



ALBERTA

Education
and Childcare

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary Bow*

AR 131312

August 26, 2025

Mr. Ken Glazebrook, President
Ms. Meagan Parisian, Vice President
Alberta School Councils' Association
207, 11010 142 Street
Edmonton AB T5N 2R2

Dear Mr. Glazebrook and Ms. Parisian:

Thank you for your letter regarding the newly established [Aggression and Complexity in Schools Action Team](#) and the recently announced [standards for school libraries](#).

I appreciate your support for consistent, province-wide standards in the selection and maintenance of school library materials. As you are aware, the [Ministerial Order](#) was developed in response to growing concerns from stakeholders – including the Alberta School Councils' Association and many parents – about the types of materials accessible to students in school libraries.

While the engagement [survey](#) revealed a range of opinions, the majority of respondents supported either restricting access to sexually explicit materials based on age or grade level or removing such materials from school libraries entirely. Parents of school-aged children expressed strong support for ensuring that students do not have access to these materials at school.

The new requirements aim to ensure consistency across Alberta's education system. They apply to public, separate, francophone, charter, and independent schools, but do not extend to the 55 public library collections located within school buildings.

In cases where a public library is housed within a school, school board staff will be responsible for supervising students during school hours to prevent access to developmentally inappropriate materials. It is important to note that these standards do not apply to learning and teaching resources selected to support curricular outcomes.

Thank you for emphasizing the importance of collaboration among education stakeholders in developing these standards. Feedback from school boards, survey data, and input from directly affected groups has helped shape the final version.

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These standards are designed to enhance transparency for both schools and parents regarding the materials available in school libraries. They are not intended to undermine the expertise of school library professionals, but rather to promote consistency and predictability across the province. School boards will continue to have flexibility in selecting library materials, provided they align with the new standards.

I recognize your concern regarding the implementation timeline. The two-phase rollout was developed based on feedback from school board stakeholders. It prioritizes the removal of inappropriate materials from school shelves by October 1, 2025, while allowing additional time for school boards to review and update their policies to ensure full compliance with the Ministerial Order by January 1, 2026.

Thank you again for your support of Alberta's efforts to reduce disruptions and strengthen supports for students and teachers. We recognize the importance of incorporating diverse perspectives – especially those of parents – into this work. To ensure recommendations are informed by frontline experience, representatives from student and family advocacy groups, including the Alberta School Councils' Association, are among the 25 education system leaders on the action team. Also included are members of the Alberta Teachers' Association, metro school boards, and education support workers. Staff at Alberta Education and Childcare, who are supporting the action team, look forward to continued input from your organization as this work progresses.

Your concerns have been shared with the department staff supporting the work of the action team, whose membership has now been finalized. Thank you again for taking the time to write. I appreciate your engagement and hope this information is helpful.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Demetrios Nicolaides", written in a cursive style.

Demetrios Nicolaides ECA PhD
Minister of Education and Childcare