

# Education Re-Imagined:

12 Actions for Education

## Conversation Guide

### ***The Learning Environment***

*The theme of The Learning Environment included recommendations based on data collected through the Re-Imagine initiative about student success, inclusion and equity, a safe environment, diversity, intensification and intensive needs.*

**These recommendations are:**

- 1.** *Learning spaces must be resourced so that teachers can create a safe and effective learning environment for the diversity of student learning.*
- 2.** *Human resources must be provided to support inclusion and create classrooms where every child can learn. This means providing educational assistants, Elders, speech-language pathologists, educational psychologists, counsellors, librarians, English as an additional language teachers and others to support classroom learning.*
- 3.** *Move beyond test scores. Establish structures and processes to cultivate a sense of shared accountability among government, teachers, parents and community members for student success at all stages of their educational experience.*

## What We Found

Survey respondents said that providing a **safe and welcoming environment** for students is a teacher's **most important** role.



85%

of survey respondents said that a **welcoming environment** is important to their trust and confidence in the school.



APPROXIMATELY

80%

of respondents indicated that **honoring and supporting diversity** was an important feature of an educational setting that supports **student growth**.



APPROXIMATELY

75%

of respondents said that honouring and respecting diversity was **important** in an **educational setting**.

## What We Heard

*“Our schools are often old and tired ... the physical environment is not inspiring. Mismatched tiles on the floors, etc. Our children spend hours and hours in these spaces and teachers try hard to make the space inviting.”*

*(Community Engagement Forum)*

*“The schools are not set up for the learning needs of this generation.”*

*(Community Engagement Forum)*



## What do you think?

**What does a safe and effective learning environment look like?** Do you think children's learning environments are safe and effective now? What changes might make them safer and more effective?

**Do students get the supports they need at school?** Who are the adults they interact with that help them learn other than teachers? Are there enough trained adults in the schools, and if not how can we make sure there are?

**How do you define student success?** What would reassure you in knowing students are getting what they need from the education system? How can that best be reported to parents and to the broader community? Is student success:

- Good grades or a good report card?
- Graduating on time?
- Life skills (taxes, cooking, mechanics)?
- Ready to enter to workforce?
- Other?

## What can you do?

**Contact your local trustee** and talk about what kind of learning environment you want to see for students.

**Take part in conversations** about the importance of a safe learning environment with parents, teachers and the community.

**Hold provincial government accountable** through letters, phone calls and conversations with your MLA to ensure they value and resource safe, inclusive classrooms.



