



*Livingstone Range*  
SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 68

## REGIONAL SCHOOL COUNCIL

MARCH 23, 2015 @ GRANUM SCHOOL

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Chair was Brad Toone. He welcomed everyone and introduced Marilyn Welsh of the Alberta School Council Association.

Marilyn introduced herself and her co-presenter Wendy.

ABSCA Presentation: Topic “EFFECTIVELY ENGAGING SCHOOL COMMUNITIES”

The presenters clarified the difference between school councils and fundraising groups. They spoke on the different things parent engagement meant to different people – ie) everything from helping with homework, to volunteering in the classroom or attending 3 way conferences.

Parent engagement led to higher student achievement, better attendance, increased positive attitudes, higher graduation rates, and that involvement with councils led to greater influence with school administration and positive school culture.

Offered some ideas as to how to recruit greater numbers of parents to council meetings – making the meeting times flexible, being able to “skype” in, different cultural issues that affect attendance.

Superintendent Dave Driscoll then introduced Board Policy 21 – Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment. Some discussion. Since it is a long, involved policy, it was suggested parents take the document home, read it over, and get in touch with either the division or their local trustee.

Dave Driscoll then presented a quick over-view of the upcoming new Alberta Education Act. Mentioned parental and student responsibilities (new), attendance and conduct.

Brad Toone then asked for feedback re: 2 or 3 meetings per year for Regional School Council (decision was unclear). Some interesting reasons for low attendance on this particular evening – date had changed a couple of times and then the location was changed, weather was poor.

Parent requests for more interaction between councils – and suggestions for topics –

- Update on high school redesign – what’s working and what’s not
- Update on Inspiring Education
- High school flexibility projects
- Library commons,
- Technology, google