

LEARNING COMMONS

Background

Students must have access to an effective learning commons program as an integral part of the instructional program. The purpose of the learning commons program is to provide learning services, books and resources that enable students to become critical thinkers and effective users of information in all formats and media, with links to the wider library and information network. The program is to also help develop student's appreciation for literature, and expand their cultural awareness and sensitivity. Learning commons program goals shall be developed in alignment with the Goals of Education for Alberta.

Procedures

1. The development, implementation and assessment of a learning commons program is the responsibility of each Principal.
2. Each Principal shall establish a Committee to provide ongoing direction for the development, implementation and assessment of the school's learning commons program. The structure of the committee shall be determined by the Principal; however, it shall include a representative assembly of professional staff and at least one (1) member of the school's administration.
3. The learning commons program shall be developed to meet the recommended Alberta Education and Division standards as outlined in the Learning Commons Manual.
4. Each Principal shall develop and keep current a statement of goals and objectives for that school's learning commons program using the requisite forms provided for that purpose in the Learning Commons Manual. Although specific school-based learning commons program goals will change each year, it is expected that principals shall:
 - 4.1 Provide students with opportunities to learn, practice and master reading literacy and information literacy skills;
 - 4.2 Provide a positive student-centered environment that will accommodate a variety of teaching and learning styles;
 - 4.3 Encourage effective integration of a broad variety of resources into the instructional and recreational programs offered by the school;
 - 4.4 Integrate effective resource-based teaching and learning through cooperative program planning;
 - 4.5 Provide resources and instructional activities for students in keeping with the age and maturity level of the students.

5. The Superintendent shall develop, adopt and keep up to date the Learning Commons Manual to provide detailed advice and/or guidelines on the operation of learning commons within the Division.

Adopted/Revised: JUN 2016/NOV 2019

Reference: Section 3, 18, 33, 41, 52, 53, 55, 196, 197, 222 Education Act
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12