In September 2015, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) began a multi-layered survey, data, and research process to revise and remodel its learning standards and program guidelines for the profession. Led by an Editorial Board, the first phase involved an online survey to assess attitudes and perceptions about the current documents.

**STANDARDS & GUIDELINES**

**RESEARCH**

**ONLINE SURVEY FINDINGS**

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**RESPONSES**

1,191 SCHOOL LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS RESPONDED

659 ARE AASL MEMBERS

**ORGANIZATION**

9 OUT OF 10 RESPONDENTS RANK AASL #1 ORGANIZATION FOR USEFUL PROGRAMS, TOOLS, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES

**CONTENT**

DESPITE THEIR VALUE

41% SCHOOL LIBRARIANS FEEL THE STANDARDS & GUIDELINES NEED UPDATING

**TOP CRITIQUE**

STUDENT STANDARDS & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS MORE TIGHTLY COUPLED INCREASING APPEAL TO ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS

**AWARENESS**

91% MEMBERS

83% NON-MEMBERS ARE FAMILIAR WITH AND VALUE AASL STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

**USEFULNESS**

OF THOSE FAMILIAR

MOST DESCRIBE THE DOCUMENTS AS RELEVANT, WELL-ORGANIZED, PRACTICAL, EASY TO USE, EASY TO EXPLAIN

**IMPLEMENTATION**

SCHOOL LIBRARIANS ARE CHALLENGED BY LACK OF RESOURCES SCARCEST RESOURCES TIME AND MONEY COLLABORATION & STAFF SUPPORT

**WORKING WITH PARALLEL GOALS**

Findings from the AASL Standards & Guidelines Online Survey were used to determine key areas for subsequent focus group research. In November 2015, at the AASL National Conference 40 attendees participated in 6 focus groups dedicated to standards & guidelines. Throughout Spring 2016, AASL will hold 14 additional focus groups at 7 state affiliate conferences.

**DATA COLLECTED**

Data collected during the research phase pertaining to implementation is also being processed immediately. A Task Force working in parallel to the Editorial Board is responsible for developing an implementation plan that builds awareness, understanding, and commitment within the school library profession and stakeholder communities. The intent is for resources and assistance to be available simultaneously with the launch of the new standards documents in the fall of 2017.

For more information on the standards revision project, visit www.ala.org/aasl/standardsguidelines/revision