

LEADERSHIP

Mandate: The Alberta School Boards Association provides leadership focusing on continuous improvement of the public education system.

Strategic Priority A: ASBA provides leadership support to school boards in closing the student achievement gaps where they exist.

Key Results	A1 Leadership support is provided in the development and implementation of a renewed system for special needs students.	Strategies	A1.1 Assess the recommendations and implications of the Setting the Direction review.
			A1.2 Hold an issues forum on how best to implement Setting the Direction review.
			A1.3 Advocate for resources to allow school boards to implement the recommendations. A1.4 Provide policy advice to school boards to implement the results of the Setting the Direction review.
	A2 Leadership in research and action is provided relative to the education of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.		A2.1 Compile local and international research on First Nations, Métis and Inuit education with consideration for partnership with Alberta Education and/or other international partners. A2.2 Develop strategic partnerships with appropriate First Nations, Métis and Inuit groups to pursue this priority. A2.3 Encourage all First Nations, Métis and Inuit school jurisdictions to join ASBA as associate members. A2.4 Prepare a report on possible actions that could be taken by school boards quickly and without additional funds to advance this priority. A2.5 Investigate a new system of funding First Nations, Métis and Inuit students in Alberta. A2.6 Examine opportunities to enhance First Nations, Métis and Inuit representation at the ASBA Board of Directors table. A2.7 Prepare a report on possible opportunities for enhanced First Nations, Métis and Inuit representation at the local level.
	A3 Leadership in research and action is provided relative to the education of English as a Second Language students.		A3.1 Work with school boards to develop a working alliance with provincial organizations representing and servicing refugee families. A3.2 Research effective English as a Second Language practices with consideration for partnership with Alberta Education and/or other international partners. A3.3 Develop policy advisories for school boards with regard to English as a Second Language.

ADVOCACY

Mandate: Providing leadership focusing on continuous improvement of the public education system, the Alberta School Boards Association advocates provincially and nationally on public education issues, with a strong voice, on behalf of locally elected school boards.

Strategic Priority B: Action is taken to advance the key advocacy priorities of the Board: High School Completion, Infrastructure, Transportation and Early Intervention.

Key Results	B1 Continued implementation and maintenance of the High School Completion advocacy plan.	Strategies	B1.1 Prepare a paper on barriers to high school completion.
			B1.2 Execute the advocacy plan.
			B1.3 Hold an issues forum for school boards and senior administrators, and identify “quick wins” in support of improving high school completion.
			B1.4 Review and renew the advocacy plan by June 2010.
	B2 Implementation and maintenance of the Infrastructure advocacy plan.		B2.1 Host a symposium on school infrastructure approvals and funding.
			B2.2 Work with partner groups, including municipal associations, to investigate possible approaches to meeting school infrastructure needs.
			B2.3 Develop a proposed new process for school infrastructure approvals and funding.
			B2.4 Explore best practices amongst school boards and others regarding sharing of facilities.
			B2.5 Execute the advocacy plan.
			B2.6 Review and renew the advocacy plan by June 2010.
	B3 Implement and maintain the Transportation advocacy plan.		B3.1 In conjunction with education stakeholders, identify best practices and propose potential solutions.
			B3.2 Execute the advocacy plan.
			B3.3 Review and renew the advocacy plan by June 2010.
	B4 The advocacy priority Early Intervention is researched, and information disseminated to school boards and key stakeholders by June 2011.		B4.1 Complete research report regarding early intervention.
			B4.2 Obtain feedback from school boards.
			B4.3 Produce report which identifies solutions and contains an advocacy plan, including fostering public awareness campaign about early intervention issues.
			B4.4 Execute the advocacy plan.

RESEARCH

Mandate: Providing leadership focusing on continuous improvement of the public education system, the Alberta School Boards Association provides timely, well researched information on public education issues to school boards.

Strategic Priority C: ABSA provides timely, well-researched information on public education issues to school boards and key stakeholders.

Key Results	C1 The Board governance aspect of “Choice – Alternatives to Traditional Education” is researched considering recent legal decisions and information is disseminated to school boards and key stakeholders by June 2012.	Strategies	C1.1 Prepare and distribute a report on the implications of recent legal decisions for school boards implementing programs of choice.
			C1.2 Prepare a comprehensive report about the governance implications of choice.
	C2 The research priority “Early Intervention/ School Preparedness/ Special Education”, is researched and the information disseminated to school boards and key stakeholders by June 2011.		C2.1 Complete a research project about Early Intervention/School Preparedness/Special Education”, incorporating the findings from the Setting the Direction review.
	C2.2 Prepare and distribute a report of the research project to school boards and key stakeholders.		
	C3 The research priority “Education of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students” is researched and the information disseminated to school boards and key stakeholders by June 2011.		C3.1 Complete a research project about the education of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.
			C3.2 Prepare and distribute a report of the research project to school boards and key stakeholders.

PARTNERSHIPS

Mandate: Providing leadership focusing on continuous improvement of the public education system, the Alberta School Boards Association works with other provincial organizations, national education organizations and governments to improve public education.

Strategic Priority D: ASBA initiates, builds and maintains key partnerships to improve public education and/or advance the advocacy efforts of the association.

Key Result	D1 Strengthened partnerships are in place between ASBA and other organizations in addressing advocacy issues and promoting common goals.	Strategies	D1.1 Explore possible topics of mutual interest with partner organizations.
			D1.2 Identify initiatives for which partnerships with organizations will be pursued and strengthened.
			D1.3 Invite partners to work with the ASBA on advocacy issues and ensure relationships with these organizations are nurtured.

SERVICES TO BOARDS

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Strategic Priority E: ASBA builds leadership capacity of individual school boards.

Key Results	E1 In the 2009-2010 school year, support is made available to school boards and trustees in relation to their governance accountabilities.	Strategies	E1.1 Develop and implement a school board/trustee development program which enables school boards to fulfill their governance responsibilities.
	E2 By August 2010, support is made available to school boards in relation to efforts to increase public engagement in education.		E2.1 Develop a cadre of consultants/ resources that can be made available to school boards on a fee-for-service basis to assist with their efforts to increase public engagement in education. E2.2 Hold issues forums to support public engagement in education. E2.3 Develop a communications plan to weave in messages about the role of the trustee into efforts to raise the profile of school board elections.

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Strategic Priority F: ASBA addresses the matter of labour relations.

Key Result	F1 ASBA will assist school boards in being prepared for teacher bargaining by August 31, 2012.	Strategies	F1.1 Immediately address the matter of teacher bargaining beyond 2012.
			F1.2 Canvas school boards in relation to the direction that school boards may wish to take with regard to teacher bargaining.
			F1.3 Act upon the direction provided to prepare school boards for teacher bargaining in 2012.