

# Why Change the System Now?



## **New Skills for Future**

Parents expect their kids to learn the basics – reading, writing and math. The new curriculum will teach them those skills in a way that connects them to collaboration, communication, and critical thinking skills that are so important after high school. These are the core skills

universities, colleges, and employers tell us they are looking for. The Ministry is also bringing a new core skill into schools – coding, which teaches students the critical thinking and logical approach crucial for success in tech careers and in almost every other field.

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# Why Change the System Now?



## Research on Learning

We are moving forward based on leading practices from around the world and research of how children and teens actually learn, which tells us:

- No two students learn the same way or at the same pace;
  - Effective learning is not just memorizing, but being able to apply knowledge in real-world settings; and
  - The best outcomes come through approaches that harness students' own interests and passions.
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# Why Change the System Now?

British Columbia has one of the best education systems in the world: teachers are skilled, and students are performing at the top of international assessments. But the world is changing and we need to make sure students have the skills they need to succeed in our changing world. That's why it's critical that we refine our education system, designed in the last century, so students can succeed in the 21st Century.

## Tapping into the Passions of Youth

B.C.'s new curriculum will help students learn by exploring their interests and passions. Whether it is computers, hockey or art, passion is a motivator and students can connect with their interests to excel in the classroom.



# Building on Success of New Curriculum

International assessments show that our students are among the best in the world – in reading, science and math. We are building on that success. Students will pursue their passions and interests as part of their learning, helping them to learn the skills critical to success in our changing world.

## Our work will build on B.C.'s high standards.

B.C.'s teachers are at the heart of this success. Teachers will continue to be guides, coaches, and mentors – helping students learn how to learn.

## Development Process of New Curriculum

The new curriculum is based on solid research, international classroom successes, and extensive consultations with teachers, parents, students, and leaders in education. The Ministry of Education has worked directly with about 200 teachers in the development of the revised curriculum, and nearly 5,000 public comments were received throughout a nine-month engagement process that was held in 2011/12.



\*We continue to work closely with the Association of B.C. Deans of Education and the B.C. and Canadian Councils of Admissions and Transfers.

# What Students Will Learn



To help B.C.'s students thrive in today's changing world, core competencies are a focus. These critical skills are the basis of our education system, and the key components of developing an educated citizen. Students will develop the intellectual, personal, social and emotional skills required to engage deeply in their learning and succeed in work, and in life.

## New Skills & Knowledge

By applying their skills and knowledge in new, often interdisciplinary situations, students will develop:

- Critical thinking and problem-solving;
- Collaboration and leadership;
- Communication and digital literacy;
- Personal and social responsibility;
- Creativity and innovation; and
- Global and cultural understanding.

## Aboriginal Perspectives

Aboriginal perspectives and knowledge are an important part of the historical foundation of both B.C. and Canada, and will be integrated into every subject in the new curriculum. All students will have opportunities to better understand and respect a variety of cultures, both their own and others.

# Future of Reporting Student Progress

As B.C.'s curriculum is enhanced, we must make sure our assessment and reporting of student progress keeps pace.



## The Future

The goal of reporting student progress is to ensure that parents get the information they want about their children and their progress. In reporting, the goal is having the student's learning documented over time by the teacher, using collections of the student's work to create a profile of their strengths, areas of growth, and areas for further development. Students learn best when the communication between the teacher and the parent is ongoing, responsive and clear about how the parent can help their child.

## Role of Technology

Through technology and changes in assessment practices and reporting, parents will receive information on their children in a more timely and responsive manner.

# Future of Reporting Student Progress



## What will continue?

Exams will continue to be rigorous and based on learning standards that evaluate student achievement, core competencies, essential learning, literacy, and math skills. However, more flexibility will be introduced into the assessment process wherever possible.

Parents will continue to receive information on students' progress in areas such as science, social studies, mathematics,

arts, physical health education, careers, applied skills, design and technology, as well as literacy and math skills.

## New Approaches

Many school districts have been exploring new ways of reporting student progress using a number of different approaches, and we need to hear from you on what is important to you as we move forward.

# Preparing Students for Success



Our education system aims to give all our students the skills they need to succeed in our changing world, and to be first in line for the jobs of tomorrow. B.C.'s new curriculum is focused on providing our children with skills and abilities needed after high school – in university, college, and skills training, as well as in the workplace.

## **B.C.'s Skills for Jobs Blueprint: Re-engineering Education and Training:**

The B.C. Skills for Jobs Blueprint sets a path for how students can best be educated and trained to align with in-demand jobs.

Read more about this plan here: [workbc.ca/skills](http://workbc.ca/skills)

## **Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan:**

The BC Jobs Plan will create long-term jobs and investment in the province by building on BC's strengths and converting them into competitive advantages that provide job opportunities for British Columbians.

Read more about this plan here: [engage.gov.bc.ca/bcjobsplan](http://engage.gov.bc.ca/bcjobsplan)

## **#BCTECH Strategy:**

The #BCTECH Strategy is a key component of the BC Jobs Plan to create a provincial environment that allows further growth and investment in the technology industry.

Read more about this plan here: [bctechstrategy.gov.bc.ca](http://bctechstrategy.gov.bc.ca)