

Oct. 17, 2017

Media Relations
403-819-2317

mediarelations@cbe.ab.ca

Provincial tests are one part of a balanced, broad-based program of student assessment. When analyzed along with many other indicators of student learning, provincial tests provide information to guide our educators as they set targets for student achievement and track the results of school improvement initiatives.

The purpose of the Provincial Assessment Program is to determine whether students are learning what they are expected to learn and to report to Albertans how well students have achieved provincial standards at given points in their schooling.

The provincial standards fall into two categories: Acceptable Standard and the Standard of Excellence. With respect to the Diploma Examination standards, the Acceptable Standard is a mark of 50 per cent or higher and the Standard of Excellence is a mark of 80 per cent or higher. For Provincial Achievement Tests, the exact scores for each standard vary from year to year, but are close to 50 per cent and 80 per cent.

Provincial Achievement Tests

In Grade 6, the percentage of CBE students achieving the Acceptable Standard and the Standard of Excellence equaled or exceeded that of the province in all five subjects.

In Grade 9, the percentage of CBE students achieving the acceptable standard is equal to or above the provincial results on three of five tests. At the standard of excellence we are above the provincial results on four of the five tests.

Our participation rate on the PATs is high because we encourage all students regardless of ability to write these tests. Participation rates in the CBE are higher than the provincial rates on all Grade 6 and 9 tests.

learning | **as unique** | as every student



**Calgary Board
of Education**

Diploma Examinations

On the science diploma examinations at the Standard of Excellence, more than 40 per cent of our students writing the Biology 30 and Chemistry 30 diploma exams have achieved the Standard of Excellence for the fifth year in a row.

In Physics 30, more than 40 per cent of CBE students have achieved the Standard of Excellence for six straight years. This year, they reached a new high with 51 per cent achieving the Standard of Excellence.

In Mathematics 30-1 at the Acceptable Standard our students' results were 4.6 percentage points higher than the provincial results. At the Standard of Excellence they were a very strong 7.7 percentage points higher than the provincial results.

Key Area of Focus

Mathematics is an area of continued focus during the 2017-18 school year as we implement our K-12 Mathematics Strategy. A part of implementation will be the addition of classroom learning coaches with expertise in mathematics in more than 60 schools. They will directly support student success and teacher professional learning.