

## Highlights: CASS and ASBOA Summer Learning Conference 2024

Delegates at the the CASS/ASBOA Summer Learning Conference were provided opportunities to strengthen their professional growth as system education leaders through the introduction of Communities of Practice and a pilot of CASS course-based learning based on the [LQS and SLQS Professional Practice Standards](#) and ASBOA sessions based on the [ASBOA Nine Areas of Practice](#). The learning conference, hosted at the JW Marriott, Ice District in Edmonton on August 14-16, 2024, attracted 273 delegates from CASS, ASBOA, and other areas, representing 93% of the school authorities in the province.

 **CASS** College of Alberta School Superintendents **Supporting Professional Growth**



CASS President Dr. Clint Moroziuk, Superintendent of Schools for Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools and ASBOA Board Chair Allan Kallal, Associate Superintendent of Business and Finance for Fort McMurray Public Schools, opened the conference with welcome messages and the intended outcome of partnering together. The value of networking and collaboration was shared, and how our work together, as system education leaders, supports staff and student growth and learning. They shared, “Both professional organizations operate with distinct standards of professional practice to guide and inform our roles and responsibilities. Our networking and collaborative efforts produce visible outcomes that optimize learning for all students in Alberta. Our professional relationships with colleagues allow us to work to support ALL students in our schools across the province.”

During the conference, delegates registered in the CASS course-based learning, provided feedback on 7 CEP courses: *Changing World, Changing Needs: Engaging the Age of Disruption*; *Developing Leadership Capacity at the System Level: The Ripple Effect*; *Leading Learning*; *Leading to Support Effective Governance*; *Modeling a Commitment to Professional Learning*; *Sharing Stone Keeper’s Wisdom*; *Vision Leadership in Action: Implementing a Continuum of Supports and Services*. Two ASBOA sessions focused on ethics and effective media relations. Professional thanks to the facilitators who donated time and expertise in developing sessions. Be sure to check the [conference program archives](#) for further information on this conference and previous CASS conferences.

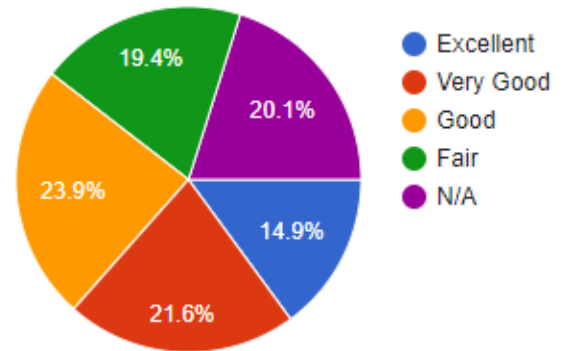
## CASS and ASBOA Summer Learning Conference 2024 Feedback

Nearly half of the conference delegates (49%) responded to the 2024 Learning Survey for the Summer Learning Conference.

### Communities of Practice Pilot

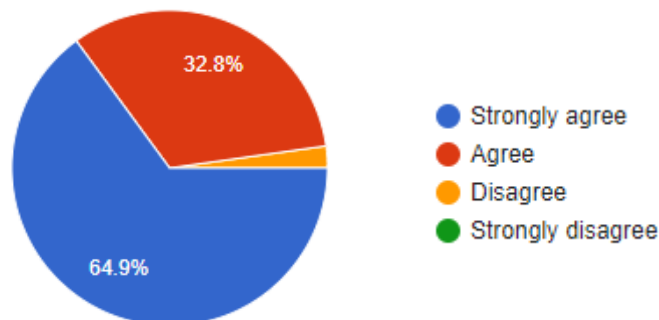
*What supports do you need for your Community of Practice (CoP) to be successful?*

- Provide agendas and topics in advance to allow for preparation and decision-making during the CoP.
- Ensure CoPs are flexible throughout the year to offer participants to provide opportunity to address emerging needs.
- Ensure each CoP has a designated leader or chair.
- Provide regular updates, reminders, and opportunities for CoP members to connect such as at CASS Conferences and Zone meetings.
- Allocate more time for CoP activities at future conferences for discussion, planning, and collaboration.

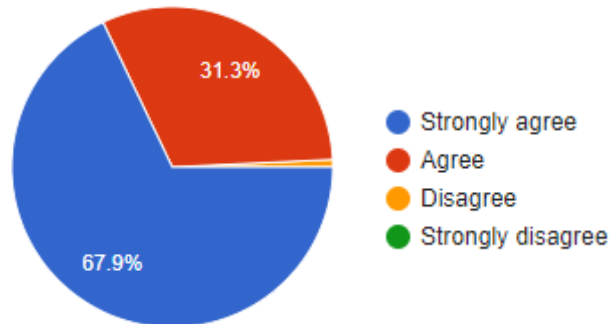


### Reflections on My Professional Learning

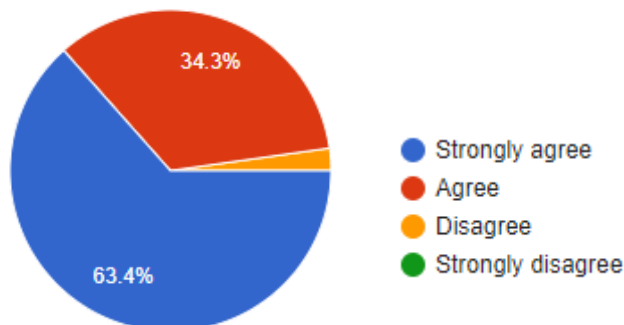
1. *This professional learning opportunity contributed to my understanding of the professional practice standard or ASBOA's Areas of Practice. (e.g., content-related to one or more competency)*



2. *I plan to apply my learning in my school authority.*



3. *This professional learning opportunity provided ideas about how to lead and apply the professional practice standard or ASBOA's Areas of Practice (e.g., content related to one or more competency) in my school authority.*



4. *An aspect of this learning opportunity that made it meaningful is:*

- Time to engage in deep, purposeful collaborative dialogue was highly valued.
- Practical applications with examples and activities for implementation made the learning relevant and actionable.
- Focused system education leadership perspectives and implications made the learning meaningful.
- Effective facilitators with well-structured sessions.
- Integration of research was appreciated and contributed to the depth and breadth of the learning experience.

5. *An aspect of this learning opportunity that might be improved is:*

- More case studies and practical examples
- Consider reducing content or extending the length of time to deliver courses
- More time for group discussions and opportunities to interact with colleagues

- During the course, utilize the expertise of the participants to generate examples
6. *One thing I require to further support my professional learning is:*
    - Continued learning and resources at future professional learning events
    - Impact of technology (AI) and future trends on the education sector
    - More networking and collaboration
    - More time for reflection and deep dives into the content
  7. *As a result of your learning at the CASS/ASBOA Summer Learning Conference, what have you committed to take action on?*
    - Sharing and applying the knowledge gained with teams in school authority
    - Ongoing learning and networking through professional reading, research, and staying connected with colleagues
    - Reviewing and refining existing policies to ensure alignment with best practices and legislative requirements
    - Ongoing reflection and continuous improvement on leadership practices to ensure actions are aligned with goals and values
  8. *Comments/suggestions regarding the structure of this learning opportunity (e.g. facility, registration process, communication).*
    - Well organized, excellent, and easy to follow communication
    - Appreciation for the venue particularly for comfort, food, and overall ambiance
    - More time for networking and division team meetings
    - Review quality of sound in all rooms, particularly the ballroom
    - Valued the learning opportunity

Overall, the conference delegates found the 2024 Summer Learning Conference to be a valuable experience and impactful for their professional growth. The effort put into organizing the event was widely appreciated, and the experience was considered beneficial for their individual roles.