

## 1. Purpose

THIS SURVEY WAS DRAFTED TO ENCOURAGE FEEDBACK FROM TRUSTEES. THOUGH IT IS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ADMINISTRATION WILL BE RELIED UPON TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING THIS SURVEY, IT IS IMPERATIVE WE RECEIVE THE TRUSTEE PERSPECTIVE.

SCHOOL BOARDS ARE ASKED TO COMPLETE THIS ONLINE SURVEY BY April 27, 2009.

As you will be aware, ASBA has identified high school completion as one of its advocacy priorities. A task force, Chaired by Jackie Swainson (Zone 4 Director on the ASBA Board of Directors), was assigned the responsibility of both identifying the unique contributions school boards can make to improving high school completion rates, and identifying and developing resources to assist school boards in their efforts to improve high school completion rates.

The ASBA High School Completion Task Force was assembled ensuring representation from each zone and a representative cross section of Alberta's school boards. In addition, Alberta Education appointed representatives to participate in this initiative.

As a result of the recommendations made by the ASBA High School Completion Task Force, Alberta school boards are being surveyed to assist in identifying students at risk and any current efforts to improve high school completion rates. Sharing this information is anticipated to significantly assist boards in identifying students at risk along with the most efficient use of resources to address their needs while minimizing the duplication of efforts between school boards.

We thank you in advance for your time and efforts. We cannot underestimate the value of sharing our experiences with one another, learning from those examples and enhancing our services through the shared knowledge.

### 1. Board Name

## 2. Current Status

1. Are you aware of Alberta Education's methodology for calculating high school completion and drop out rates? How did you become aware of Alberta Education's process?

2. Does your jurisdiction track completion and drop out rates by the same calculation as the Alberta Education? If not, what is your rationale for utilizing a different measure?

3. What processes for information gathering and data analysis does your jurisdiction currently use for the purposes of identifying students at risk of not completing high school?

4. Has your jurisdiction been able to identify factors which contribute to students leaving high school early? Please list the factors. How were you able to identify these factors?

5. Has your jurisdiction been able to identify factors which would contribute to students successfully completing high school? Please list the factors. How were you able to identify these factors?

### 3. Targets/Goals

1. Has your jurisdiction identified high school completion as a priority? Has your jurisdiction identified other priorities as being at least as important and what are they?

2. Has your jurisdiction identified targets or goals for improving high school completion and/or reducing drop out rates? If so, what are they?

3. Have you incorporated these plans into your overall strategic plan for the jurisdiction? How so?

4. As it bears on this issue, what is the role of your Board of Trustees in identifying priorities, setting targets or goals and determining your overall strategic plan?

## 4. Current Projects

1. Please describe, in a few sentences, one or two initiatives and/or system improvements demonstrating the greatest degree of success or promise in improving high school completion and/or reducing drop out rates. What impact have you experienced as a result of these initiatives and/or system improvements? What impact are you anticipating?

2. Does your jurisdiction currently utilize the resources, research or initiatives available through Alberta Education? Which of these efforts have made the greatest impact? Have you worked with representative(s) from Alberta Education in developing initiatives for your jurisdiction? Are you aware of who to contact in Alberta Education for assistance?

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## 5. Future Plans

1. Please describe, in a few sentences, any plans to implement initiatives and/or system improvements anticipated to provide the greatest degree of success or promise in improving high school completion and/or reducing drop out rates. What impact do you anticipate and when is your estimated date of implementation?

2. Would your jurisdiction be interested in attending and participating in a symposium, to be developed by ASBA in collaboration with Alberta Education, with the focus of sharing initiatives and/or system improvement processes related to this issue? What other methods could your board suggest to support sharing of information and collaboration between school boards?

3. If your jurisdiction has experience with implementing programs or initiatives to address these rates, would you be prepared to share these with other jurisdictions?

Yes

No