

Joined on October 25, 2011 at 7:57 PM

Moderator (Karla): Welcome to those who have just joined. Let us know if you cannot hear Lisa.

Catherine Feenstra 1: what if we have more than one role? :)

Laurie Henthorne: I'm actually 3 of these! I'm choosing Parent.

Catherine Feenstra 1: I am three of these too!

Moderator (Lisa): OK!

Moderator (Dauna-Rae Wright 1): Hi Tracey - can you please type your question in the chat box?

Tracey Ricard: no sorry must have clicked by mistake

Moderator (Karla): No problem :-)

Moderator (Karla): Bev-Can you hear us?

Moderator (Karla): Pls let us know if you cannot hear.

Shelley Anderson to Karla, Dauna-Rae Wright 1, Chantal Sargent, Wendy, Lisa, Val Olekshy: My audio is running at a different time as the video. I think I will exit out and start over again. Is this a good idea?

Moderator (Karla): You can try it...I'm getting a bit of delay as well. It can be something to do with internet speed.

Bev Dean: I keep losing the connection, also quite staticy on occasion

jacque Berry: Is this information in the resource manual

Moderator (Karla): Yes it is.

Jodi Freeman: How do we get ahold of you?

Moderator (Karla): If you are hearing "pauses" or times when the audio is speeding up--it could be an issue with Internet Bandwidth.

Moderator (Karla): They have contact details on their website: ASCA website:
<http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>

jacque Berry: are others decided by the council or the school

pauline grange: I want to know how to get more parents involved and coming out to council meetings?

Gillian Clarke: i agree with Pauline. That is our issue too.

Moderator (Karla): Good question Pauline--We can ask ppl to share ideas at the end of the session.

michele #2: Jodi, do you mean how do you get a hold of someone from ASCA?

Moderator (Wendy) 780-451-7148 or 1-800-661-3470 or wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca or parents@albertaschoolcouncils.ca

Stacey: us to

Jodi Freeman: yes thank you

Tom Gramson: Most parents don't care!

michele #2: Thanks Wendy!

pauline grange: that's the sad truth

Bev Dean: Would internet bandwidth explain why I keep losing connection?

Catherine Feenstra 1: We have had some great success this year - I'm happy to share - you can email me later or tomorrow if you like! It was a huge issue for us and is helping to be creative and it's working fairly well for us so far!! cfeenstra@csce.net

Alisha: Sometimes parents just don't want to go to the school.

Moderator (Karla): @Bev-Yes it could be. :(

michele #2: 1.800,661.3470 is toll free ASCA

Moderator (Karla): Thanks Catherine--Maybe you could share later in the Webinar??

michele #2: parents@albertaschoolcouncils.ca

Catherine Feenstra 1: I would be happy to - hope I can type fast enough!!

pauline grange: thankyou

Liz: Looking for more details and information regarding Annual Reports and Financial Statements...thanks

michele #2: On the ASCA website home page there is now a discussion forum anyone can join to share your good ideas and practices

Moderator (Karla): Advisory body

Stacey: our school created a society for fundraising

Tom Gramson: Isn't lobbying what this is all about. Principal and School Board?

Jacky: So did ours Stacey.

Moderator (Karla): @ Liz-There is more info in the Resource Manual. But also contact ASCA for info.

michele #2: yes h=that's what many do -- create the fundraising society then the council can focus on advisory role

Alisha: There is a difference between lobbying and advising.

Tom Gramson: oh

Liz: Thank you.

michele #2: some councils do go to bat for their school, but primarily the role is advising

michele #2: advising the school board as well as the principal

Leona Vachon: Does the fundraising society have to submit an annual report to the school board?

Stacey: our doesnt

Stacey: our money is totally separate

michele #2: no the fundraising society submits to Corporate Registries, but not the school board

Moderator (Karla): Thanks for sharing Stacey

Stacey: they can't tell us how or where to spend it

Alisha: I have been in councils with fundraising societies and without. We used a fundraising society when we did lotteries.

Moderator (Karla): Look for Webcasts/Tutorials on <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>

Moderator (Karla): Hi Marilyn-Can you hear us?

michele #2: good to see you on Marilyn...

Marilyn Welsch #4: I can hear till I type...it seems...

Marilyn Welsch #4: thanks

Dayna Tilleman: how do we flag the handouts?

michele #2: Dayna, I think flag means just have a look at them

Moderator (Karla): Wiki link: <http://erlc.wikispaces.com/ASCA+Webinar>

Dayna Tilleman: Thanks Michele #2

Dayna Tilleman: Thanks

Moderator (Karla): How do you share info at your schools?

Gillian Clarke: Schoolzone

Moderator (Karla): :-)

Rubina: emails

Tammy Burgardt: one of my daughter's schools has a Facebook page for this, it is awesome!

michele #2: email list for distribution

Leona Vachon: Facebook School Council Group Page

Tom Gramson: Use the schools call out system

Jodi Freeman: What is schoolzone?

Moderator (Karla): Thanks. There's a great debate about using FB.

michele #2: ASCA school council group pages

Tom Gramson: Our school has a automated call out system

sandra 1: weekly newsletter that goes out in mail to community

Moderator (Karla): Thanks Michelle.

Alisha: Tom that works for us too.

Tammy Burgardt: what is school zone?

Alisha: FB question, is it legally allowed?

Alisha: Due to privacy our principal said no.

Tammy Burgardt: ours is private, you have to be approved to be on the page

michele #2: Edmonton Public's school zone is an on-line tool

lori hodes: we r looking into getting a page in the newspaper with the 2 other schools

steve: hard copy home every 3 months , facebook, & callout

Veronica: FB is not entirely allowed with the CBE

Gillian Schaefer Percy: as well as FB we also have communication books that go home in students back pack each day.

Gillian Clarke: SchoolZone is used by many Edmonton public schools to convey information school news in general and very specific information about your own child's experience.

Tom Gramson: Teenagers dont bring newsletters home in our experience.

michele #2: lots of great ideas!

Jodi Freeman: we are attending the Parent teacher interviews and talking to the parents coming into the school that night

Moderator (Karla): WEIcome back Bev.

Moderator (Karla): Yes, using PT interview night is a great way.

Tom Gramson: Good luck LOL!

Bev Dean #2: Thank you, computer froze up and went nonresponsive, ended up having to close and reenter

michele #2: check out the ASCA homepage discussion forum for Ecole Broxton's "roving" school council idea.

Moderator (Karla): Yikes...hate it when that happens. You can watch the recording to see the part you missed.

Martin: enhance support student learning

Jodi Freeman: advise the school

pauline grange: to inform parents

laurie olsen: supporting and enhancing student learning

michele #2: supporting school improvements and student success through advising the principal and teh board

Stacey: support students

Tammy Burgardt: bring parents thoughts and feelings to the school

lori hodes: advisory rollhelp the students

Alisha: We focus on how to make our school a better place to learn and better for students

Laurie Henthorne: Enhancing learning in our schools by involving parents and other community members

Veronica: advising principal and informing parents of their role

Moderator (Wendy): good answer, Martin

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary: to create community

sheilagilmour: support students

Dale Hazelwood: assist and advice the school

Carol: support and advise

Catherine Feenstra 1: To ensure that the principals have parent input and that parents are well informed
- all working together to make the school better for all involved

Tom Gramson: lobby the school board for the school

Samantha Guss: To build and enhance our school and its community

Gillian Schaefer Percy: create and maintain culture

Laurie Heather: supporting and enhancing student learning

Rubina: advisory

J Brown: connect the school community

Karen Tetrault: support the staff, enhance educational experience for students, voice for parents

Karen Swaenepoe: make school a positive experience for all kids

michele #2: wow!

sandra 1: working together - parent, school,community

Marilyn Welsch #4: all good answers

Moderator (Wendy): Excellent responses, folks!

Ed: be supportive of the school and meet the needs of the students

Pauline: provide input to budget, support school goals and plans

Patricia Tolppanen: be the link between parents and admin to support student learning

Joyce Donald: advise principal and board

Marcella DeMars- Mary Hanley School: working together with school and parents

darcy.ludwig: assisting the school in research for documents ect that they do not have time to do

Monica Polutranko: parents, community, learning

Re 1st Case Study:

michele #2: issue is student safety

michele #2: traffic problems

Martin: This is not for school council

Pauline: This is a good case study - we have this problem - maybe not the same suggestion for solution but definitely the same problem

pauline grange: safty is the issue

Leona Vachon: Real Issue: to promote a safe environment for the children.

Tom Gramson: Sounds like a bylaw enforcement issue?

Carol: issue may be safety and or availability

Alisha: The issue is how improve safety. Also how to provide safe parking for parents to access school.

Laurie Henthorne: Issue is safety and community integration

Leona Vachon: But not to police

Rochelle: We have this problem too - safety is the issue

Catherine Feenstra 1: We have this problem too - safety is of paramount concern

Stacey: safety

sandra 1: safety and traffic violation

Shelley Anderson #2: Child safety

Veronica Gortva: bi-law is an issue

Tom Gramson: I know we have lobbied town council in dealing with traffic issues at our school.

Rubina: real issue is the safety

Veronica: safety, communication and community

Kara Aitkin: communication with parents about rules about parking.

michele #2: definitely student safety and wellbeing

mikeb: education of parents regarding safety policy

Leona Vachon: Informing parents

pauline grange: also at lakeland, a big issue!

darcy.ludwig: the issue is promoting safety not enforcement

Catherine Feenstra 1: parents taking responsibility for their students and others

Dianne: communication about the bylaw

Julee: Student safety

lori hodes: safety

Marcella DeMars- Mary Hanley School: communicating effectively

steve: road rage

Joyce Donald: INforming parents re the problem at hand and that safety is a concern

Veronica Gortva: communicate

Rubina: communicate with parents

Catherine Feenstra 1: Communication in a large number of ways

Liz: Safety Posters designed by kids

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary: build a parking lot!

Karen Tetrault: we invited the bylaw officer in to outline his ideas

michele #2: raise awareness within the school and broader community

Veronica: school newsletter article explaining traffic signs

Jaime Keenan: clearer signage

Veronica Gortva: inform parents of issue and provide solution

Catherine Feenstra 1: redesign the parking "flow"

pauline grange: the parking lot and drop off zone should of just been build bigger

jacque Berry: pilons to help indicate no pass lines during bus loading and unloading

Laurie Henthorne: Clarify school's current policy to parents, town's current policy, too

Tom Gramson: Discussed the issue and came to a consensus on the issue as a council.

darcy.ludwig: guest speakers - police and bylaw. adds by police in newsletter

Carol: thank those who cooperate -

michele #2: brainstorm several options

Tammy Burgardt: we actually had the RCMP at our school many days before and after school

Connie: sent newsletters home with children reminding the parents of safety

Patricia Tolppanen: identify key values in common, collect information needed and brainstorm ideas with wider audience

Marcella DeMars- Mary Hanley School: communicating to parents, letters, even have the kids aware of laws for parking

Kara Aitkin: Communicate and give parents warning notices. prior to by law ticket.

Shirley v: Ask Principal to explain traffic and parking policies at school

Rubina: safety patrol program

Dianne: Traffic Safety Posters created by the school

Ed: safe zones for students

Shelley Anderson #2: Communicate through newsletter

Samantha Guss: We had City police come and stand outside to reinforce the expected standards

steve: ama safety patrol records license # then send a parent home a note

Veronica: Calgary Parking Authority provides brochures and then park out front of school

michele #2: work wtih municipality to look at options

Donna Hunter: Grade 6 students working the crosswalks

Shelley Anderson #2: Address issue at assemblies

Laurie Heather: have tried a lot of these processes but unfortunately it helps with the issue but doesn't permanently resolve it.

Jodi Freeman: in our experience the newsletter doesn't work

Katherine Berard: I think we really need to focus on teaching CHILDREN how to stay safe as well.

Tom Gramson: We sent a letter to the town paper and town council on behalf of school council.

laurie olsen: communicating at school is great but the parents are the drivers and they aren't at school

Tammy Burgardt: scary having the kids out there.... maning the roads

Paula ZoBell: no question

Alisha: To keep parents out of the teachers parking lots we put up the orange pylons (sp?!?)

laurie olsen: our parents drove over the cones...

Tammy Burgardt: yep saw MANY drive over the cones

Re: 2nd Case Study

Shelley Anderson #2: Many demands, few resources.

michele #2: issue is fund allocation -- biggest bang for the buck

Pauline: Hmm - I tell my parents that we aren't employers - we can advise the school on the issue, but not hire staff.

Alisha: How to use school funding

Stacey: funding from prov govt

Jaime Keenan: fund allocation

Kara Aitkin: fund allocation and school plans

Moderator (Wendy): but can't the parent association hire tutors if they want to?

Megan: How to best spend available funds

Leona Vachon: Funds cannot go towards any operational or wage expenses. How can funds be used to benefit the whole school community?

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary: what is a Parent Association; how is it different from a School council?

Patricia Tolppanen: how best to support student learning with extra resources

Rubina: lack of resources in different areas

Karen Tetrault: giving input into use of funds

Tom Gramson: Fund raising money cannot support staff as far as I know?

Catherine Feenstra 1: Need to determine who "owns" the \$ and then is the ultimate decision maker - the School Council would be in an advisory role only

sandra 1: not enough \$\$ and too many places for it to go

Dayna Tilleman: we aren't supposed to fundraiser for basics

Veronica Gortva: allocation of funds

Monica Polutranko: best use of school funding

mikeb: setting priorities for \$\$

Laurie Henthorne: jurisdiction of funds: what is the school division required to provide, what is the council allowed to provide

Veronica: \$ are a problem, but communication of 3 year plan needs to be addressed to SC

Ed: Linking school 3 year plan and fund allocation

michele #2: funds to make the best of student opps -- how to allocate

Carol: issue is how to best benefit entire school

Shirley v: Our school asked Principal for school wish list and tried to spread the wealth around the different groups represented

Moderator (Wendy): do all of these areas help to support student achievement?

Laurie Henthorne: whose priorities are valid?

Rubina: fund allocation and to prioritize the lack of resources

Alisha: We also do a school wish list.

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary: okay; got it now!

Joyce Donald: Prioritize student learning needs.

Tom Gramson: We can only buy stuff not people.

Laurie Heather: prioritize fund allocation is collaboration with the school admin

Katherine Berard: Where and what to spend the money. What is the most important to benefit the WHOLE school

Alisha: Then we vote on how to allocate the funds.

Dianne: identify urgent needs

Tom Gramson: meant buy stuff

Catherine Feenstra 1: Our Parent Council is separate and has separate finances - we collect info from Teachers and then advice from Administration, then Parent Council makes final decision

Marcella DeMars- Mary Hanley School: priority of fund allocation, when and where....

lori hodes: talk to the teachers and find out what would best be used to benefit the students the most

Alisha: We also determine of fundraising needs from this wishlist.

Ed: wants versus needs?

michele #2: science is only one area == probably many many needs that should be investigated

Tammy Burgardt: we did the wish list by the principal was good

lynn gaydosh: at what point are we taking over the board and gov't responsibility to allocate funds, we are here to enhance not take over their job

Veronica Gortva: need to obtain cost estimates to assist in making a decision on where to allocate

Moderator (Wendy): isn't our role to help support student achievement?

Rubina: where the most need is to maximize the benefit

michele #2: indeed it is!

Pauline Grange: but the student "needs" should come from our tax dollars, wants are separate.

Marilyn Welsch #4: what if you don't want to fundraise at all

Pauline: Yes Wendy, but we find many times our hands are tied with respect to \$\$\$

Kara Aitkin: Establishing a prioritized list for funds.

Alisha: This is also an amazing opportunity to involve more parents if you inform them that it will be discussed next meeting.

Shelley Anderson #2: not overstepping mandate of school council

Moderator (Wendy): excellent point, @Alisha!

Marilyn Welsch #4: the best use of parent power is not for fundraising...that isn't School council work

Dayna Tilleman: can't we figure out a way to double our money thru grants etc?

Ed: As a chair newby, overstepping mandate of council was a concern.

Kara Aitkin: Nice thinking Dayna

Tom Gramson: so true dayna

michele #2: consult with principal as to needs and nice to have

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary: council should vote on how to spend the \$\$

Moderator (Wendy): correct, marilyn, but in this case, the Parent Association is asking guidance for spending from the school council

Laurie Henthorne: Have Principal clarify what fundraising \$\$ can be used for

Stacey: wish listes

Veronica Gortva: are there grants available?

Connie: wish list

Megan: develop wish list and have the parents of the school vote

Marilyn Welsch #4: sorry, missed that

michele #2: survey parents and teachers wtih priority list

Leona Vachon: Ask all the teachers what they think the priorities for the funds should be.

Catherine Feenstra 1: collect the wishes and analyze them based on other info from Admin

Rubina: identify the need by consulting the students, teachers and the principal

Gillian Schaefer Percy: please define personality in this. I see the issue but am not clear about your definition of personality

laurie olsen: principal asked for wishlists from staff and advised Parent Council

Alisha: we applied for grants, but they do not always come through

Tammy Burgardt: Principal made the list after talking to all staff and then he brought the costs to us as a council, where we decided what to spend on.....

mikeb: have teachers prioritize their needs- then see if they can be supported under bylaws

Pauline: While we can't hire tutors, we have a lot of parents who are willing to come in and help

Veronica: wish lists by consulting with principals and teachers

Tom Gramson: Refer to school education plan, for priorities

Marilyn Welsch #4: use the school plan and try to fill those needs

Carol: wish lists and other funding possibilities

Karen Swaenepoe: We asked the principal for a wish list then decided as a council what was the best use for the funds

Gillian Schaefer Percy: define personality

Kara Aitkin: Have principal get a detailed list from teachers with \$\$.

michele #2: look at school's 3 yr plan priorities to align spending

Alisha: Pauline, we are planning to do that this year. We are planning to come every tuesday morning for extra help.

Dayna Tilleman: Help the parent find an tutor herself

Moderator (Wendy): Nice suggestion, Dayna

Laurie Heather: yes, you need to look at the needs of all the students not just a few

Laurie Henthorne: sometimes a parent has an agenda that revolves around a particular issue, and won't let that issue go. That doesn't mean the issue is irrelevant, but the issue must be the focus of the group.

Tom Gramson: obviously paying for tutors with fund raising money is not going to happen.

Tammy Burgardt: offer older students to help tutor...

lori hodes: have the teachers and or the principal talk to parents and have the parents help make choices

steve: we ask for a list from admin and staff, as for the greatest needs. then table till next meeting if there are parents that want input.

Moderator (Wendy): @Tammy - great idea!

Dayna Tilleman: Depending on the age of the child they may have no idea how to help them\

Tom Gramson: School council usually have input into these plans.

Alisha: Laurie at times like that, we suggest to the parent that they should discuss it with the teacher.

Jodi Freeman: we created a budget committee that decided how to spend our money this year and we stick to this budget.

michele #2: sch council should have input into 3 yr plan and help develop strategies to assist with plan goals

Moderator (Wendy): Good sharing, Alisha and Laurie!

Veronica: I'm going to request to see that plan!

Tammy Burgardt: we are new to two schools this year and I am feeling Very "this is how it is" at one of my girls schools..... they say they need more help, more help, but don't offer any areas for new parents to get in.....

Marilyn Welsch #4: you should help write it Veronica

Marilyn Welsch #4: help

Pauline: Our principal is new and doesn't want to share his plan - so we didn't get to see if even if we asked

Laurie Henthorne: How do you head off someone who is emotionally tied to an issue, and won't let it go?

michele #2: we can help with strategies for that Laurie

michele #2: call ASCA

Moderator (Wendy): Laurie, give me a call or email tomorrow, and we can discuss the details

Veronica: We've never been encouraged to participate in the plan - I've read past 7 years.

Marilyn Welsch #4: A board has to offer opportunity for the SC to help with writing and carrying out the plan

Moderator (Karla): That's a tricky one Laurie. Thanks Wendy.

Tom Gramson: I know in the school I have chaired we had input into them at least two to three times a year.

michele #2: school council regulations say school council MUST see plan and have input

Veronica: Thanks Marilyn, I will definitely look into it.

Tom Gramson: very true

Tom Gramson: true

Pauline: Doesn't mean that the principal is agreeing

michele #2: principal has a responsibility to share -- we will change the world one step at a time!

Marilyn Welsch #4: one school at a time

Moderator (Karla): @Michelle-you go girl!

michele #2: right!

Tom Gramson: That's where talking to your trustee can help.

Moderator (Karla): Thanks, Tom

Alisha: Trustees are great resources!

michele #2: absolutely

Moderator (Wendy): @Tom - you are right!

Veronica: Every principal and every change in principal requires a lot of relationship building

Joyce Donald: We have an awesome trustee

Marilyn Welsch #4: yes, it takes two to tango though

Tom Gramson: absolutely

michele #2: relationships are key to productive effective school councils

Tammy Burgardt: agreed michele #2

Pauline: Yes Veronica - we are having a lot of difficulty with our principall - appears that he has different goals than the parents

Mike Mountain Horse Elementary: r u kidding?

Shelley Anderson #2: Absolutely - having it with myself right now.

Pauline: no - lost a really good principal of 5 years who let us have input and great relationship and now it's not comfortable

Marilyn Welsch #4: what does the board say about the parents and the principal not having the same goals for the kids

Tom Gramson: A trustee or division superentendant can help to bridge the gap

Patricia Tolppanen: would love to have a template for an annual review process

Joyce Donald: Love the picture

Jodi Freeman: lol

Moderator (Wendy): @Tom, I like the way you think!

michele #2: the guy in the ropes is the principal!

Shelley Anderson #2: Cookies help.

Alisha: :)

Moderator (Wendy): LOL Michele#2

Marilyn Welsch #4: lol Michele

Patricia Tolppanen: i think the reason people are reluctant to participate is that they do not feel they are accomplishing anything of importance - no power

Pauline: Agree Patricia

Naomi Stanford: True!

Alisha: We change the location of meetings

Moderator (Wendy): very possible, Patricia

Alisha: Sometimes we go out for dinner

Jodi Freeman: I think people just don't feel comfortable

Tammy Burgardt: your also not always welcome to become part of

Alisha: Sometimes we do Sharing Circles through the FNMI community

Dayna Tilleman: agree but allof our friends know I am on so if there is any issue they will hear it from me

michele #2: how do we make them feel welcome? create the right environment

Marilyn Welsch #4: is there too much pressure to provide funds for the school?

Alisha: We bring in guest speakers on hot topics

Veronica: Language barriers in our community are a problem. 30 different languages spoke by parents in our school.

Gillian Schaefer Percy: many are afraid of committing to too much

Nina Escoto: I think people feel the work is getting done anyway so why should they bother? They're ambivalent

michele #2: or busy

Alisha: We inform the parents of what we will be discussing.

Moderator (Karla): We can address how ppl are getting more involved in School Council near the end of the webinar :)

darcy.ludwig: i tell those who have not been involed that it is one way to find out wht is going on in the school since the kids stop talking to their parents (other than grunts) especially when they get older

Alisha: On some school councils we change the times of the meetings. 1/2 the meetings are at 3:30pm and 1/2 are at 7pm

Marilyn Welsch #4: if the work is getting donw, ask people to bring a buddy to share the work with.

Julee: Our chairperson had a great idea this year and we now have a door prize each meeting (movie tickets) ...she's a great chair :)

lori hodes: I find if their is a problem we seem to get lots of people out but when things r going good they seem to disapear

Veronica: I like the door prize idea!

Alisha: We also involve the students to discuss ideas they have for the school.

Jodi Freeman: we have a babysitter

laurie olsen: for our highschool, finding out what's going on is key to attending

Tammy Burgardt: we do prizes too.....\$\$ toward kids uniforms!

Laurie Henthorne: It's true - controversy gets people out - but I'm going to buy some movie tickets

darcy.ludwig: i tried the door prize, didn't work - only when there was an issue did we have lots of people

Marilyn Welsch #4: maybe a theatre will donate

Veronica: Looking for ideas for issues - ie IPP presentations

Moderator (Karla): ASCA website: <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>

Alisha: WE are also discussing volunteering in the community in our school to increase community/school relationship.

Alisha: It is bringing more people out to council./

Veronica: Volunteering is a huge problem now.

Tom Gramson: Tell us about it.

Marilyn Welsch #4: grea idea Alisha

Alisha: Me?

Marilyn Welsch #4: yes, volunteering or being out in your local community

Alisha: We are discussing ways to involve the students in the community in volunteering the neighbourhoods.

Tammy Burgardt: i love that! Get the kids into the community!

Alisha: We are planning to shovel the walks around the community once a year, providing goodies made in home ec.

Veronica: Kids teaching the parents!

Alisha: Cleaning up the neighbourhood once a year.

Tammy Burgardt: awesome! LOVE IT!

Alisha: Thanking all the organizations that help our school once a year at Christmas through cards.

Veronica: Building communities is what we are really talking about.

michele #2: great ideas

Alisha: I am in a French Immersion, Late French Immersion and English blended school.

Alisha: The main idea is to unite the students, minimize bullying, and unite the community

Veronica: I attend the Community Assoc. Mtgs now to discuss our schools and encourage collaboration.

Alisha: That is a great idea too.

Alisha: Have they given you any ideas Veronica?

Kara Aitkin: one of our classes regularly goes to the seniors center to have milk and cookies and discuss topics relevant to curriculum i.e. reading, history

Veronica: We try to participate in the events they hold each year. I think it is a slow process, but it will be good in the end.

Marilyn Welsch #4: I was dropped twice

Marilyn Welsch #4: must be the rural connection

Moderator (Karla): It could be...This link will help configure your java: <http://bit.ly/f3MJBZ>

Alisha: Thank you so much for this session. The information was very helpful.

Marilyn Welsch #4: I should do that later though.

Veronica: Our Community Assoc. wants to reduce graffiti by doing a mural on the community building, I hope our school will participate.

Kara Aitkin: We just did a mosaic mural for our 100th anniversary and each student got to participate.

Naomi Stanford: Is there a good website to find out how to do mosaic murals Kara?

Veronica: That is fantastic Kara!

Kara Aitkin: We got an artist in residence.

Moderator (Karla): Annual Report template in Resource manual.

Veronica: CBE has their own format for Annual Report.

michele #2: yes, always good to check with the schol board first

michele #2: school board

Liz: Is there an accounting software that would be suggested to use for a newbie treasurer to meet the needs of an annual report?

Moderator (Karla): @Marilyn--so sorry you're having issues. It may just be the satellite connection tonight. :(

Moderator (Karla): Any suggestions for Liz?

Marilyn Welsch #4: It could be...no prob

michele #2: we don't recommend software for accounting but some other might have good ideas around that

Marilyn Welsch #4: I would check with what they use in the district of the school

Veronica: All depends on what software she can use. Excel is good enough.

Moderator (Karla): Good idea, Marilyn

Moderator (Karla): Thanks Veronica

Tom Gramson: What about FOIP

michele #2: school councils fall under PIPA legislation -- check the School Council Resource Manual for more info

Marilyn Welsch #4: good timing Tom

Moderator (Karla): Thanks Wendy

Marilyn Welsch #4: I can't see the work on the website that Wendy is going through

Marilyn Welsch #4: screen is too slow

Moderator (Lisa): Maybe you are too fast? :)

Marilyn Welsch #4: hahaha

Moderator (Karla): @Marilyn-That is an issue with internet connection.

Marilyn Welsch #4: yes

Veronica: form is great, but for ELL parents it is too complicated

Marilyn Welsch #4: But there are rural parents with worse internet connection that I have

Moderator (Lisa): You have about 5 minutes...

Veronica: Yes please!

Marilyn Welsch #4: or the same

Moderator (Karla): @Marilyn-The tech gods are not shining favourably tonight!

Tammy Burgardt: this website looks awesome!

Moderator (Karla): It is!

Marilyn Welsch #4: yes, you're right...but it is a clear night...would be worse in the snow

michele #2: Its definitely a focus for ASCA now -- how to engage non English speaking parents, or those who for whatever reason are not comfortable in the school setting

Melonie Tam: Where do we go to join a school council on the website?

Moderator (Karla): @Marilyn- So true

Laurie Henthorne: @Wendy - contact info on website?

Moderator (Karla): Your school will already be on the website. You just need to find it.

Tammy Burgardt: can't wait to get on it!

Melonie Tam: Where do we find the school on the website?

michele #2: Contact Wendy at 780.451.7148 for detailed info on website

Moderator (Lisa): Highlight how to book a workshop, pls, o rdid you?

michele #2: you can search for your school council in the search box

Alisha: I could not find our school on the list of schools.

Moderator (Lisa): What's the name?

Alisha: OK thanks.

Melonie Tam: thanks

michele #2: don\t hesitate to give us a call!

Alisha: Does it have a chat function?

Jodi Freeman: do you come to northern Alberta?

Moderator (Lisa): Yes, we travel!

michele #2: We are here to serve you

Moderator (Karla): Yes, there is a discussion forum

Marilyn Welsch #4: we go anywhere

michele #2: and everywhere

Marilyn Welsch #4: anytime

Tom Gramson: Is there going to be more webinar stuff coming out?

michele #2: any place

Alisha: This provides a way to share info with even more parents. Thank you.

Jodi Freeman: cool might have to look into that

Marilyn Welsch #4: this is the first webinar, right?

Alisha: 2nd

michele #2: thanks for the demo Wendy

Leona Vachon: Bring a friend to council night.

Alisha: Babysitting

Moderator (Wendy): @Tom - yes, we will be developing more webinars if we find that people are wanting them!

Alisha: Changing council times

Katherine Berard: Coffe and food :)

Alisha: Changing wed, tues, thurs

Veronica Gortva: the annual report is news to me... it's possible the secretary handles this but would the school hear from you if an annual report was not delivered to you?

Alisha: Share with parents what will be discussed

Catherine Feenstra 1: We have added a "Fellowship Focus" to the beginning of the meetings where we personally invite certain grade levels and their kids to socialize before hand, also adding speakers and a relevant to that grade level agenda topic guaranteed

steve: recruit the kindergarden parents

Shelley Anderson #2: We moved ours to lunchtime and we have more participants.

Rochelle: I understand joining as a member of the ASCAis free this year - what are the benefits of joining?

Laurie Henthorne: Webinars are a great format for this kind of info

Catherine Feenstra 1: And babysitting!!

Alisha: Change meeting formats, we have sharing circles, speakers, change location (we go to boston pizza once or twice a year.)

Marilyn Welsch #4: all services are available for members Rochelle...instructors will come to your school

Tammy Burgardt: i find the babysitting to be a huge distraction

Moderator (Wendy): @Rochelle - personalized on-site services that are specific to your school council, delivered at no cost!

Catherine Feenstra 1: Our parents wanted to have time to meet each other and have community building activities so we combined - we have also done a TON of intentional communication in a large variety of ways

Kara Aitkin: We are thinking about having class reps for each class, does anyone have any experience with that?

Veronica: Webinar is fantastic. I hope you do another.

Alisha: Catherine that sounds like a great idea.

Jodi Freeman: how do you find babysitting a distraction

Alisha: We also involve the students in council.

Stacey: Kara we do, and they dont come

Tammy Burgardt: class reps is great!

Tom Gramson: Lobbying the provincial government on behalf of all councils.

Rubina: this session has been really useful,thanks

lori hodes: thank u catherine those sound great

Alisha: To provide input about upcoming events.

michele #2: I don't have a mic but everything you've said is right on

Stacey: they are great for making calls and such but dont come to the meetingsd

Catherine Feenstra 1: Happy to share more details if you like cfeenstra@csce.net - there are more pieces, but I'm going fast!!

Marilyn Welsch #4: good work wendy, Lisa everyone

Tammy Burgardt: babysitters coming into the meeting to call parents out..... things like that.....

Veronica Gortva: Kara, we just got rid of clas reps because teachers did not use them and they didn't attend meetings

michele #2: we are looking at more webinars andwill be asking for your input into topics

Alisha: Michele that would be great.

Stacey: Class reps work great in our school we recommend they come but they dont

michele #2: don't forget to check out the discussion forum and post your good ideas....on the home page of the ASCA website

Jodi Freeman: oh we have great babysitters and this doesn't happen it has really helped get parents to meeting

Bev Dean #2: we have on Teacher come to our meetings as the School rep, along with our Principal,

Rochelle: Thank you I will pass that on to the other parents - hopefully it sparks some interest!

michele #2: check out others' great ideas

Dayna Tilleman: Have you ever thought of having the conference not in Edmonton?

michele #2: thank you Wendy

Catherine Feenstra 1: Class reps are sporadic for us over the years and the teachers are sometimes unsure how to use them on a daily basis...

Moderator (Wendy): My pleasure, :-)

Kara Aitkin: Thanks Stacey, Veronica and Tom

michele #2: we have thought of the conference in other locations...stay tuned!

Veronica Gortva: usually teachers go straight to principal rather than use class rep

Stacey: This was awesome Thank you:)

Shirley v to Karla, Dauna-Rae Wright 1, Wendy, Lisa, Val Olekshy: Will our \$40 Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils membership also buy us a ASCA membership this year?

Marilyn Welsch #4: thanks Lisa

lori hodes: awesome thank u

Shelley Anderson #2: Terrific!

jacque Berry: Did this webinar information go out to all schools or only to those that are members?

sonia rovang: great job ladies

Catherine Feenstra 1: We have some great venues in Calgary :) and we'd be happy to help out with putting things together!

michele #2: Thanks to all of you for great participation

Laurie Henthorne: Thanks very much, moderators!

Tammy Burgardt: this was great, thank you!

Stacey: The north would be good to. Im in Grande Prairie

Dayna Tilleman: Thanks everyone!!!!

Moderator (Karla): You can watch this back. The link wil be available from <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca> and <http://erlc.wikispaces.com/ASCA+Webinar>

Moderator (Wendy): Shirley - CBE has agreed to free membership for all of their schools this year....so you're in, thanks to your board!

Jodi Freeman: yes grande prairie would be good i'm in Peace River

Dianne: will you be able to email us the link from tonight?

Bev Dean #2: Beaverlodge here, so Grande Prairie would be wonderful

Alisha: Press shift A and copy and past.

Alisha: paste.

Stacey: We always take proxy votes to the AGm nout of all GPCSD schools

Dianne: thanks

Tom Gramson: Grande Prairie is halfway

Kara Aitkin: Thanks this was great.

Moderator (Wendy): Thanks, Karla and Lisa!

laurie olsen: excellent job ladies!

Marcella DeMars- Mary Hanley School: Thank you.

Stacey: Ecole St Gerard Thank you:)

michele #2: awesome job everyone!

Veronica: thanks to all for an interesting evening

Julee: Thank you :)

Shirley v to Karla, Dauna-Rae Wright 1, Wendy, Lisa, Val Olekshy: I did, thanks. I will be recommending we host a workshop, etc.