



Bill 10: Creating welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments

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

Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe

Every day, we work to create welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments where all students feel they belong.

Each student, in keeping with his or her individual abilities and gifts, will complete high school with a foundation of learning necessary to thrive in life, work and continued learning.

Diversity: The full range of uniqueness within humanity.



Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe

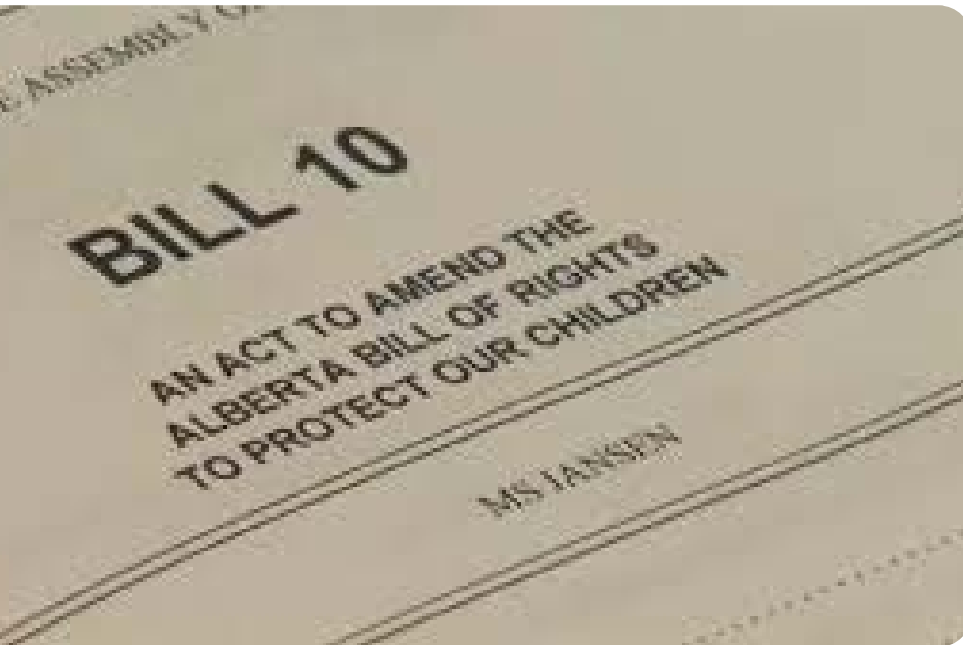


- Bill 10 requires us to strengthen our practices
- Students, parents, staff and school communities share the responsibility for creating welcoming , caring, respectful and safe environments

History of Bill 10

- June, 2015 Bill 10 was proclaimed resulting in:
 - Amendments to the *School Act*
 - Amendments to *Alberta Human Rights Act* to include gender identity and gender expression
- November, 2015 Alberta Education released Guidelines for Best Practices and asked school boards to use them to develop their own policies and procedures
- January, 2016 Minister requested Boards to submit policies, procedures and regulations by March 31, 2016

Key areas resulting from Bill 10



1. New code of conduct
2. Address bullying behaviour
3. Sharing responsibility with parents and students
4. Student-run organizations
5. Guidelines for Gender and Sexual Minority youth
6. Protections for staff

Student Code of Conduct

Student code of conduct must:

- Address prohibitive grounds of discrimination
- Address bullying
- Identify acceptable and unacceptable behaviours
- Identify consequences of unacceptable behaviour
- Focus on promoting positive behaviours
- Clarify student and parent responsibilities



Response to bullying

- Bullying is addressed in Administrative Regulations:
 - Student Code of Conduct
 - Progressive Student Discipline
- 3rd Week of November is Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week



Sharing responsibilities with parents and students

- Bill 10 states that students, parents and schools are accountable for working collaboratively to support positive school environments
- Students and parents all contribute to welcoming, caring, respectful and safe school communities
- Parents are responsible for supporting their children in complying with the new system wide Student Code of Conduct

Student-run organizations

Schools must support student initiated requests for activities/clubs that foster a sense of belonging and respect for diversity

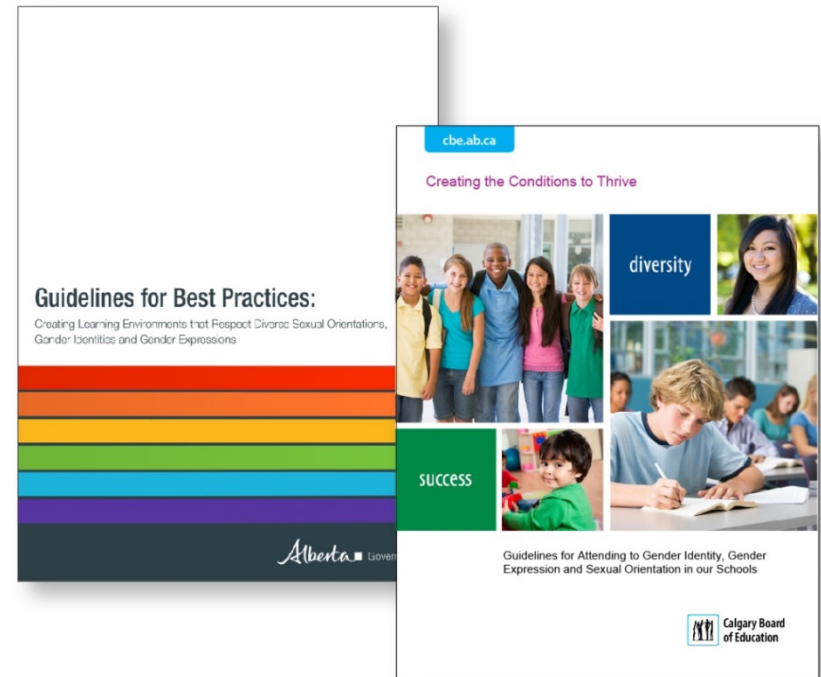
- GSAs are generally student initiated and teacher sponsored
- May be staff initiated
- Direction for school principals regarding student initiated clubs will be articulated in the School Information Handbook



Creating conditions to thrive

The CBE guidelines:

- Formalize our practices to accommodate gender and sexual minority youth
- Align with the provincial guideline
- Provide support for students, families and staff



Creating conditions to thrive

Common questions about the CBE guidelines:

- Privacy and confidentiality
- Parent/guardian participation in decision making
- Use of washrooms/change rooms

Protections for staff

The School Act and the new provincial guidelines for sexual and gender minorities say boards must provide welcoming, caring, respectful and safe environments for students, families and staff

- Well established CBE employment practices exist

Engagement on Bill 10

Ongoing engagement on the Student Code of Conduct:

- Students
- Parents
- Staff



Conclusion

