



Provincial Assessments – One Measure of Achievement

Each spring, students in Grades 3, 6, 9 and 12 write standardized Provincial Achievement Tests or Diploma Exams in a number of core subject areas. The exam results provide valuable information to school jurisdictions and our provincial Education Ministry as they monitor student achievement in relation to local and provincial goals. While the results of these tests assist us in improving programs and establishing and maintaining standards for improving student achievement, it is important to remember that these tests are just one piece of the entire assessment puzzle.

Assessment is Key to Improving Student Learning

Gathering information about students is a key step in guiding their learning. An accurate assessment includes a thorough examination of skills and knowledge, but must also take into consideration a student's learning style, abilities and aptitudes; all of which need to be shared and understood by the student. Information gathering takes place using data sources within the school setting itself as well as sources outside the school walls. One of our external sources for information is Alberta Education through their administration of the standardized testing program for all Alberta students.

Celebrating our latest Provincial Achievement Test and Diploma Exam Results

The Calgary Board of Education has reason to celebrate our latest provincial test program results. Once again, our students have demonstrated high overall achievement on these tests, exceeding provincial results in almost every acceptable standard and standard of excellence. These outstanding results can be attributed to the hard work of our dedicated staff, the support of parents and the community, the quality of our program of studies in Alberta and, of course, the efforts of the students themselves.

Highlights

- CBE Provincial Achievement Test results met or exceeded the provincial results in all categories for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science at Grades 3, 6 and 9.
- Results for students with exceptional programming needs, including English as a Second Language (ESL) learners and students with special needs have again exceeded the provincial results across almost all subject areas and grade levels.
- One hundred percent of CBE Diploma exam results for the standard of excellence exceeded provincial results.
- Students from the Calgary Board of Education continue to demonstrate strong results on Diploma exams with over 80% of students achieving the acceptable standard in each subject area.

Over the course of the past two years, staff from the Calgary Board of Education have placed considerable emphasis on strategies to improve student learning in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Our excellent results reflect the increased focus on teaching and learning in these areas.

Positive results do not allow us to become complacent. Our successes and challenges are consistently reviewed and the system will continue to focus attention on improving student learning outcomes. Our Three-Year Education Plan (2009-2012) has been built with student learning at the centre. The CBE is proud to be a leader in public education -- intentionally addressing the learning needs of each student.

Naomi Johnson
Chief Superintendent