

September 2, 2021

The ASCA Board of Directors sincerely thanks the 11,133 Albertans who participated in the survey to gather feedback on the **2021-2022 School Year Plan** announced by Education Minister Adriana LaGrange on August 13, 2021.

Representing every school choice in Alberta, 9,128 parents, 936 grandparents, 158 caregivers and 145 guardians of students in grades K-12 from approximately 400 towns/cities across Alberta shared their opinions through the survey. Over 50 expanded on their survey responses through emails and letters directly to, or shared with, ASCA.

**ASCA received multiple comments on the integrity of the survey.** Some respondents felt the questions were biased; other respondents felt the questions were too direct – not allowing for articulation of partial support or providing reasonings for specific responses. ASCA acknowledges, in retrospect, that the simplicity of the questions asked in relation to the complexity of potential perspectives was not ideal.

**ASCA believes the structure of the survey caused the responses for all 10 questions to have very small variances of yes/no perspectives, rendering the overall results to be inconclusive in terms of what the majority of Alberta's parents support within the 2021-2022 School Year Plan.**

Because of this, ASCA will not release or publish the results of the survey, and commits to providing opportunities for more meaningful, detailed perspectives in the future.

Related to the 2021-2022 School Year Plan, the ASCA Board will communicate to the Minister of Education, education stakeholders, and partners, the Association's belief that public health policy must be established by public health officials and experts, and not left to education experts such as trustees, superintendents, and others.

ASCA will also advocate for:

- the continuation of mandatory isolation for positive cases beyond September 27, 2021;
- the continuation of testing beyond September 27, 2021;
- the continuation of provincially overseen contact tracing beyond September 27, 2021;
- the implementation of mandatory reporting of positive cases to schools; and
- the requirement of schools to notify close contacts of positive cases so that parents can make informed decisions regarding their own children's risks while attending in person learning.

