

board highlights

Board of Directors Meeting | September 4-5, 2025

2025-2026 Final Pre-audit Budget Presentation

- The balanced second draft budget was presented, aligning revenues with expenditures, holding dues (\$1,500) and conference fees steady.
- Adjustments include reduced membership revenues from retirements, offset by lower conference costs with \$19K reallocated to CEP course evaluation.
- Budget addresses growing administrative and registrar responsibilities with the final approval scheduled for October (Board) and November (AGM).

Literacy and Numeracy Screeners Update and Presentation

- The Board was consulted by the ministry on early years screening and was invited to submit recommendations at its June meeting.
- Key themes from the submitted report expressed interest with alignment with instruction, professional development, clarity of purpose, and communication of results.
- Ongoing concerns include workload/resource impacts, rural supports, local flexibility, and unresolved issues on interventions and timing.

Board Governance Committees' Mandate Review and Meeting Dates

- CASS' governance model, outlined in its Bylaws, relies on a network of standing committees that support the Board of Directors in fulfilling corporate responsibilities.
- To ensure clarity and accountability, mandate memos and work plans for each committee were provided.
- Committee representatives were asked to finalize meeting dates to create a master calendar. Each meeting's topics, aligned with the committee's terms of reference, were included.

Meeting with TAAPCS

- Joanne Higgins, Superintendent Representative, TAAPCS (and Superintendent of the STEM Innovation Academy) and Kelley Charlebois, Executive Director, TAAPCS met with the Board.
- Alberta has 25 charter schools, with growth driven by transitions, expansions, and high waitlists. Six new charters are under review, though capital funding remains the main barrier.
- TAAPCS secured key wins such as SLS funding equity, \$12.5M in capital, 12,500 SCAP-supported spaces, and stronger ministry engagement through the Charter Hub and Accelerator Program.
- Ongoing challenges include facilities/start-up funding inequities, superintendent compensation, and limited capital for renovations.
- CASS affirmed consistent CEP credit standards for all provincial superintendents and noted TAAPCS' request for CEP Committee representation.

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2025-2026 Career Education Conditional Grant – Needs Assessment Findings

- The survey shows strong system-wide commitment to advancing career education in Alberta.
- The consensus across roles includes the need for curriculum-aligned resources, embedded role-specific professional learning, and stronger partnerships with industry, post-secondary, and communities.
- Respondents stressed that progress requires provincial leadership, dedicated funding, and policy frameworks prioritizing career education as part of K–12.

2025 Start Right and Leading for Learning Update

- The 2025 Start Right and Leading for Learning reports provide detailed information about each program.
- In 2025, both programs underwent structural changes to ensure alignment with the CASS Continuing Education Program.
- This includes an open and transparent call for sessions and a facilitator reimbursement schedule in line with current CEP expectations.