

ASCA Meeting November 27, 2021

1. Parent group selected by the government to advise, but not sure who was selected or how they were selected; ASCA was not involved
2. Survey questions: re: mental health surrounding COVID, safety measures taken up by schools, questions regarding HEPA filters, standardized testing and learning disruptions, vaccinations
3. Presentation by Dr. Amy Von Heyking re: curriculum
  - a. Discussed who is usually involved in building of curriculum—it is a collaborative task, typically single subject matters at one time, consult stakeholders, people with different expertise (subject area, educators, assessors, experts in learning theory, etc)
  - b. In 2013 there was a vision to guide students to be engaged thinkers, to be ethical citizens with entrepreneurial spirits and to build competencies in critical thinking, problem solving, creativity and innovation, communication, managing information, collaboration, personal growth and well being, cultural and global citizenship
  - c. Curriculum by NDP government had less focus on information and more on competencies (critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, collaboration, communication, managing information, personal growth and wellness, global citizenship), concept based, involved 400 educators, education researchers, MoA with ATA established a partnership for curriculum development
  - d. Current government
    - i. had individual consultants vs. multiple groups involved
    - ii. does have a common framework with organizing idea, knowledge, guiding question, understanding, learning outcome, skills and procedures in all subject areas
    - iii. focus on literacy, numeracy, citizenship, and practical skills, contains 480 pages of learning outcomes, can access highlight sheets for key themes
  - e. Discussion of what comprises a high-quality curriculum—needs to aim for “deep understanding”
    - i. Clear sense of purpose
    - ii. Well sequenced
    - iii. Coherent structure
    - iv. Foster critical thinking
    - v. Time to explore and connect
    - vi. Questions to ask:
      1. Would my child be motivated to learn by this program?
      2. Can the content be connected to what my child already knows?
      3. Does it seem to be well sequenced: Would it build their understandings logically and coherently?
      4. Does it seem to be framed around “big ideas” that matter in the subject area and could make sense to my child?
      5. Would it help my child understand how to do the subject and think critically in the subject?

6. Would the program be able to help my child connect to what they're learning? Connect what they're learning to the real world?
7. What does education for citizenship mean today and for our children?
8. What should they learn—reflective of who Albertans are? Foster citizens? Child see and value themselves and others in the program? Learn what they need to help AB flourish?
9. Curriculum analysis website <https://alberta-curriculum-analysis.ca/>
10. As parents it is important to educate yourself (resources include an ATA review) and give feedback

4. ASCE Grant

- a. Administration/school division submit on school council behalf
- b. \$500 per school—many things this money can not go towards, ie. Food, membership fees...see ASCA website
- c. To be utilized to engage school community

5. Assurance Framework

- a. Assurance involves: demonstrating to Albertans that the education system is meeting the needs of students and students are successful; building public confidence in the education system, relationship-building and engagement between all education partners and by creating and sustaining a culture of continuous improvement and collective responsibility
- b. Assurance areas in:
  - i. Student Growth and Achievement
  - ii. Teaching and Leading
  - iii. Learning Supports
  - iv. Governance

6. Proposed Advocacy Resolutions due January 15