

WESTWIND

# COUNCIL CONNECTION

## UPDATES FOR SCHOOL COUNCILS



Westwind School Division recognizes that good schools become better schools when they are strongly connected with parents as part of the learning community. Participation in school council can unite students, parents, schools and communities with a common purpose and make our schools increasingly rich and positive places to teach, learn, and grow.

### Contact |

Westwind School Division Communications  
e | [wsd.pr@westwind.ab.ca](mailto:wsd.pr@westwind.ab.ca)  
t | 403-634-8728  
Feel free to contact us with any suggestions or comments.

### Quick links |

[School councils](#)  
[Board of Trustees](#)  
[Alberta Education School Council Resource Manual](#)



## School Council Meetings

For any school year, **the first meeting of the school council must be held within 40 days after the start of the school year or as specified in the bylaws of the school council** (School Councils Regulation). As per [AP110](#), at the first meeting, each Principal shall ensure that the incoming School Council executive has a current updated version of the Alberta School Council Resource Manual and shall review annually with the School Council:

- Alberta School Council Resource Manual;
- [Administrative Procedure 110 – School Councils](#);
- School policies (local);
- School Council bylaws (local);
- The school's combined Three-Year Education Plan/Annual Education Results Report (AERR).

## Update Your School Council Info

When you have established your school council for 2022-2023, please send the updated School Council contact information to [rebecca.bultsma@westwind.ab.ca](mailto:rebecca.bultsma@westwind.ab.ca). Please include the following information for your Chair, Co-Chair/Vice Chair and Key Communicator/Secretary.

- **First and last name**
- **School council title/role**
- **Name of school**
- **Email address**
- **Phone number**

Even if your school council executive is not changing for the 2021-22 school year, we would appreciate a confirmation of the contact information. Thank you.

## Upcoming Division School Council Meeting

The first Division School Council meeting of 2022/23 will take place on **October 4 at 9 am at Central Office**. You should have already received a Google Calendar invitation, and the agenda will be coming in the next few weeks.

**There will be a few changes to the DSCM this year, including the establishment of a chair of the Division School Council from among the school council chairs. The DSC Chair The Chair, in cooperation with the Superintendent and Communications Officer, shall establish meeting agendas. Nominations for chair will be accepted at the meeting.**

Dates for future DSCM meetings will be determined at the first meeting.

## REMINDER: Year-End Reports

Under the Education Act, school councils are responsible for submitting an annual report to the Board of Trustees. This report helps the Board of Trustees measure and be accountable for parent and community involvement. The school council chair is responsible for submitting the report to the Board of Trustees. If you have not yet submitted your 2021-22 year-end report to Rebecca, please do so as soon as possible.

[Download and Print](#)  
[Fill out online](#)

## ASCA Membership

The Board of Trustees will pay the cost of Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) memberships for WSD school councils. ASCA provides valuable support and services to school councils across the province. To learn more about ASCA, please [visit their website](#).

## Alberta School Council Engagement Grant

Alberta Education now provides approximately \$1 million directly to school councils through the Alberta School Council Engagement (ASCE) Grant to enhance collaboration between parents and schools on education priorities. This grant gives each school council in the province \$500 per year under the new direct funding approach.

[Learn more](#)

Activities that grant funds can be used for include ASCA learning opportunities such as workshops and customized services for parents to increase capacity for school council members.

[Learn more](#)

## Concussion Awareness

Westwind School Division is committed to the health, safety and overall well-being of its students and staff. [Administrative Procedure 314: Concussions](#) in our AP handbook guides our processes surrounding concussions, supported by several concussion resources. These resources, available in the document and the Athletics section of our website, support our Westwind families and staff in preventing, identifying and managing concussions.

We strongly encourage our Westwind families to review the parent responsibilities outlined in Administrative Procedure 314: Concussions and the resources provided. If you have any questions, please get in touch with your school.

## National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Government of Canada has proclaimed Sept. 30 as the [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#). The intention of the day is to recognize and honour residential school survivors, their families and communities. It will also ensure that public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

**For the 2022-23 school year, there will be no school on Friday, Sept. 30 to commemorate truth and reconciliation across the Division.**

The Division asks that all schools recognize [Truth and Reconciliation Week](#) from Sept. 27 to Oct. 1, 2021. This week will also continue the conversations of [Every Child Matters](#) and [Orange Shirt Day](#) with students while learning about the history and legacy of residential schools.

## Website Updates

The Parent section of the WWSO website has been updated to include a [School Council](#) section, which has links to resources you may find useful.

## World Teacher Day

October 5 is World Teacher Day. School Councils may wish to organize something to recognize and thank teachers in the school.

## Student Insurance Coverage

Did you know that Westwind School Division has a school premises insurance policy that covers your child during school hours and on school activities? There are also policies available if you want to purchase additional insurance coverage for your child during extracurricular events, travel, activities, or after-school hours. To learn more, please [CLICK HERE](#) and click on the 'Student Insurance' heading.

## Reminder: Be A Good Fan

As we kick off another year of Westwind athletics, keep in mind that good sportsmanship doesn't end at the edge of the field or court; it continues into the bleachers too! Please take a moment to review our Westwind Athletics Spectator Code of Conduct and look for it hanging in every gymnasium.

The graphic features a blue background with white and yellow text. At the top left is the logo for #TeamWestwind with the website westwind.ab.ca. To the right, the title 'Westwind Athletics: Spectator Code of Conduct' is displayed in a stylized font. Below the title, several lines of text provide guidelines for spectators, emphasizing good sportsmanship, respect for officials, and enjoyment of the event.

**Westwind Athletics:**  
**Spectator Code of Conduct**

*Good sportsmanship is an expectation of all.  
Remember that this is a game and these are kids.  
All participants; players, coaches, and spectators alike, deserve respect, courtesy and consideration.  
Respect the officials and their decisions. They provide an essential service.  
Applaud all outstanding performances, enjoy the event, and help others do the same.*

## Upcoming Dates

**September 5:** Labour Day (STAT)  
**September 8:** International Literacy Day  
**September 19:** School PD Day  
**Week of September 19:** National Coaches Week (ASAA)  
**September 20:** National IT Professionals Day  
**September 22:** Board Meeting  
**September 30:** National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No School)

**October 2:** School Custodian Appreciation Day  
**October 5:** World Teacher Day  
**October 7:** Non-Instructional Day (No School)  
**October 10:** Thanksgiving (No School)  
**October 24:** Canadian School Library Day  
**October 31:** Halloween