



**Alberta School Boards Association  
2021 Community Engagement Award**

# Alberta School Boards Association 2021 Community Engagement Award

## Background

Community engagement (previously called Public Engagement Award) is a collaborative process that helps put the 'public back in public education'. It is one way to address the chronic lack of involvement in the education system. The Alberta School Boards Association believes reaching out to, informing, and involving stakeholders is critical if excellence in public education is to be maintained.

The annual ASBA Community Engagement Award, introduced in 2010, is intended to recognize the efforts of school boards to embrace community engagement as a method to inform, involve and gain input from stakeholders on school jurisdiction plans, programs and services.

A school jurisdiction with good community engagement understands what their stakeholders and community think of how schools are doing, what they should be doing and how they should be doing it. This requires a regular collection of data and clear, two-way communications. School leaders and stakeholders share ownership for plans and educational directions, and school board decisions reflect community input and interests.

## Criteria

The ASBA Community Engagement Award is open to any ASBA member school board that has engaged the community at any time in the previous school year cycle and can demonstrate two or more of the following benefits, as a result of its community engagement effort:

- An avenue for two-way conversation with the community was created;
- The community had a tangible opportunity to participate in school board decision-making on a topic or issue;
- The community engagement effort involved a cross-section of participants;
- First Nations, Metis and Inuit parents and communities were given opportunities to provide their input;
- The Francophone community was given the opportunity to provide their input;
- Participants were satisfied their input was used or considered;
- There was follow-up with participants and/or the community after the community engagement effort;
- The community engagement helped the school board make a better, more informed decision for students.

**Please note:** At least one letter from an organized group or community leader that partnered with, participated in or witnessed the engagement effort must accompany the submission. The letter must make reference to the credibility and/or value of the engagement effort from the perspective of the group or leader. Examples of such groups or leaders are: school councils; chambers of commerce; community leagues; social clubs; municipal councils; an MLA; Mayor; a church leader, etc.

## Procedural Guidelines

Each school board is eligible to submit one nomination for the Community Engagement Award for a project initiated in their own jurisdiction. One Community Engagement Award will be awarded each year to the school board that best meets the application criteria.

## Awards Presentation

The recipient shall receive an engraved crystal award bearing the Association's logo. The award will be presented by the President of the Alberta School Boards Association at the ASBA Fall General Meeting.

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## Nomination Form

Nomination forms must be completed and received by the ASBA on or before **September 17, 2021** to be considered.

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Jurisdiction (Please record the school board's name precisely as it should appear on the award)

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Contact Name

Telephone

Email

By motion of the Board at a meeting held on

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(MM//DD/YYYY)

the Alberta School Boards Association is requested to consider the above nomination for the Community Engagement Award. **(Please provide a copy of the motion.)**

Information supporting the nomination must be included on the attached pages of this form. Please respond to the questions in full, attaching additional pages as required. Letters referencing the credibility and/or value of the engagement effort from the perspective of a group or community leader should be attached to this form.

Nominator:

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Name

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Jurisdiction/Zone

**Please forward the completed nomination package to Noreen Pownall  
by email at [npownall@asba.ab.ca](mailto:npownall@asba.ab.ca)  
on or before September 17, 2021.**

## Alberta School Boards Association 2021 Community Engagement Award

1. Describe the school board's particular community engagement initiative(s), outlining the process by which stakeholders and/or communities were brought together to discuss and provide input on an issue or topic. Did the initiative have a clear purpose or need? Was this a new approach? Attach additional pages as required.

2. Cite any creative methods the school board used to encourage individuals, groups or communities to participate in the engagement.

3. Outline the process the school board used to follow up with participants after the community engagement initiative ended. Were participants clear on how their input would be used? Were they satisfied with the process?

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4. Describe the outcomes and benefits gained as a result of the community engagement. What is different? What has been gained? Attach additional pages as required.

5. Outline any efforts by the school board to keep the conversation going with participants and the community at large beyond this particular initiative.

**Additional Comments:**