

**GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MINISTERIAL ORDER (#001/2013)**

I, Jeff Johnson, Minister of Education, pursuant to Section 39(1)(f) of the *School Act*, make the order in the attached Appendix, being an order to adopt or approve goals and standards applicable to the provision of education in Alberta.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta May 6, 2013.


MINISTER OF EDUCATION

APPENDIX

SCHOOL ACT

MINISTERIAL ORDER (#001/2013)

STUDENT LEARNING

**An Order to Adopt or Approve Goals and Standards Applicable to the
Provision of Education in Alberta**

WHEREAS the fundamental goal of education in Alberta is to inspire all students to achieve success and fulfillment, and reach their full potential by developing the competencies of Engaged Thinkers and Ethical Citizens with an Entrepreneurial Spirit, who contribute to a strong and prosperous economy and society.

WHEREAS education in Alberta is based on the values of opportunity, fairness, citizenship, choice, diversity, and excellence.

WHEREAS the educational best interest of the child is the paramount consideration in making decisions about a child's education.

WHEREAS education in Alberta will be shaped by a greater emphasis on education than on the school; on the learner than on the system; on competencies than on content; on inquiry, discovery and the application of knowledge than on the dissemination of information; and on technology to support the creation and sharing of knowledge than on technology to support teaching.

WHEREAS competencies are interrelated sets of attitudes, skills and knowledge that are drawn upon and applied to a particular context for successful learning and living, are developed over time and through a set of related learner outcomes.

WHEREAS students will study subjects; learn reading, writing and mathematics; and focus more deeply on a curriculum that allows for more interdisciplinary learning through competencies that are explicit in all subjects.

WHEREAS an Engaged Thinker knows how to think critically and creatively and make discoveries through inquiry, reflection, exploration, experimentation and trial and error; is competent in the arts and sciences including languages; uses technology to learn, innovate, collaborate, communicate and discover; has developed a wide range of competencies in many areas, including gathering, analysis and evaluation of information; is familiar with multiple perspectives and disciplines and can identify problems and then find the best solutions; as a team member, integrates ideas from a variety of sources into a coherent whole and communicates these ideas to others; adapts to the many changes in society and the economy with an attitude of optimism and hope for the future; as a lifelong learner, believes there is no limit to what knowledge may be gleaned, what skills may be accumulated, and what may be achieved in cooperation with others; and always keeps growing and learning.

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WHEREAS an Ethical Citizen understands that it is not all about them, has learned about and is appreciative of the effort and sacrifice that built this province and country and sees beyond self-interests to the needs of the community; is committed to democratic ideals; contributes fully to the world economically, culturally, socially and politically; as a steward of the earth, minimizes environmental impacts; builds relationships through fairness, humility and open mindedness, with teamwork, collaboration and communication; engages with many cultures, religions and languages, values diversity in all people and adapts to any situation; demonstrates respect, empathy and compassion for all people; cares for themselves physically, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually; is able to ask for help, when needed, from others, and also for others; and assumes the responsibilities of life in a variety of roles.

WHEREAS an individual with an Entrepreneurial Spirit is motivated, resourceful, self-reliant and tenacious; continuously sets goals and works with perseverance and discipline to achieve them; through hard work, earns achievements and the respect of others; strives for excellence and personal, family and community success; is competitive and ready to challenge the status quo; explores ideas and technologies alone or as part of diverse teams; is resilient, adaptable, able and determined to transform discoveries into products or services that benefit the community and, by extension, the world; develops opportunities where others only see adversity; has the confidence to take risks and make bold decisions in the face of adversity, recognizing that to hold back is to be held back; and has the courage to dream.

WHEREAS graduation requirements, education delivery and standards for student learning are set out in other legislative and policy instruments.

- 1 Ministerial Order No. 004/98, dated February 10, 1998, is hereby repealed by this order.
- 2 The goal of this Student Learning Ministerial Order for an inclusive Kindergarten to Grade 12 education is to enable all students to achieve the following outcomes:
 - (1) be Engaged Thinkers and Ethical Citizens with an Entrepreneurial Spirit;
 - (2) strive for engagement and personal excellence in their learning journey;
 - (3) employ literacy and numeracy to construct and communicate meaning; and
 - (4) discover, develop and apply competencies across subject and discipline areas for learning, work and life to enable students to:
 - (a) know how to learn: to gain knowledge, understanding or skills through experience, study, and interaction with others;
 - (b) think critically: conceptualize, apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate to construct knowledge;
 - (c) identify and solve complex problems;

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- (d) manage information: access, interpret, evaluate and use information effectively, efficiently, and ethically;
- (e) innovate: create, generate and apply new ideas or concepts;
- (f) create opportunities through play, imagination, reflection, negotiation, and competition, with an entrepreneurial spirit;
- (g) apply multiple literacies: reading, writing, mathematics, technology, languages, media, and personal finance;
- (h) demonstrate good communication skills and the ability to work cooperatively with others;
- (i) demonstrate global and cultural understanding, considering the economy and sustainable development; and
- (j) identify and apply career and life skills through personal growth and well-being.

3 This Order shall be effective on the date of signing.