

ASBA wants more public involvement in public education

"The lack of public involvement in publicly funded education is a threat to the health and welfare of an education system governed by locally elected school boards who represent their communities,"



*Heather Welwood, President
Alberta School Boards Association*

To address this gap the ASBA is supporting school boards in their efforts to increase public engagement in education.

The ASBA is asking school boards to consult with their communities about these questions:

- * Are citizens happy with the level of involvement they have?
- * What do you know about your school board?
- * What would you like to know?
- * What barriers prevent you as a citizen from providing input or being better informed.

Input gathered from local school board consultations and research conducted by the ASBA through an online survey and focus groups will serve as the foundation for a summit scheduled for March 13 and 14 in Edmonton aimed at reaching the "forgotten stakeholder" – the non-parent taxpayer.

Go to the ASBA website to find the following resources - tips and strategies in easy to use Powerpoint:

1. Effective Focus Groups – Anne Jacox
2. Public Consultation – Garth Norris
3. Tips and Tools for Planning a Successful Public Engagement – Alberta Community Development Branch
4. Town Hall Meetings That Work – Lethbridge Public and Red Deer Public

www.asba.ab.ca/news_index/public_%20involvement.html

ASBA's Education Summit

Putting the Public Back in Public Education

March 13-14, 2009 – Edmonton – Free Registration

Attendees will address:

Why involve the public in the work of school boards?

What are the barriers to that involvement?

How do trustees reach out to non-parents?

www.asba.ab.ca



BCSTA's Key Work of School Trusteeship



*Connie Denesiuk,
President
BC School Trustees
Association*

The Guide to School Trusteeship in BC, is a publication of the British Columbia School Trustees Association.

This 4th edition of the *Guide* will help trustees improve student achievement through community engagement.

The Key Work concept, which BCSTA introduced in 1998, explains in straightforward terms what it is that school trustees are elected to do.

They are elected to improve student achievement.

They do it by engaging their communities in building and maintaining a school system that reflects local priorities, values and expectations.

They listen to their communities, guide the work of their school district by setting a plan, policy and the annual budget, and report back to the public on the progress being made in improving student achievement.

www.bcsta.org/keyworkHome



CSBA CONGRESS 2009
July 9-11 • Halifax, Nova Scotia

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www.nssba.ednet.ns.ca/new/index.php?cid=23&pid=98