

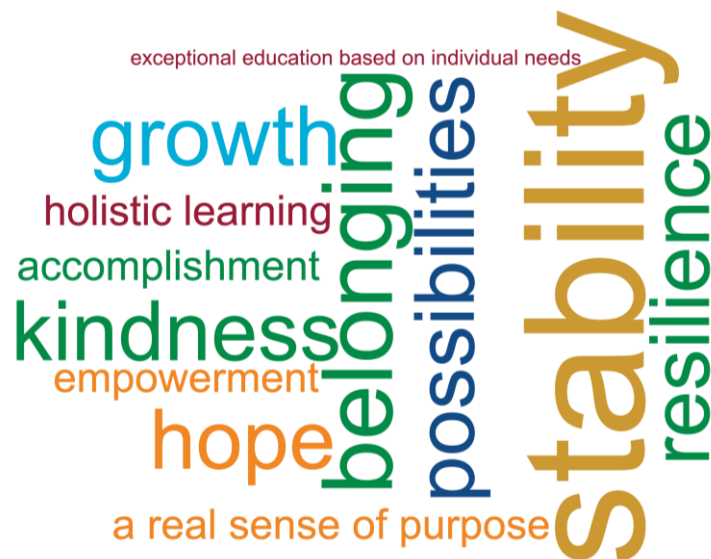


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Education Plan Engagement
Partner Survey Comments
Jan. 15, 2024 – Feb. 19, 2024

Top Themes From Comments

If you could choose one word to describe what you want our students to experience over the next three years, what would it be?



Verbatim Comments

Below you will find all comments provided in the survey as they were written. Comments have not been edited for spelling, grammar, sentence structure, truncation or otherwise. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.

What do you believe are the strengths of CBE students and graduates?

- There are great creative teachers and practitioners. There are increasing options to support different learning needs. CBE students have proven they can be successful in post-secondary and industry.
- Being prepared for post secondary opportunities work or further education
- I believe the strengths of CBE Students and Graduates is their ability to regulate themselves and critically think. It is less about specific competency but instead about a well-rounded and successful outlook on what it means to be a good person that actively engages in the health of our communities.



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- There is great variance in the outcomes for students across the CBE system. There are strengths of high levels of accomplishment and student learning outcomes. There are also students who are dropping out or are not being supported, across the system. Overall the teachers and staff are doing amazing work. Their commitment and contributions are exceptional. The system would benefit from increased acknowledgement of the areas of need and frank conversations about how to address these issues.
- CBE students have the opportunity to participate in and benefit from an extremely wide range of options, pathways, and classes. These diverse opportunities should give each student the opportunity to find an area of interest, or one where they thrive.
- Capacity to learn, opportunities to grow in the community
- the same as the strengths of any student/graduate - they're willing to try their best, keep trying to do what's right and establish relationships
- diversity - students can learn about multiple ways to be successful
- It truly depends on which school and or teachers youth get. The school experience is different for every youth and the I would say that 30 to 50% would report having a positive experience and one that laid the foundation for their future but there is a large group of children who do not experience that. If you are naturally 'smart', no learning difficulties, great memorizer, have a pleasing personality, follow the rules, engage in school activities and come from a family where finances are not an issue school is a great place to be. If that is not your story school is hard and unpleasant.
- Confidence in themselves and their ability to learn
- The CBE is making GREAT strides in changing how they approach learning and who is being included in the process. I feel this will have a great trickle down effect in the years to come. The CBE also offers a variety of streams/specialties for students to explore and learn in. We are very lucky.

Are there any skills you think CBE students and graduates, as a whole, could improve upon for greater success in industry/post-secondary education?

- Focus on Critical Thinking Work with Industry to provide collaborative solutions for students wanting to enter trades Work with Industry to provide collaborative solutions for students to understand post-secondary choices and gear studies towards diverse choices Work with post-secondary partnerships to broaden acceptance beyond GPA, especially where GPA may not be accurate reflection of skills required to be successful in chosen field of study.
- Literacy levels need to increase. There needs to be direct intervention and support earlier because literacy is the foundation for so much learning. This could be supported by different partnerships and supports that recognize diverse learning needs and supports.
- "Life skills" - how to budget, use transport, set up banking, filing taxes etc.
- Financial literacy Functional life skills for all students Self regulation skills & strategies to deal with stress & anxiety An understanding of how to access help in their community, health care system, school, etc. Stop penalizing



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failures! And allow students to make mistakes without shame, and instead learn from their mis-steps, like we all do!

- Critical thinking and connection. Youth at times can lack critical thinking skills and rely on rote memorization because of the systems in which they engage, but lack the ability to unlock or think about the skills they need to utilize for their success. Also, due to lost of various factors, youth are very isolated, and helping them establish skills to connect with their peers and others would create more empathy, kindness and greater sense of community, reducing their own feelings of isolation while improving our communities.
- Math and use of AI / data.
- The need for strengthened relationships could be improved upon. If students don't have a strong sense of belonging and an understanding that there are multiple paths to finding success, then the notion of success (often exclusively measured through grades) might be a barrier. Success is a very subjective term and I wonder how it correlates to industry and the skills of future.
- Wish for ability to form & maintain healthy relationship with self, others and the environment, integrity, citizenship, critical thinking skills. Academic success appears to be seen as priority for students to the point of eroding their wellness, ability to care for others or think critically and creatively.
- acknowledging differences so that they are equipped to work with people with diversity
- Critical thinking, how to bounce back from a mistake or a challenge, cooperation/group work. STOP with standardized testing and actually allow space for children to showcase what they have learned. Critically analyze the benefits for standardize tests - they don't highlight how kids think or internalize the knowledge they have learned to navigate the world.
- Creative problem solving & critical thinking are skills we all need to sharpen in the complex times we're living in
- 1. Students would benefit from experiential education opportunities. 2. Critical Thinking skills are beneficial for all students.
- Problem solving - systems thinking. Citizenship. Innovative thinking (testing ideas). Emotional intelligence (mental health and well being).
- Students need to feel confident in their voice so they can be in industry/post-secondary opportunities and know that their voice, their thinking, and their views matter. They also can respect others voice/thinking/views. The ability to be uncomfortable with not knowing and trusting they will find the answer or solutions.

What are the top challenges and opportunities you think we should consider in planning for the next three years? Please choose the top 10 items you think are most important for us to consider.

Other (please specify):

- In reviewing the list above - i know its unattainable - but tough to choose only 10



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- Prioritizing & appropriately educating school leadership about inclusion & belonging of all students, utilizing UDL for all students, providing necessary PD to support this through strong informed leadership in every school
- Coordinated, cross the system, cross the courses, cross the schools effort to establish and maintain skills to have healthy relationships. This is the foundation of all success in all other areas. Let's get back to the humanity of education; the caring.
- More arts opportunities in the classroom and in the community.

If you could choose one word to describe what you want our students to experience over the next three years, what would it be?

- accomplishment
- Exceptional education based on individual needs
- Resilience
- kindness
- Belonging
- kindness
- possibilities
- Stability
- Growth
- A real sense of purpose, belonging and hope
- stability
- belonging
- Belonging
- Holistic Learning
- Empowerment

If you have any additional thoughts to share about the Education Plan, please include them here.

- It was tricky to answer some of these survey questions as I feel the answers could easily be taken out of context, ie: do I want resources optimized... yes... but does that also mean you want to congregate and segregate students by their ability, culture, religion, gender or grades?... then no thank you. I believe future generations will be more successful by experiencing school the way we experience living in community, with lots of unique people with different experiences sharing their skills and knowledge with each other. Not everyone trying to be any one thing, ie: a straight A student, school president, elite athlete. Students will thrive when they feel & know they 'belong' and have intrinsic value because they are citizens of their community, because they are all equal human beings, and all have value and gifts to realize and share. That is a future I want for all children.
- I think as a society we have done very poorly in making youth feel safe, secure and hopeful. It is time to focus on creating a place where they can make change that benefits them.



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- Curious about the CBE's role as convener in Calgary. I recognize that the CBE mandate is massive, but the CBE is in an interesting position to bring people together, whether that's across industry, forums for teachers and parents, a collective voice of students, etc. - and I wonder how that power of convening could help shape the stories we understand about schools in our community.
- Reflecting on the conversation had at the Feb 2 session, it's evident that the expectations for CBE are incredibly (and perhaps unrealistically) high. I was surprised at how little of the conversation was directed at CBE's primary business - foundational skills in literacy and math. I would encourage CBE to continue considering how community organizations could play a role in meeting the expectations of CBE to ensure student wellbeing.
- We are honoured to be a part of the conversation and working alongside CBE staff and students.