- Site Services
- Online Learning
- Resources for SCs and FRAs
- ABED Initiatives
- Local Advocacy
- School Council Resource Guide
- Recognition Awards



# QUICK OVERVIEW: SCHOOL COUNCIL IS...

A means for parents and community members to work together with the principal and the school to **support and enhance student learning.**



# LEGISLATED TO...

Inquire by “Seeking to Understand”

How does this improve our school community?



What does this look like in our school?

How does this help to support student success?

**Advise the principal and the board respecting matters relating to the school.**

*School Act, Section 22 (4)(a)*

# ADVISE ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE SCHOOL, SUCH AS....

## ➤ **Alberta Education Initiatives**

- impact at local, district level
- voice at provincial level through ASCA

## ➤ **Respecting Diversity and Promoting Inclusion**

## ➤ **Advancing Reconciliation**

## ➤ **Professional Practice Standards** (TQS, LQS, SQS)

## ➤ **Development of School Policies**

## ➤ **Education Plans:**

- ABED Business Plan
  - District Education Plan
  - School Education Plan
  - School Council Plan

## ➤ **Annual Results Reports**

## ➤ **Development of School Budget:**

ABED \$ ➡ District \$ ➡ School \$

## WHAT SCHOOL COUNCILS ARE NOT:

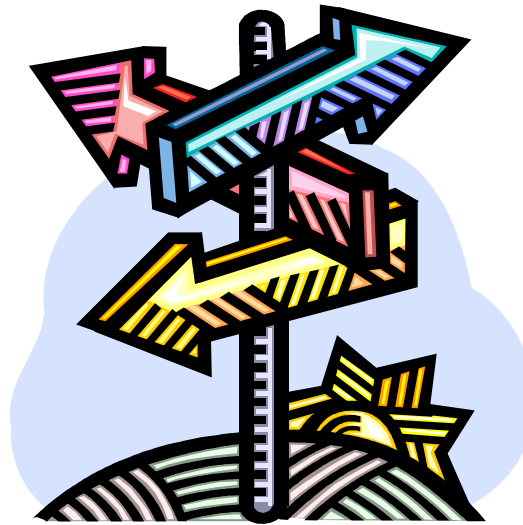
- **School governance bodies** ... (School Board)
- **Employers** ... (School Board)
- **System managers** ... (Superintendent)
- **School managers** ... (Principal)
- **Primarily fundraisers** ... (Fundraising Society)
- **Primarily lobbyists** ... (Trustee, Muni Coun. or MLA)
- **Complaint sessions** ... (Spouse, Dr., Spiritual Advisor)

**CAUTION**

*Alberta School Council Resource Guide, Page 4*

## HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE:

➤ **Principals** have to consider many perspectives when making decisions in the **best interest** of the **students** in their school.



# RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRINCIPAL:

## PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS:

- Joint Annual Planning
  - CBE Administrative Regulation 5001
- Co-constructing the Agenda
- Two-way Communication



# CLARIFICATION

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

- *governed by School Act*
- *mandatory*
- *support and enhance student learning*
- *advisory only*
- *no legal authority*

## FUNDRAISING ASSOCIATION

- *governed by Societies Act*
- *optional*
- *financially support and enhance student learning through the school and/or school council*
- *legal authority, ability and liability*

No school council shall incorporate under the *Societies Act* or Part 9 of the *Companies Act*. Alberta Regulation 113/2007 School Councils Regulation

## CONTACT US!

- 1.800.661.3470
- Twitter @Abschoolcouncil
- [www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca](http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca) (SCETF, email list, templates)
- Facebook/pages/Alberta-School-Councils-Association