

board highlights

Board of Directors Meeting | April 2, 2025

Women in Leadership

- The Board reviewed the Women in Leadership (WiL) External Standing Committee's progress and recommended changes to improve engagement due to declining participation.
- The revised terms designate all regulated CASS members as automatic committee members with voting privileges. Demographic-based representation has been removed from the terms, and designated roles are now limited to Chair and Vice Chair (or Co-chairs).

RFP Process for New Curriculum Resources

- The Ministry's RFP process for developing new curriculum resources, presents an opportunity for CASS to advocate for materials that reflect the needs of members, school leaders, and students.
- CASS' participation is essential to ensure these resources align with Alberta's priorities and support high-quality learning for all students.

Gr. 7-9 Draft Social Studies and Mathematics Curricula Feedback Process

- CASS will submit a Board-approved report to the Ministry by April 15, 2025, offering feedback on the draft curricula, under a Non-disclosure Agreement (NDA).
- The NDA was expanded to include additional subject-specific curriculum experts, working under the supervision of individual Board members.
- Ongoing collaboration with Alberta Education remains essential in advocating for curricula that effectively support students' needs.

ProQuest Subscription Service

- CASS has subscribed to ProQuest One for Education, with the current contract expiring June 30, 2025.
- Due to low usage and limited perceived value, as identified through a recent membership survey, the Board recommended discontinuing the subscription. Member feedback suggests that alternative tools may better meet members' needs.

AP – 306 Accommodations for Work-Related Absences in CEP Courses

- A new administrative procedure, AP-306, effective July 1, 2025, outlines accommodations for professional and personal absences in CEP courses.

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- This AP ensures fairness and consistency by detailing criteria, documentation, and timelines for requests, while maintaining the integrity and accessibility of the CEP.

ATRF Cap for Retired Teachers Update

- Zone 5 passed a motion requesting the Board engage with the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund (ATRF) to examine the impact of removing or extending the 0.6 FTE cap for retired teachers, particularly in support of rural schools that rely on retired staff to fill teacher vacancies.
- The CASS CEO will initiate discussions with ATRF through ADM Jeff Willan.

TAVE Committee Terms of Reference and Membership

- With the approval of the Conditional Grant, work on Deliverable 4: Success for Students through Career Pathways, will proceed, led by lead contractor, Colleen Symyrozum-Watt.
- The TAVE Committee, comprising stakeholders from multiple sectors, will guide this work. Its revised structure is now aligned with that of other CASS committees.

Conditional Grant for Career Education Teacher Training

- In early March, the Ministry offered a \$500,000 conditional grant to support Career Education Teacher Training. This includes consultancy services by CASS Principal Leadership Consultant, Dr. Gloria Antifaiff, with the proposal initiated by Karla Holt, Director, Implementation and Engagement Branch- Curriculum and Career Education Division.
- The Executive Committee approved CASS' involvement, and the signed grant agreement has now moved into implementation.