

LEARNING COMMONS

Background

School Learning Commons represent an important component of an effective educational program and represent a significant resource centre for students wishing to pursue life-long learning, independent decision making, and personal development.

The Division believes that an effective integrated Learning Commons program supported by a wide range of carefully selected learning resources can enhance the learning opportunities for students.

Procedures

1. The principal shall ensure that the school Learning Commons provides a comprehensive collection of materials for student use that meets the following criteria:
 - 1.1 Stimulates growth and knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values and ethical standards;
 - 1.2 Provides information that will allow students to make considered judgments;
 - 1.3 Provides students with a perspective of our Canadian society and its many facets to show clearly the contributions of varied ethnic groups to our social, political, economic and creative life;
 - 1.4 Provides students with a global perspective; and
 - 1.5 Seeks a balance between fiction and non-fiction works as recommended by Alberta Education.
2. The selection of learning materials will meet the directions laid out in the Controversial Issues section of The Guide to Education and comply with Administrative Procedure 205 – Controversial Issues - Education.
3. Parents, students and members of the community shall have the opportunity to challenge the appropriateness of certain materials in the Learning Commons or in the school (see Form 205-1: Reconsideration of Educational Materials).
4. The principal and Learning Commons personnel, in cooperation with classroom teachers, shall plan together a Learning Commons program to supplement the classroom instructional program in the school.
5. The principal, in cooperation with Learning Commons personnel, shall ensure that an assessment of Learning Commons materials be conducted once every five years.
6. The principal, in cooperation with Learning Commons personnel, shall prepare an annual budget for the purchasing of Learning Commons materials as part of the school budgeting process (see Procedure 1).

7. Learning Commons personnel shall ensure that the school Learning Commons maintains an up-to-date listing of the appropriate Learning Commons selection catalogues.
8. The principal shall encourage the application of new technology systems and establish procedures for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the school Learning Commons.

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