



**Calgary Board  
of Education**

# **CBE Community Helps Shape 2024-27 Education Plan**

From December 2023 to February 2024, the CBE invited people to share their thoughts and perspectives on the goals, outcomes and actions related to education planning.

The ideas and experiences of CBE community members were gathered in the following ways:

- four online surveys for staff, parents & public, partners, union executives
- more than 10 in-person sessions with CBE staff, parents, partners and advisory councils

**Here is a summary of what we heard from more than 9,000 CBE community members and how we are responding.**

## **Top Ten Themes Overall: Focus for the Future**

- 1** Student and staff well-being is essential to student success.
- 2** The increasing complexity and diversity of student learning needs is challenging for schools to manage effectively with limited resources. This is expected to be a challenge into the future as well. CBE staff note that professional development is key in helping to address this.
- 3** Anti-racism, diversity and inclusion strategies are important in creating safe and welcoming learning environments for all students.
- 4** Academic achievement should be a top goal of CBE education planning.
- 5** It's important to prepare students for the workplace of the future and equip them with real-world skills (i.e. financial literacy, technology, Artificial Intelligence)
- 6** Limited resources and funding are expected to be an ongoing challenge.
- 7** Continued work on student assessment practices is a priority for staff and parents though perspectives may differ between the two groups about what kind of action would be most beneficial. Both groups note the importance of consistency.
- 8** The lack of space available in CBE schools is challenging for the system, schools and families. Examples include: lotteries, overflow designations, large class sizes.
- 9** Collaborative partnerships are important in effectively supporting students and families.
- 10** Student safety (physical, psychological, air quality) is a top concern for parents



## **Building on a Strong Foundation**

Participants had the opportunity to share their perspectives on the goals, outcomes and actions identified in the 2021-24 CBE Education Plan, in addition to identifying what's important today and into the future.

There was strong support for many of the goals, outcomes and actions in the previous Education Plan. Based on his support and the additional top themes we heard, the CBE is building upon the strong foundation and direction provided through the previous plan with an eye to the future.



## How the CBE is Responding to What We Heard

It's clear from everything we heard that we must strive for excellence, address the challenge of complexity, promote well-being and continue to work together. This is why the 2024-27 Education Plan focuses on Learning Excellence, Well-Being, Truth and Reconciliation, Diversity and Inclusion. As a learning community, we must ensure our Education Plan addresses the needs of students today and into the future.

In addition, we have narrowed our focus from four goals to three goals in this plan. The focus of the 2024-27 CBE Education Plan is on the goals, outcomes and actions directly connected to student learning. Areas of focus not directly related to, but still in support of, student learning will be identified in a parallel strategic operational plan into the future. Work on this strategic operational plan will begin in fall 2024.

What We Heard	How the CBE is Responding
Student and staff well-being is essential to student success.	This is identified as one of three key goals (Well-Being) in the 2024-27 CBE Education Plan (the Plan), and the importance of staff well-being is emphasized.
Classroom complexity is challenging for schools to manage effectively with limited resources.	The Plan identifies actions across all three goals to support addressing complexity (special education, English as an Additional Language, student well-being and other learning needs).
Anti-racism, diversity and inclusion strategies are important.	The Plan identifies this as one of three key goals (Truth & Reconciliation, Diversity and Inclusion).
Academic achievement should be a top goal.	Learning Excellence remains a top priority in the 2024-27 CBE Education Plan.
Prepare students for the workplace of the future and equip them with real-world skills.	An outcome has been added to the Plan that addresses this. It is one of eight outcomes identified.
Limited resources and funding are expected to be an ongoing challenge.	This has been considered in developing the Plan and is a significant consideration applied to all organizational decision-making.
Student assessment and reporting is essential to student success.	This is identified as one of three outcomes for the goal of Learning Excellence in the Plan.
The lack of space available in CBE schools is challenging for the system, schools and families.	Priorities for CBE buildings and facilities are identified in the CBE's Three-Year School Capital Plan and Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan.
Collaborative partnerships are important in effectively supporting students and families.	Some partnerships are highlighted within the Plan. Other partnerships will be addressed in a parallel strategic operational plan.
Student safety (physical, psychological, air quality) is a top concern for parents.	The CBE's commitment to student safety is reflected in the focus on well-being, Truth and Reconciliation, diversity and inclusion strategies in the Plan. It is a key factor in all CBE planning.

**Thank you!** Thanks to everyone who took the time to connect and share their thoughts and ideas. Your input has shaped the 2024-27 CBE Education Plan in meaningful ways. We all play an important role in supporting student success now and into the future.