

Resolutions Carried into Advocacy Policy of the Alberta School Councils' Association 2017

17-01 Support for mental health content and awareness in the K-12 programs of study and schools

That **Alberta Education** include mandatory, comprehensive mental health content in the curriculum for all grades, with parent involvement, that educates about disorders, symptoms and strategies for coping,

That **Alberta Education** work in close partnership with **Alberta Health Services** to simplify the sharing of information, to create a comprehensive care plan, delivered by qualified personnel, which will, with parent consent, facilitate student's diagnosis, management strategies and access to resources, supports and programs.

That the **Alberta Association of Deans of Education** provide more comprehensive training on mental health issues for children through pre-service teacher programs

That Alberta School Councils' Association provide links to authoritative reference materials/organizations to assist school councils in developing their knowledge about mental health issues and impacts on learning successes of kids.

That all Alberta school councils encourage open communication with respect to impacts of mental health issues on children and learning and that school councils be recognized as a safe place for these discussions to take place.

17-02 Accountability Pillar surveys delivery and accessibility

That Alberta School Councils' Association collaborate with **Alberta Education** on the accountability survey instrument questions for parents to more clearly define involvement in regards to the level of satisfaction around the parent involvement and school council sections.

That the Alberta School Councils' Association advocate to **Alberta Education** that the parent portion of the Accountability Pillar surveys be available online and by paper and distributed and collected electronically or via mail.

17-03 Coding and computational thinking skills in the Alberta curriculum

That the Alberta School Councils' Association request that **Alberta Education** integrate, and fund, computer coding and computational thinking skills into the Alberta K-12 programs of study curricular outcomes, beginning in elementary school at a grade level determined by experts' recommendations to **Alberta Education**, and continuing through all subsequent grades.

17-04 Support for Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) recognises our shared responsibility to raise the next generation of Albertans in the spirit of reconciliation.

That ASCA support the work that has been done by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) as an important step toward reconciliation, and will endeavour to support the work of implementing the Calls to Action from the TRC report as opportunities arise.

That ASCA work together with **Alberta Education**, and **other partners**, to provide resources and information for parents and school councils who want to inform themselves about the history of residential schools, and the ongoing process of reconciliation.

That ASCA provide regular updates and communication to the membership related to the work of reconciliation.

17-05 Addressing all learning needs

That the Alberta School Councils' Association call on the **Alberta Ministry of Education** to ensure that curriculum documents clearly address the full range of learners in the school system. This should include the development of related resources that address the full range of student learning needs.

17-06 Funding for inclusive education

That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) call on the **Alberta Ministry of Education** to track the usage of existing inclusive education funding that is provided to school jurisdictions as well as actual local expenditures relating to inclusive education, in order to determine the actual costs of supporting all students effectively.

That, should this process determine that the funding provided does not meet the actual costs of supporting all students effectively, ASCA calls on the **Ministry** and **school boards** to work together to ensure that any shortfalls are eliminated.

17-07 District budget consultations with school councils and Councils of school councils

That the Alberta School Councils' Association work with the **Alberta School Boards' Association**, the **Alberta Association of School Business Officials**, and the **Ministry of Education** to develop and implement recommendations for standards and processes to improve the transparency and clarity of district budget consultations where such consultations are undertaken. These should include recommendations of standard formats and content for information provided during budget consultations, and recommended timelines for the consultations.

17-08 Cost neutral carbon levy

That the Alberta School Councils' Association call on the **Government of Alberta** to either:

- exempt school districts from the newly-created carbon levy indefinitely, or
- provide new funding to cover the full costs that school districts will incur due to the carbon levy.

17-09 Publicising behaviour guidelines for persons working on school property while students are present

That **Alberta Education** work together with **Alberta Infrastructure** to ensure that behaviour guidelines for persons working on school infrastructure projects, who are on or around school property, are clear and enforced and that the procedures for reporting inappropriate behaviours are easily accessible to members of the public.

That Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) works with **school boards** to ensure that their behaviour guidelines for persons working on school property while students are present, and the procedures for dealing with complaints about such behaviour, are easy for members of the public (including parents) to find.