



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Red Deer-North*

AR117900

February 8, 2022

Ms. Laura Hack
Chair
Calgary Board of Education
1221 - 8 Street SW
Calgary AB T2R 0L4

Dear Laura,

Thank you for your February 4, 2022 email and accompanying letter on behalf of the Calgary Board of Education requesting that implementation of the draft Kindergarten to Grade 6 (K-6) curriculum be delayed until the 2023/24 school year.

We recognize the unique pressures the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on students, teachers and families. That is why we are taking a measured and thoughtful approach to ensure curriculum implementation timelines are manageable for teachers and students.

In response to the feedback we have received from Albertans and education stakeholders, we have adjusted the timelines for implementation of the draft K-6 curriculum by narrowing our focus for September 2022 implementation to three subjects – English Language Arts and Literature, Mathematics, and Physical Education and Wellness. We chose to move forward with these three subjects, specifically, to help further support students whose learning may have been affected by COVID-19. Implementing these subjects will ensure a focus on reading, writing, numeracy and foundational skills that students may be struggling with due to COVID-19 learning disruptions. Additionally, by implementing Physical Education and Wellness students will receive critical education in financial literacy and consent.

On January 20, 2022, I announced the membership of a Curriculum Implementation Advisory Group. This group will help the Alberta government determine how to successfully implement English, Mathematics, and Physical Education in September 2022, including identifying potential supports and resources that may be needed and options for providing these supports and resources to school authorities. The group will also provide advice and recommendations on piloting the remaining K-6 subjects beginning in September 2022, as well as strategies for implementing curriculum in these subjects beginning in September 2023.

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The Curriculum Implementation Advisory Group includes Alberta Education staff and representation from education partners directly accountable for curriculum implementation. These individuals all have extensive qualifications, expertise and experience working within the education system. Of note, Marilyn Dennis, Alberta School Boards Association President and CBE Trustee is a member of this committee and provides the trustee perspective for consideration to complement the feedback of other system members related to curriculum. Meetings will also take place with First Nations school authorities to gather their input on curriculum implementation.

We continue to gather feedback and remain committed to working with education partners and community stakeholders. Alberta's government will carefully consider the recommendations from the advisory group, as well as feedback from all engagement opportunities, reports submitted by school authorities, classroom piloting, correspondence and parent and teacher advisory councils, along with research and best practices.

Thank you for playing a part in delivering a world-class education to Alberta's students. I hope you find this information helpful, and I look forward to continuing to work together with Calgary Board of Education in support of student success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adriana LaGrange". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Adriana LaGrange
Minister