

# Literacy and Math Frameworks | Supporting Learning Excellence



Every school district in Alberta produces an annual Education Plan that outlines priorities and strategies to improve student learning and results.

The CBE's Education Plan has several framework documents supporting key actions for employees in their work with students, including the Literacy and Mathematics frameworks. A key outcome, as part of our Education Plan, is that students achieve excellence in literacy and in mathematics.

The foundations of the frameworks are informed by enduring knowledge about teaching and learning, while still creating room for change and improvement as current best practices evolve based on on-going research.

It is important the experiences students have across CBE schools is consistent, yet responsive to the unique needs and strengths of each individual student. The frameworks outline district guidelines for how teachers approach teaching and learning in literacy and mathematics. Having common frameworks and expectations for teacher use allows intentional professional learning to develop teacher capacity across the system. Central to our work is the design of learning and instruction that allows for each student to be engaged, inspired and learn to their full potential.



As a result, you may notice changes to the way your child talks about their learning. They may be engaged in activities that are different from the ones you experienced in school. Their classroom may include different spaces, furniture arrangements, a variety of materials and technologies that encourage students to explore and develop a love of reading, writing and mathematics.



## What We Teach and How We Teach

The Alberta Programs of Study outline what is taught at each grade level or in each course.

How it is taught is equally important. The CBE Education Plan frameworks outline how we will approach teaching and learning across CBE schools





**The essential elements of the Literacy and Mathematics frameworks are teaching practices, assessment practices and learning environment.**

### How does my child experience these frameworks?

Students engage in learning experiences that help them develop knowledge, abilities and skills to be life-long learners. They engage in tasks and activities that are appropriately challenging and relevant, allowing students to make meaningful connections and deepen their knowledge.



### Teaching Practices

A set of research-based practices teachers use to design instruction and create learning experiences that support students in becoming successful, independent learners. We strive towards personalized teaching practices that create equitable learning opportunities, ensuring all students can engage in meaningful, joyful and challenging work.

### Assessment Practices

The primary purpose of assessment is to improve student learning. Teachers gather and analyze evidence of student learning individually and with students, colleagues and school leaders to inform how to plan for instruction and communicate achievement with students and families.



Students need clarity about their learning goals and evaluation criteria to measure their individual progress and inform their future learning. Teachers need assessment information to offer students feedback, improve classroom instruction and report on student achievement.

### Learning Environment

The learning environment includes routines and instructional materials in learning spaces that are responsive and intentionally designed to be welcoming, accessible and reflective of the interests and backgrounds, languages and cultures of students.



### What does Equity mean in CBE?

CBE's Education Plan states that every student should have the opportunity to succeed personally and academically no matter their background, identity or personal circumstances.

Equitable learning environments are inclusive and include culturally responsive teaching practices that build personalized learning experiences for all students.

For more information about how CBE interprets and works towards equity, please refer to our [Education Plan](#), the Board of Trustee's [Results Policies](#) and [AR 6031 Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Work Environment](#).



## How does my child's teacher engage in this work?

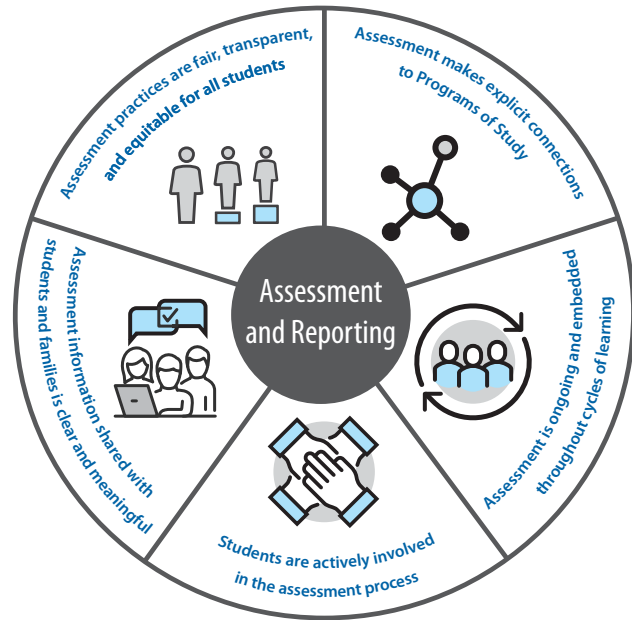
### Teaching Practices

Teachers design learning experiences that are responsive to students as learners and individuals. Building a positive home school relationship is an important part of this work. Teachers engage in professional learning opportunities specific to each framework and network with teachers, administrators and other educational professionals.

### Assessing Student Learning and Achievement

Teachers use a variety of assessment tools to determine grade-level achievement in relation to the Programs of Studies. Assessment practices in CBE are based on the following guiding principles:

- Assessment practices are fair, transparent and equitable for all students.
- Assessment makes explicit connections to outcomes in the Programs of Study.
- Assessment is ongoing and embedded throughout cycles of learning.
- Students are actively involved in the assessment process.
- Assessment information shared with students and families is clear and meaningful.



### Creating the Learning Environment

Using the frameworks for guidance, teachers set up inclusive environments that include resources and materials that reflect culturally diverse experiences of the students, and that allow students to learn from experiences of others.

Teachers may consider how learning spaces are organized, the resources used and the routines created. With students in mind and where space and resources allow, schools and teachers consider how to arrange furniture, provide easy and welcoming access to materials and flexible workspaces to accommodate individual and group work.

Equally important are the routines teachers establish to ensure students know what is expected and build positive relationships.



## How do the frameworks support teachers and students into the future?

The frameworks are research-informed guiding documents intended to serve CBE and our students for a long time, regardless of the curriculum in place. These research-informed practices are intended to set the baseline of practice across schools to impact student success. As research around how students learn continues to evolve, there will be some changes in the way we approach teaching and learning over the span of students' educational experiences.

Students may talk about engaging in learning experiences where they are collaborating with peers to create new understandings while also learning how to think critically and creatively, and how to make connections through inquiry, reflection, exploration, experimentation, and trial and error. Critical thinking enables students to understand how they learn and develop their thinking skills so they can begin to think more deeply about the problems they encounter. Building these competencies across all grade levels prepare students for the future. Students may actively engage with information in the classroom using a variety of technologies. We all engage with online content, so it is crucial to think critically about source and meaning.



## How are parents included in this work?

In addition to talking to your child's teacher(s) and school leaders, each CBE school develops an annual School Development Plan that outlines goals and instructional strategies based on data and evidence of progress and student achievement.

Literacy and mathematics goals are key features of each School Development Plan in CBE. Parents have an opportunity to review, discuss and provide feedback on the School Development Plan annually at school council meetings. School Development Plans are also posted on each CBE school's website.



Additionally, school councils and parent societies may consider supporting the purchase of resources that enhance or develop the learning environment, such as math manipulatives, board games, maker space materials, books, technologies, or whiteboards. Parents also support field trips, artists-in-residence and partnership opportunities that enhance the learning environment for students.

learning | [as unique](#) | as every student