

**PROVINCIAL EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT SESSION**  
***Shaping the Future of Education: A Shared Vision***

Light of Christ Catholic Schools  
Light of Christ Learning Centre  
1202 – 105<sup>th</sup> Street, North Battleford  
May 2, 2019

At the October 11-12, 2018 Provincial Education Summit, the following eight themes emerged:

1. Graduation requirements are current and flexible, preparing students for their futures;
2. The education system is equitable and sustainable;
3. Early learning and literacy are foundational to future learning and success;
4. Indigenous languages, cultures and identities are affirmed and reconciliation is advanced through education;
5. Inclusive and safe school environments support diversity;
6. Strength-based approaches support mental health and well-being;
7. Curriculum, instruction and assessment are relevant, engaging and culturally affirming; and,
8. Students, parents, teachers and communities are engaged in respectful relationships.

**QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

1. Of the eight themes noted above, what themes do you think are most important for student success and well-being, and why?

Response #1

- 3 & 8 (no explanation)

Response #2

- #3 – this is the foundation of all the rest
- #5 – it encompasses parts of 4, 6, 7, and 8, it could be the umbrella of the rest of the themes

Response #3

- #3
- #5 – 4 & 8 fit into it as well

- #7 & 6 combined
- #1 which includes K to 12

2. Are there other themes that can have a positive impact on preparing students for their future life and learning? If so, what are those, and why are they important?

Response #1

- Developing moral character

Response #2

- Begin with the end in mind, a renewed focus on post-graduation
- Be more response to student's developmental needs
  - o Does our grade system still work?

Response #3

- None missing

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The **objective** of the Provincial Education Engagement Sessions is to:

- seek input from participants on what is important to consider for students' education in the next five to ten years as the education sector partners work together to co-construct a framework for a future provincial education plan.

Please respond to the following four questions by identifying three to five thoughts/ideas you see as important for students in the next five to ten years.

1. What knowledge, skills and abilities do students need to be prepared for their future life and learning? Why are these important?

Response #1

- Accepted, empathy, relate with each other, phones/texting make it harder to relate, back off of phone, teach them to use tech- thinking of a critical way to use it, relationship, students need to be creative and think outside the box, building skills to problem solve, literacy, reading and math \*, faith based. .

Response #2

- Managing money & time
- Study habits, organization
- Interpersonal, collaborative skills – communication in many forms
- Less about learning specific things in each subject area and more about learning the skills necessary to learn about what your need/when you need it.
  - The learning of real life applications
  - The need to be resourceful
  - Literacy in many areas – reading, math, technology
- Problem solving skills

### Response #3

- Reading & literacy
- Out of the box thinking, creativity
- Self-motivated
- Problem – solving
- Communication
- Math skills, numeracy
- Computer literacy
- Comprehension
- Self-regulation
- Relationship skills
- Common sense
- Media literacy
- Executive functioning
- Research – finding info – discerning what is real
- Resilience
- Life skills to be 'healthy' – taking care of business everyday (well-being, exercise, diet, financial literacy)
- Why? We do not even know what we are preparing for – future.

### Response #4

- Solid reading, writing and math as well as technological skills to prepare them for jobs that may not even exist yet
- Communication skills, listening skills
- Life skills
- Exposure to citizenship
- Faith, hope, love

## 2. What gets in the way of student success and well-being?

### Response #1

- Poverty
- Social issues
- Guidance from parents
- Access to the internet
- Basic needs – shelter, food, love, care
- Value of education

## Response #2

- Poverty
- Trauma
- Parent support, interactions
- High costs – extracurricular not accessible to all
- Time – busy – change in family dynamics
- Bullying
- Mental health challenges
- Lack of downtime to be with your own head/regulation/emotional intelligence
- Trying to be someone you're not

## Response #3

- Baggage students bring with them\*\*
- Stress/parent stress
- Financial burdens
- Feeder schools
- Mental health
- Importance of school (some people place)
- Attendance
- Regulations that must be followed
- 24 credit units
- Sustaining of economy
- Transiency
- Less family support
- Less community support
- Hopelessness
- Low parent literacy skills
- Fragmented and blended families
- Low parental involvement
- Lack of executive functions
- Lack of self-regulation
- Parent engagement

#### Response #4

- Cell phone/technology misuse
- Self – regulation skills knowledge
- Bringing home trouble to school
- Lack of sleep – tired
- Attendance
- Priorities
- Self-esteem
- Perseverance/ lack of
- Entitlement – lack of accountability or parent involvement

### 3. What is working well now in Saskatchewan's school system that prepares students for their future?

#### Response #1

- Faith infused system – caring
- Kids supplying input in conf.
- Plan in place to help K to 12 right from the beginning
- Push for literacy
- Faith

#### Response #2

- Some teachers are being very innovative and engaging students in subject areas they may not always be interested in – differentiating for needs of all students, adapting instruction.
- Building relationships with students, making education genuine for them.
- Allow many choices for classes/electives and extracurricular options
- Collaborative model
- In spite of many factors (government, STF, Boards) there is some resilience in our teacher's moral purpose
- Students seem to care more about the world.

#### Response #3

- Collaborations between school divisions
- Focus on early years



- Recognition of mental health issues (ie: mental health initiative at high school, social worker and psych nurse practicums in elementary schools)
- Structure of boards of education
- Local governance
- SCC are working well
- Local elected Boards are close to the people who elect them & represent them well
- Publically funding Catholic and Public education
- Business partnerships
- Student advocacy
- Teachers are innovative
- Faith in catholic schools

#### Response #4

- Stewardship and service opportunities
- Early learning supports
- Flexibility and differentiation
- Exposure to faith (mass & Prayer) - part of a bigger picture, feels good to help others
- Access to technology to support learning
- Counselors coming to school to support
- Student first – more community support
- Teachers best efforts.

#### 4. What needs to change in Saskatchewan's school system to better prepare students for their future?

##### Response #1

- Better supports for teachers and support services teachers
- Needs are different in Northern Communities and every child should get the chance.
- Shouldn't get less money just because oil – fund the acceptable level of education
- Work together with other agencies.

##### Response #2

- Outside agency collaboration
  - o Medical
  - o Mental health
  - o Community partnerships
  - o Ministries
- Ask the students – create engagement

- Not making students fit into a box – what is your goal in life?
- Government perspective: expenditure vs. investment - want them to become productive members of society
- Pre service teaching – are the teachers prepared to teach?
  - o Especially with cultural diversity
- Revitalize focus on rural education

### Response #3

- Regulations
  - o Credits
  - o Minutes
  - o School structures
- Updated curriculum
- Literacy
- Agency connectedness
- Grassroots
- Faith-hope
- Repetition of context - skills until mastery level
- Executive functions
- Life skills
- Change teacher training at University
- Knowledge of mental health issues
- If a curriculum is good in another province buy it, and adapt it rather than wait 10 years to make our own.
- If something is working elsewhere use it.
- Keep catholic education in school-faith must be strong in difficult times and in all times
- Pay teachers better.

### Response #4

- How inclusive education looks, more supports are needed
- Government to prioritize education financially not just verbally. Invest in the future
- Social supports into schools – otherwise its optional for parents to engage
- Advocacy for teachers – faith back in schools (faith in educators as well as faith in schools)
- Security with technology – Cory Patterson’s talk