



Citizenship, Character and Personal Development Presentation Speaking Notes

On the tables in front of you there is a handout that outlines our Results Policy on Citizenship, Character and Personal Development. These, along with Academic Success make up our Results policies, or our expectations for the system. Our Results state "each" student because as a public education system, we educate every child that comes to us whatever their complexity or background and we believe it is our responsibility to help each student to maximize their potential as a successful person and contributing citizen. A Result for Academic Success is probably the first Result that comes to mind for many parents but you are likely wondering how Citizenship, Character and Personal Development came to be part of our expectations.

The Board of Trustees met with representatives from industry, business and non-profit sectors asking what they expected of students who complete high school in the CBE. The Board also met with parents at Area Meetings throughout the system. These meetings confirmed the board's belief that Calgarians' expectations for students are much broader and that academic skills are not enough to be successful.

Some of the soft skills that were identified included communication skills, the confidence to tackle new tasks, the ability to learn new things and the respect and ability to work with others as part of a team. Good grades and smart kids are very important, but successful communities are built by well-rounded individuals. We believe that our Results capture these values.

Meanwhile, the Government of Alberta held province-wide conversations on Inspiring Education that ultimately led to the Ministerial Order (MO) on Student Learning. This MO mandates learning outcomes for students province wide and extensively emphasizes the 3 E's. Engaged thinker.....

Ethical citizen...

Entrepreneurial Spirit.....

I think you can see the parallels to CBE Results. It is important to note that nationally and globally education outcomes are changing as well. For example, the C21 group (consisting of founders such as Microsoft, IBM and Oxford Press among others), compiled a document called Shifting Minds that emphasized these same aspects of successful student learning within Canada.

These skills and attitudes are integrated into the learning of students in our classrooms. As a Board, these three Results are monitored on an annual basis as a measure of student performance. On the handout in front of you, there is more detail around our expectations within each of these policies.