The Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard

Quality superintendent leadership occurs when the superintendent’s ongoing analysis of the context, and the superintendent’s decisions about what leadership knowledge abilities to apply, result in quality school leadership, quality teaching and optimum learning for all students in the school authority.

Competencies

- Building Effective Relationships
- Modeling Commitment to Professional Learning
- Visionary Leadership
- Leading Learning
- Ensuring First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education for All Students
- School Authority Operations and Resources
- Supporting Effective Governance

Modeling Commitment to Professional Learning

A superintendent engages in career-long professional learning and ongoing critical reflection, identifying and acting on research-informed opportunities for enhancing leadership, teaching, and learning.

Achievement of this competency is demonstrated by indicators such as:

(a) communicating a philosophy of education that is student-centered and based on sound principles of effective teaching and leadership;

(b) collaborating with teachers, principals, school jurisdiction leaders and other superintendents to build professional capacities and expertise;

(c) actively seeking out feedback and information from a variety of sources to enhance leadership practice;

(d) seeking and critically-reviewing educational research and applying it to decisions and practices, as appropriate;

(e) providing leadership to support school authority research initiatives, where appropriate; and

(f) engaging teachers, principals, school jurisdiction leaders, school community and local community members to establish a shared understanding of current trends and priorities in the education system.

LEGAL AND KEY REFERENCES

Teaching Quality Standard Applicable to the Provision of Basic Education in Alberta Ministerial Order (#016/97)

The current Teaching Quality Standard shall apply to teacher certification, professional development, supervision and evaluation, and which is supported by descriptors of selected knowledge, skills and attributes appropriate to teachers at different stages of their careers.


Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Policy

The Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Policy aims to ensure that each teacher’s actions, judgments and decisions are in the best educational interests of students and support optimum learning.

https://education.alberta.ca/media/1626684/tgse.pdf
CASS Code of Professional Conduct

The College of Alberta School Superintendents requires high standards of conduct from its members to maintain the honor and dignity of the profession.

http://www.cass.ab.ca/cass_code_of_professional_conduct

Legal References provided by Teresa Haykowsky, Partner McLennan Ross LLP

RESEARCH

Continuing education research has transitioned from a focus on the sole purpose of developing knowledge and skills to a focus on development of competence in relation to the cultivation of both technical and practical knowledge as they contribute to a professional's wisdom and ability to exercise discretionary judgement in practice. Research highlights the varying designs emerging for professional learning such as authentic experiences, research in action, communities of practice based on similar inquiry questions. The value of self-reflection and authentic experiences where learning is translated into practice are mentioned. More traditional models of learning are also viewed as valuable in addressing specific learning goals and outcomes. Brandon, Hanna, & Negropontes, 2015, Mott and Daley, 2000, p81; Schon 1987 and Cervero 2000

Modeling Commitment to Action, Dr. Heather Kanuka and Dr. Jose da Costa, University of Alberta, 2017

PRACTICE IN ALBERTA

Creating Communities of Practice in Alberta

Built on solid research and sound adult learning pedagogy, communities of practice offer a powerful professional learning strategy for the 21st century educator. This personalized approach to professional development leverages technology to create robust opportunities for participation and collaboration.

The goal of this ERLC/ARPDC resource is to support the development, implementation and evaluation of current and future communities of practice.

http://www.communityofpractice.ca/

Please share your school authorities stories specific to how you address this competency: admin@cass.ab.ca. Over time we will post on the CASS website.

RESOURCES

CASS builds and supports members’ leadership capacity by offering a number of online and face-to-face learning opportunities. Visit Professional Learning at www.CASS.ab.ca

Competency overviews, conferences and workshops and workshop materials are available to support awareness and understanding of professional practice standard(s).