

Education Re-Imagined:

12 Actions for Education

Conversation Guide

Legislation and Policy in Education

The theme of Legislation and Policy in Education included recommendations about legislation, policy (school division and the Ministry) and curriculum based on data collected through the Re-Imagine initiative.

These recommendations are:

- 7. The school program, including curriculum development, must be updated continually, utilizing teachers' professional knowledge in all phases and providing opportunities for input from parents, students and community members.*
- 8. The Ministry of Education must provide a full range of resources and materials as well as teacher-led professional development opportunities to support curriculum implementation for classroom teachers.*
- 9. School division policies must be developed in collaboration with school staff, parents and students so that the outcomes meet the needs of the community.*

What We Found



77%

of respondents identified that it was important or very important to have **public voice on what is learned at school**; kinds of programs, content or courses.



72%

of respondents felt it was important or very important to **have voice on how learning is assessed**: tests, evaluation methods and assessments.



ONLY
29%

of respondents indicated the Ministry is doing well or very well at overseeing course content.

What We Heard

“Parents feel that they were removed from the process of curriculum discussions and skills that are being taught are different from the parents.”

(Community)

“Classroom sizes are increasing, with resources being taken away. More expectations for curriculum and assessment are being placed on teachers, yet nothing is being taken away. The school system is stressed.”

(Public survey)



What do you think?

The Re-Imagine Education initiative reflected **a diversity of opinions** around the province in a number of policy areas including:

- Late assignments
- Failing students
- Report cards
- Standardized testing

What opportunities could facilitate dialogue and greater understanding within your community on these and other school division or Ministry policies?

Where should conversations about school division and Ministry policies occur and how can there be greater transparency and community involvement?

What should be taught in schools? Basic skills such as numeracy and literacy; develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills; citizenship; life skills? Is there a way to balance these needs? Consider how or whether the focus could vary by student and community.

The Ministry sets the curriculum, which is available on their website for anyone to review.

In what ways could greater transparency and understanding around the curriculum benefit parents/caregivers, students or the community? What questions would you like to ask?

What can you do?

Reach out to your local trustee and ask questions about policies or curriculum development and resources that you are concerned about or want to see in your local school.

Engage in conversations about school curriculum and other school policies with parents, teachers and your community.

Hold provincial government accountable through letters, phone calls and conversations with your MLA to ensure they support robust curriculum development and professional learning opportunities for teachers.

