



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**10 JANUARY 2012**

### **Education Plan Identifies Significance of the Parents' Voice**

The release of Minister Lukaszuk's 10-point plan for education in Alberta includes creating a stronger voice for parents in the system to supplement the work of school councils.

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) is identified in the plan to work with the department on new initiatives to strengthen parental input and develop supports for online interaction with parents.

"We are pleased that the voice of parents is recognized for its value in education and is incorporated into the plan," said ASCA President, Marilyn Sheptycki. "Strengthening the role parents play in student success will benefit education and we look forward to implementing strategies with the Minister."

A result of extensive consultation, including conversations with parents on school councils, produced the plan to affect an immediate difference for students and will form the basis for future legislation.

The 10-point plan also captures the Association's perspectives on full-day Kindergarten, student travel times, provincial achievement testing, supporting First Nations students and parental choice.

Promoting parental involvement in public education through school councils, ASCA appreciates the commitment to opportunities reflecting parents as partners in the education system.

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