

Trustee Report to School Council

February 2022

I am pleased to offer the following update to the School Council:

1. **Bill 58 or Freedom to Care Act:** Bill 58 came into effect on September 1, 2021. Bill 58 is of interest to the Division mainly from the aspect of volunteer coverage. At the January 26, 2022, Public Board Meeting, administration provided an update on Bill 58. The following update is very important for our parent fundraising associations in our schools:
 - a. Volunteers engaging in skimming and other fraud activities will be reported to the police for investigation. The Division has insurance coverage for such issues under the Employee Dishonesty policy, which also covers volunteers.
2. **2021-2022 School Year Plan:** The 21-22 School Year Plan was updated on January 20, 2022, to capture the new CMOH 02-2022 Order. It is on the website. Please review if you have questions about COVID-19 protocols. All schools have now received their rapid tests kits. ÉMPS and FWPS were the last to receive them. FWPS did not receive their test kits and masks until Friday, January 28th, 2022. The government has indicated that the second shipment of 1 test kit (5 tests) and 20 masks (2 per day for 10 days) for each student, teacher, school staff member, bus driver and division staff member was to begin going out the week of January 24th, however, very few if any received them as of February 1, 2022. **NOTE** - for the second shipment of masks, schools will receive adult masks for grade 4 to 6 students instead of pediatric masks.
3. **Draft K-6 Curriculum:** January 20, 2022, update from Minister LaGrange: December 2021, Alberta's government made a commitment to change the draft kindergarten to Grade 6 (K-6) curriculum implementation timeline to make it more manageable for teachers and students. The GoA announced it was establishing the Curriculum Implementation Advisory Group to provide advice and recommendations on the implementation strategy and timelines.

The advisory group will help determine how new curriculums for English Language Arts and Literature, Mathematics, and Physical Education and Wellness will be successfully implemented in September 2022. This includes identifying potential supports that may be needed and options for providing these supports to school authorities. They will also provide advice on the piloting for the remaining K-6 subjects beginning in September 2022 and provide strategies for implementing these subjects beginning in September 2023.



4. **Alberta School Council Association Provincial Conference:** Two of the most important events for parents on a School Council are the ASCA provincial Conference, scheduled on April 22 and 23, 2022 and the Virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM), on April 24, 2022. All members of a School Council are invited to attend these events. An email was sent to all School Council Chairs and Vice Chairs, Principals/Vice Principals and Trustees on January 12, 2022.
5. **New Virtual Public Engagement Sessions on the Draft K-6 Curriculum January 31 – February 28, 2022:** A SchoolMessenger message was sent to all SPS families on January 31, 2022 with the following information:

The following is a message from the Minister of Education, Adriana LaGrange, concerning participation engagement focused on the Draft K-6 curriculum:

From January 31 to February 28, 2022, Albertans can participate in virtual engagement sessions to have their say through focused conversations on the Draft K-6 curriculum. We are providing up to 44 engagement sessions across five regions. While Albertans are encouraged to participate in their region, they have the flexibility to attend any session that works best for them.

During each session, one draft K-6 subject or the draft K-6 Social Studies design blueprint will be considered. The sessions will feature focused, small group conversations facilitated by independent engagement specialists to ensure balanced two-way dialogue. Albertans can sign up for notifications about upcoming engagements and register for sessions at alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say.

This spring, we will carefully consider the feedback from all engagement opportunities, education partners, and classroom piloting. This valuable insight will be used to finalize the Social Studies design blueprint, develop the corresponding draft Social Studies curriculum and further revise all subjects in the draft K-6 curriculum.

