

COMBINED THREE-YEAR EDUCATION PLAN 2020-2023

and ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT 2019-2020

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Accountability Statement

The Annual Education Results Report for the 2019/2020 school year and the Three-Year Education Plan commencing September 1, 2020 for Aurora School Ltd. were prepared under the direction of the Board in accordance with its responsibilities under the *Education Act* and the Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act. This document was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used the results reported in the document, to the best of its abilities, to develop the education plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results.

The Board approved this combined Annual Education Results Report for the 2019/2020 school year and the Three-Year Education Plan for 2020/ 2023 on November 18, 2020.

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Arlene Huhn, Chair Aurora School Ltd. Board of Directors

Rockwood

Janet Rockwood Acting Superintendent

Vision

The best choice for highly structured and enhanced academics.

Mission

Empower learning excellence through sequenced instruction in a student-centred environment, supported by families. Instruction is informed by research and delivered in a whole group setting with a focus on academic rigour and mastery.

A Profile of School Authority

The Charter for Aurora School Ltd. was granted on March 8, 1996. Our school first opened on September 9, 1996 serving 280 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8. The original school location was the former Misericordia Hospital Nurses' Residences located in West Edmonton. In September 1997, Aurora School Ltd. extended the educational program to Grade 9. Our Charter was successfully renewed in 2001, 2006, 2011, and 2016. This school year, 2020/21, Aurora is excited to apply for a 15-year charter renewal.

In 2007, Aurora Academic Charter School moved to its current Sherbrooke Community location, 12245 - 131 Street in Edmonton. The Aurora school building is leased from Edmonton Public School Division. Our school employs 48 certificated teachers, two principals, two assistant principals, a full-time acting superintendent, twelve support staff, a contracted custodial team, a contracted student health support team, and a contracted student school bus service.

Our school includes two gymnasiums, one wellness physical training centre (with both cardiovascular and strength training equipment), an Elementary multi-purpose wellness activity centre (Cub Corner), a Foods Lab, a Learning Commons/Library (completed 2016) with state-of-the-art instructional technology, two experimental science learning laboratories, art facility, and 38 classrooms, all of which contain SMART boards and one-to-one technology devices.

Our Elementary school was recently renovated to include an Elementary entrance area (northwest corner). This renovation design includes a large foyer area for improved parental access and engagement along with upgraded Elementary administration and support team facilities. This addition also includes a flex staff/conference room to allow for increased collaboration and consultation with students, parents, staff, and stakeholders. The anticipated grand opening of the Elementary entrance area is December 2020.

Our Aurora programming is in high demand with just over 3000 Edmonton and area students on the wait-list. The large number of applicants share the Edmonton regional area demand for our unique, innovative, and highly successful academic-focused teaching and learning community at Aurora.

Aurora students continue to achieve at very high levels, as is evident by historic and current Provincial Achievement Test results. Our enhancements of numeracy and literacy knowledge, skills, attitudes, and competencies continue to yield strong dividends for our students and their futures. We are proud to note that our Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Test results are among the very highest in Alberta and we were invited to participate in a provincial research study to extrapolate our results to the wider provincial context.

Trends and Issues

COVID-19 has presented many challenges and opportunities for Aurora School. Last spring, Aurora staff pivoted quickly to provide high quality learning for all Aurora students. During the summer, much work was completed by teachers and administration to ensure readiness for the 3 possible re-opening scenarios as outlined by Alberta Education. The fall saw approximately 30% of our students choosing to learn from home for the first term. This necessitated the development of the new position of At-Home Learning Coordinator to oversee the program and ensure that at-home learners were receiving the same quality of education as our at-school learners. This has required a substantial financial obligation.

COVID-19 has changed technology use and teacher practice. New technology was purchased to facilitate each child having their own device to ensure safety and to allow for a seamless transition to at-home learning if needed due to a change in scenario, or isolation due to COVID or close contact with a COVID case. Teachers have adapted teaching to include more digital content for at-home learning for those choosing to learn from home, and to facilitate the use of less paper to provide as safe an environment as possible for all. With this increased use of technology, much time has and will be spent on professional development and support for staff, parents, and students. Aurora School has seen changes in leadership during the last several years. The school-based administration team has experienced secondments as well as administration leaving for permanent positions at Alberta Education. Administration has worked together to build a collaborative team model with mentorship and cross-school coordination strategies. In the summer of 2020, the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer all retired. We look forward to sustained leadership going forward.

With the new funding framework's Specialized Learning Support Grant, Aurora has built its own Health Services Team. Our team includes a Speech-Language Pathologist, an Occupational Therapist, and a Registered Psychologist. This in-house team will be able to provide both universal and targeted supports, and will provide assistance for students, families, and teachers as part of our inclusive educational philosophy. we look forward to the positive contributions this team will bring to Aurora.

A key strategic improvement trend with our Aurora teaching and learning team during the last several years integrates a more student-centred pedagogical approach within our whole group instruction model. This process includes a student focused integration of learning supports for higher-order thinking skills in correlation with provincial curriculum learning outcomes across all subjects. The results of this more student-centred learning approach are evidenced by our exemplary provincial-leading student achievements. Our students continued to score very high and significantly above provincial averages in all subjects as indicated by our Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) results. Our Aurora students' PAT pass rate (2019) was 99.3% compared to the provincial average of 73.8% and our Aurora students' PAT excellence rate (80% or higher) was 56.3% compared to the provincial average of 20.6%. These exceptional results provide testament to the dedication and efficacy of our whole group instruction and student-focused approach. This, coupled with targeted and individualized learning supports enhance curriculum outcome mastery, empowered with a strong work ethic and focus on the enhancement of numeracy and literacy knowledge, skills, attitudes and competencies. Our exceptional results speak to the strong sense of engagement and community among the students, parents, teachers, school administration team, School Council, Board of Directors, and community/educational partnerships at Aurora.

While our Aurora Charter includes provincial approval to offer Kindergarten to Grade 12 programming, our current facility does not support the addition of high school programming. Recent changes removing the enrolment cap for charter schools are welcomed as this supports the growth of our program. We look forward to continuing to provide parent choice within the public education system to the large number of parents who are interested in our program and hope to expand our highly successful teaching and learning protocols to include high school students. We will continue to work in partnership with Alberta Education to attain this goal and are thankful for continued support in this quest for our students, parents, staff and community stakeholders. The addition of an innovative Aurora academic high school program with Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and Business career pathways would increase accessibility and capacity for students in the Edmonton region and assist with the current and looming shortages of high school accessibility and enrollment capacity. We are continuing our dialogue and research partnerships with a number of post-secondary institutions including (but not limited to) the University of Alberta, University of Calgary, MacEwan University, Simon Fraser University, University of British Columbia, and NAIT Polytechnic.

One of our goals for Aurora includes a prospectus for innovative dual credit/dual credential opportunities to inspire and accelerate our students' high school to post-secondary learning opportunities, career pathways, and life-long success. Our Board and Senior Administration team will continue to work toward this goal with our students, parents and stakeholders.

The Aurora teaching and learning team is exploring practice and research in innovative approaches to build social capital with our students, parents, staff and community. Aurora serves a school with a significant and plural proportion of parents and students from a wide variety of world locations. Approximately one-third of our families have a primary home language other than English or French. Our research project in partnership with Simon Fraser University, University of Alberta, Edmonton Public Schools, Alberta Education and Aurora helped build capacity for our Aurora team and stakeholders in social connectedness for all stakeholders, learning achievement, and wellness.

Summary of Accomplishments

Our Aurora teaching and learning team has strategically focused on the expectations and recommendations of Alberta Education's evaluation team to optimize student, staff, parent and stakeholder success and alignment with the current *Education Act* and associated legislative and regulatory requirements. In particular, we have focused on ensuring that all stakeholders are well aware of our highly structured and accountable teaching and learning systems that include an increased articulation and clarity of our whole group instruction model, student-centred policies, administrative regulations, and practices empowered by a diligent work ethic.

Key strategies generated and employed by our Aurora teaching and learning team in the last three years include:

- A review and overhaul of the Aurora Board of Directors Policy Manual and Aurora Articles of Association to provide clarity, strengthen communication, and ensure coherence for all stakeholders. This process has included:
 - a) Extensive analysis and refinement of Board Policies in alignment with the Alberta Education charter evaluation recommendations, the *Education Act*, and current Alberta Education legislation, regulations, and in alignment with our recent charter evaluation recommendations and requirements.

- b) Review and update of Administrative Regulations to clearly define administrative operational procedures and to build clarity and consistency in the roles of governance and administration.
- c) Rewrite and approval of our *Aurora Articles of Association* to assure consistency and alignment with the Education Act and business plan, both short term and longitudinal.
- d) Review and amendments to the current Charter to reflect a more student-centred approach within the direct instruction model of teaching and learning.
- 2 The completion of our 2nd Volume of school-based action research and community of practice along with publication online of our many recent research partnerships, presentations and publications. Our research teams have presented at numerous conferences in both Calgary and Edmonton to a wide range of audiences including teachers from all public school divisions in the province; teachers, administrators, and Board Members from all Alberta Charter Schools; Alberta Education stakeholders; and university/post-secondary partners. Our Aurora team's Action Research projects are accessible online on our Aurora website located at: https://www.auroraschool.ca/ under the Research tab. The research project titles/themes (a small sample of the many themes) include:
 - a) Considering First Nations' Perspectives in Successful Music Pedagogy;
 - b) Assessment in Mathematics;
 - c) Energy Knowledge and Misconceptions in Grade 8 students;
 - d) Fostering Effective Vertical and Horizontal Collaboration within Single School and Multi-School Settings Simultaneously and Independently;
 - e) Google Chromebook Implementation at Aurora Academic Charter School;
 - f) Creating Opportunities for the Growth of Student Success;
 - g) Exploring the Efficacy of Flipped Classrooms Compared to Traditional Lecture Classrooms;
 - h) Trajectories in mathematics provincial achievement test student performance longitudinally;
 - i) Parent voice and perspective on the parent-teacher interview process and social connectedness in the school community;
 - j) Literacy knowledge and skills development; and
 - k) Building a student-centred approach in assessment, both formative and summative.

- 3 Successful completion and publication of a math research project: *Trajectories in Student Mathematics Performance* in collaboration with the University of Alberta, and a social connectedness research project funded by Alberta Education and in collaboration with Simon Fraser University, Edmonton School Division, and the University of Alberta: *Parent/Guardian Voice and Perspectives for Improvement of Engagement and Social Connectedness within the Multicultural Fabric and Culture of Schools.*
- 4 The Aurora Aspiring Leadership Program (AALP) was created in order to better support leadership development with Aurora staff and to actively engage staff in professional learning communities along with both school-based and central office-based administration. This voluntary program meets regularly after school and during PD days to build leadership capacity throughout our staff cohort. A number of special leadership guests including distinguished researchers and leaders will add to this powerful process developing leadership knowledge, skills, attitudes and competencies for our Aurora organization now and into the future.
- **5** The continuation in the Middle School of its Curriculum Lead program with experienced teachers actively engaged in a vital role as department heads for core subject areas. Their responsibilities included organizing department meetings, gathering resources, helping to implement teaching strategies or resources, helping to analyze and then write the analysis reports for the PATs, guiding teachers in assessment creation and implementation, scheduling final exams, and taking on the role of acting administrators as opportunity arises. Curriculum leads have been actively engaged in assessment professional development to disseminate new learnings and practices to the teaching team.
- **6** The continuation of the Elementary School Special Project program, where all teachers can apply for micro-grants to target specific areas of school improvement. This use of resources has been incredibly successful and has engaged teachers both experienced and new as leaders in improving school outcomes in a team-based approach. Projects completed to date include:
 - a) Vertically integrating the mathematics program across grades 1-6 with a new program in grades 2 and 3
 - b) Creating student-centred assessment rubrics in partnership with the Alberta Assessment Consortium

- c) Adding research-based Mindfulness resources to the grade 3 and 4 Health resources to improve student mental health
- d) Updating the reading program in grade 1
- e) Creating and implementing cohesive, student-centred, experiential learning programs for Music and Health across grade 4
- f) Updating a cohesive literature program across grade 4
- g) Creating concept-based math review sheets for grade 2
- h) Mentorship of new staff to provide a highly cohesive program to all students
- i) School beautification through a generative literacy-based art project to inspire students' love of reading
- 7 The exemplary inter-disciplinary efforts and award-winning achievements of our Aurora School students and staff at the Edmonton Regional Science Fair and the Canada Wide Science Fair. The pilot project in our Elementary School to introduce students to interdisciplinary Science Fair concepts earlier in their academic career has proved very popular in engaging students in project-based learning within our direct instruction model. Our students continue to distinguish themselves and our teaching and learning team with strong efforts and high participation rates. Our Aurora Science Department Curriculum Lead and Science Fair team lead and organizer was successful in having the Canada Wide Science Fair come to Edmonton May 9-15, 2020. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 it was cancelled, but the fair will return to Edmonton in 2023 and 2026.
- 8 The development and integration by our Aurora teaching and learning team of leading-edge instructional technologies to complement our whole group instructional, student-focused approach. Ongoing professional development includes the employment of a collegial coaching model to build our capacity to employ computer applications such as G Suite Enterprise for Education and similar programs to enhance the learning experience for every student. Moreover, we are extending the envelope of access to teaching and learning resources toward a 24/7 accessible model that optimizes access and use by all stakeholders via PowerSchool and Family Zone online supports. COVID-19 has accelerated our implementation of many technologies as necessitated by changes to instruction both for at-school and at-home learners.

Successful development and inclusion of numerous systemic wellness initiatives including:

a) Implementation of students' Leadership and Social Justice Clubs;

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- Expansion of Physical Activities for students to include Cross-Country Running, Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Skating, Yoga, Dance, Track and Field, and participation in a number of Edmonton area athletic and wellness events;
- c) Enhancement of our student/staff wellness centres that include both cardiovascular and strength training resources and equipment;
- d) Active engagement of psychologists and counselors to improve teacher knowledge and efficacy to meet the needs of students and provide optimal supports for successful learning and wellness for our entire Aurora team of stakeholders as well as support for specific students; and
- e) Teacher Action Research projects focused on improving systemic physical and mental wellness.
- f) Continuing emphasis of social activism for students such Pink Shirt Day, Orange Shirt Day, WE Day, and presentations by the Saffron Center on Internet safety. The message and attitude conveyed is that Aurora School cares about the wellness of students and that we recognize and celebrate differences.
- g) The building of a Specialized Learning Support Team. This team includes a Speech Language Pathologist, an Occupational Therapist, and a Psychologist. COVID-19 has the potential to increase the needs of our school community for additional mental health support, and we have the supports in place to be responsive.
- h) Strengthening our community relationship with amiskwaciy Academy and Mother Earth's Charter School and the inclusion of those schools' Elders and students in Aurora School activities.
- Growing our Action Research Community of Practice to include multiple school/division partners as well as sponsored projects in collaboration with the University of Alberta, Faculty of Education, Simon Fraser University (Dr. Malcolm Steinberg, Principal Investigator), Aurora Academic Charter Schools, and Edmonton Public Schools. We were the successful recipient of an Alberta Education call for research proposals that resulted in \$50,000.00 in grants to explore parents' perspectives in parent-teacher interview processes with a lens to improve social connectedness and communication. We are honoured to continue our innovation and research partnerships with Alberta Education, The Association of Alberta Charter Schools, and multiple school authorities, and universities across Canada.

- Separation of the advisory body from the financial body of the parent-led School Council. The Parent Council retains its original mandate of providing the school principals advice and guidance in administrative decisions that affect school stakeholders. The newly created Aurora Fundraising Society oversees the financial aspects of the School Council, which includes fundraising ideas. The AFS applied for and received a casino date for 2021, which may be amended due to COVID-19. Shifting to virtual meetings has been a positive, as we are seeing greater attendance at meetings.
- 12 Teachers continue to refine their skills and knowledge of assessment through professional development and training through the Alberta Assessment Consortium. These workshops provide greater perspectives on assessment in the digital era with focus on refining skills towards a student-centered approach on assessment. Aurora School values this development in teachers and has ensured funding to allow teachers to attend these workshops.



Combined 2020 Accountability Pillar Overall Summary

(Required for Public/Separate/Francophone/Charter School Authorities and Level 2 Private Schools)

Measure Category	Measure	Au	rora School	Ltd.		Alberta		Ν	leasure Evaluatio	n
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	Safe and Caring	86.8	86.7	87.8	89.4	89.0	89.2	High	Maintained	Good
	Program of Studies	77.0	75.8	754	82.4	82.2	82.2	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Student Learning Opportunities	Education Quality	91.2	91.7	92.1	90.3	90.2	90.1	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
	Drop Out Rate	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	2.6	2.7	Very High	n/a	n/a
Student Learning	PAT: Acceptable	99.3	99.8	99.3	79.7	73.8	73.6	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Achievement (Grades K-9)	PAT: Excellence	56.3	47.8	50.4	73.8	20.6	19.6	Very High	Improved	Excellent
Preparation for Lifelong	Work Preparation	89.1	92.9	91.6	84.1	83.0	82.7	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	Citizenship	82.0	81.4	82.7	83.3	82.9	83.2	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Parental Involvement	Parental Involvement	90.0	84.2	83.3	81.8	81.3	81.2	Very High	Improved	Excellent
Continuous Improvement	School Improvement	79.7	79.9	77.5	81.5	81.0	80.9	High	Maintained	Good

Aggregated PAT results are based upon a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence). The weights are the number of students enrolled in each course. Courses included: English Language Arts (Grades 6, 9); Mathematics (Grades 6, 9); Science (Grades 6, 9); and Social Studies (Grades 6, 9).

Goals

To have enhanced Language Arts and Mathematics Programs

Charter Outcome

Aurora students are reading above grade level in Language Arts

Performance Measures	Results (in percentages)					Target*		Targets	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage of students reading above grade level in English Language Arts according to CTBS assessments.	85	83	84	84	n/a	85	85.5	86	87

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Assessment of Results

Our Aurora teaching and learning team is focused on enhancing our students' English Language Arts knowledge, skills, and competencies. We continued to have English as a Second Language (ESL) pull-out support teachers, and we believe that this project has positively impacted our students.

Strategies

- Curriculum Leads/coaches established among teaching staff to assist teacher collaboration and reflection/input on pedagogy and student achievement;
- Increased professional development (PD) opportunities for staff including literary focus, teacher talk, and technology in writing sessions;
- Middle School reinforces appreciation of English literature with the annual field trip to the Citadel Theatre's production of A Christmas Carol as a part of the novel study. The Middle School also has an optional theater club that exposes students to the exciting world of theatre;
- Aurora Charter School celebrates the annual Read-In Week as an important highlight of the year to promote reading and the appreciation of stories. Guest readers are invited each year, a number of reading-related activities are organized, and funding is provided generously by the School Council;
- Continuation and growth with our successful Riggs phonics/spelling program and our phonics pull-out reading support in the Elementary School and Middle School with new teachers provided mentoring support and the opportunity for PD and training.
- Provide more teacher collaboration time for curriculum alignment across grades to reduce barriers for students;
- Examine assessment practices among grade groups and review reporting structures to accurately communicate student learning;
- Provide parents with various opportunities to build their own skill-set so that they can assist their children at home through digital resources and information evenings such as a Phonics Information Evening, Kindergarten Discovery Day, PAT information nights, high school preparation night, study skills and stress management night, etc.;
- Continue to provide ESL support for students and ESL instruction professional development through school-based funding. ESL pull-out time continues to be an important part of the Aurora program;
- Integrate enhanced technology into classrooms to further engage students and enhance instruction through programs such as Razkids Reading Comprehension, which has been expanded across K-4 from a pilot project in grade 2. These technological supports are especially useful for students and teachers to continue learning at home during isolation and quarantine periods;
- Enhance Learning Commons utilization during COVID-19 by employing a mobile library curated by our Learning Resources Coordinator;
- As the school adds new staff members, curriculum meetings are becoming more valuable . Teachers are increasingly clarifying issues of curriculum and assessment and discussing student learning needs;

- The Middle School has designated staff to attend a number of assessment professional development sessions to enhance teaching and learning practices in ELA throughout the school. This process also included guest speakers from Edmonton Regional Assessment Consortium focused on enhancing student-centred assessment protocols;
- Elementary staff are aligning instruction around the Empowering Writers model through all grades to improve students' achievement across all facets of English Language Arts.

Charter Outcome 2

Aurora students are achieving above grade level in Mathematics.

Performance Measures	Results (in percentages)					Target* Targ			jets	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Percentage of students achieving above grade level in Math according to CTBS assessments.	80	84	90	88.5	n/a	86	86.5	87	88	

Assessment of Results

Our student achievement results both in CTBS assessments and Provincial Achievement Tests are among the very best in Alberta and significantly above provincial averages. We are pleased to see a generally increasing trend in Aurora students that are achieving above grade level in mathematics on CTBS tests, from 80% in 2015 to 88.5% in 2019.

Strategies

- Establishment of Curriculum Lead/coach teachers to work with staff teams to collaborate and support optimal pedagogy and student achievement;
- Enhance/increase teacher collaboration time and analysis of curriculum outcome learning and achievement at all grade levels;
- Continue to provide ESL support for students through school-based funding;

- Provide parents with various opportunities to build their own skill-set so that they can assist their children at home through access to various instructional resources such as on-line lessons;
- Integrate enhanced technology into classrooms to further engage students and enhance numeracy instruction, including the addition of one-to-one technology devices in all grades;
- Math instruction at the elementary level is critically and regularly reviewed by teachers working in cross-grade teams;
- Initiated an extracurricular Mathematics club for grade 6;
- Math assistance is available during lunch hours and study period for all students in Middle School;
- The Elementary completed an Action Research Project into the use of formative targeted feedback in mathematics lessons to better reach struggling students;
- Middle School completed an Action Research project to incorporate a Growth Mindset into Mathematical learning processes;
- Completed a vertical integration project to align math resources and programs from Grades 1-6;
- Middle School enters the annual Pascal math contest in grade 9 and the Gauss math competition in grades 7 and 8. Aurora grade 9 students perform extremely well and achieve in the top 25% of participants around the world. Preparation for these competitions enhances the mathematics program and showcases the strength of our students in mathematics;
- Middle School has designated a teacher to attend assessment professional development to enhance teaching and learning practices in mathematics;
- Elementary participating in optional SLAs with additional time spent examining results and modifying program to target learning needs.

Alberta Education Outcome

Alberta's students are successful

Performance Measure	F	esults	(in perc	entage	es)	Target		Evaluation			Target	s
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2021	2022	2023
Overall percentage of students in Grades 6 and 9 who achieved the acceptable standard on Provincial Achievement Tests (overall cohort results).	99.3	98.7	99.8	99.3	n/a	98	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	98.5	99	99
Overall percentage of students in Grades 6 and 9 who achieved the standard of excellence on Provincial Achievement Tests (overall cohort results).	47.8	55.5	47.8	56.3	n/a	50	Very High	Improved	Excellent	50.5	51	52





Reflections and Strategies

Our parents expect that we will continue to achieve excellent outcomes on this measure. Our excellence levels have increased significantly and are considerably above Alberta provincial averages.

- We believe that our practice to assign regular homework and provide study time after school contributes to our students' success in this measure;
- We have made the Learning Commons (LC) available at lunch break and after school to provide extra study/work time (On pause due to COVID);
- Our PAT results in Math 9 were exceptional. We attribute this to our strong model of whole-group and student-focused instruction coupled with strong teacher-student-parent interaction and support in numeracy knowledge, skills, attitudes and competencies;
- Following our success on vertical integration within each of the Elementary and Middle Schools, we will hold a Vertical Integration Summit to allow all staff across all grades to work collaboratively on strategies to improve student learning outcomes and to disaggregate data from PAT results to inform teaching practice from kindergarten to grade nine;
- Middle School revised the Scope and Sequence (Aurora embellishments) for all subjects;
- Grade 6 and 9 PAT information evenings are offered to families and students. However, these evening in-school functions may change due to COVID;
- The Middle School math department had a professional development workshop from Alberta Education's Kelly Rota (Mathematics PAT Exam Manager) and Vanessa Tran (Assessment Specialist, Mathematics 6 and 9). They provided strategies on PAT exam analysis, identification of common student errors, and developing better teaching strategies to meet learner outcomes.

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target			Targets			
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2021	2022	2023
Drop Out Rate - annual dropout rate of students aged 14 to 18	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Very High	n/a	Exc n/a nt	0.0	0.0	0.0



Reflections and Strategies

Our Aurora teaching and learning team continues to have an exemplary student retention rate that is exemplified by 0.0 percent drop-out rate.

- Our Aurora culture of teacher-directed and highly structured teaching and learning coupled with strong parent/school engagement and support continues to yield exemplary results and student success;
- Students at Aurora stay in school and exemplify our core value that hard work yields success. Our teaching and learning team at Aurora Academic Charter School maintain a high degree of communication with students, parents, and stakeholders. This regular communication is key in supporting student's learning success and attenuating risk of dropout;
- We will continue to support and celebrate with our students, teachers, parents, and stakeholders our longitudinal achievement of 0% annual student drop-out rate.

Performance Measure	F	Results	(in perc	entage	s)	Target	Evaluation			Targets		
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2021	2021	2023
Percentage of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.	81.9	83.4	83.3	81.4	82.0	84.0	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	84.5	85	86

Reflections and Strategies

- Highly effective teacher, student and parent engagement with clearly articulated expectations and accountability processes that model and reinforce active citizenship with school and community stakeholders;
- Increased communication with teachers, parents and students to build coherence and opportunities to develop characteristics of active citizenship;
- Middle School continues to recognize students who display exemplary citizenship at awards ceremonies each school term; This was put on hold due to COVID
- Hold more parent open meetings to discuss pertinent issues, including 3 town hall meetings to discuss school re-opening for 2020/21;

- The Middle School continues to focus on safe and caring presentations for students and all staff have completed the "Respect in School" program; the Middle School also hosted parent evenings on "cyber bullying" as well as whole school presentations on Internet Safety from the Saffron Centre including an evening presentation for parents;
- The Saffron Centre does a yearly presentation to grade three and four students about cyber-bullying and on-line safety, including their roles as responsible citizens;
- Grade 4 and Kindergarten are paired in a buddy system to reinforce responsibility, caring and empathy. Students work with their buddies on reading and other projects. (Paused during Covid);
- We now offer Leadership and Business as a Middle School options available to all students;
- Middle school sets SMART (Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-based) goals each reporting term;
- We celebrate and participate in national bullying awareness week and Pink Shirt Day with supportive activities for all stakeholders;
- The Middle School started a grade 5 and 6 leadership team that focuses on social justice projects to complement our grades 7 to 9 Student Council;
- The Elementary instituted a "Cubs" Leadership group to provide grade four students with the opportunity to provide leadership to their peers and to younger students. Students themselves set their own goals and undertook projects they felt would improve the learning experience for all stakeholders in the school. (The CUBS program is paused during Covid);
- Nurture and support a learning/school culture that builds social connectedness between teachers, parents and students;
- Administration created a Safe and Caring School Report to identify and celebrate the restorative justice strategies and philosophy behind our Anti-Bullying practices and to ensure alignment and clarity;
- Both schools employ restorative practices in addressing student behaviour and actively engage parents in finding solutions;
- The Elementary and Middle Schools participate in and lead numerous charity campaigns to increase our students' understanding of issues and engagement with their community. Students support the local community league as well as local, national, and international causes.



Alberta's education system supports First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students' success

Performance Measure	F	Targets							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2021	2022	2023
Drop Out Rate - annual dropout rate of self-identified FNMI students aged 14 to 18	n/a	n/a	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Reflections and Strategies

Aurora School is not only committed to eliminating the achievement gap for those students who identify as First Nations, Métis, and Inuit but also to advancing the social goal of reconciliation and cultural understanding by all people who make up our school community.

- The Elementary and Middle School continue to infuse First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives and content into multiple facets of the curriculum;
- Purposeful selection of teaching and Learning Commons materials to showcase and represent First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives and experience;
- The Professional Growth Plan for teachers was updated to include development of competencies for acquisition and application of foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis and Inuit for the benefit of all students;
- Elementary and Middle School staff have attended numerous PD sessions on the Indigenous perspective, reconciliation, and specific lessons and units honouring our Indigenous partnerships in learning;
- Community Métis and Indigenous events are publicized through the newsletter and posters to provide all parents and students with the opportunity to engage in learning and the celebration of Indigenous culture outside the school, as well as within it;
- The Elementary focused on Elders and Indigenous authors for virtual readers for Read-In Week. One of our Elders also shared personal stories and the Indigenous meaning of the name "Aurora", which is now posted outside the Elementary office;
- Our annual Elementary Winter Fun Day has been changed to a Winter Heritage Day theme that celebrates the First Nations, Métis, Inuit and French Canadian experience in Canada. Students learned about FNMI symbols and history through crafts, traditional games, cooking, and a presentation from the students and teachers at Enoch Nation;
- New Indigenous Resource Kits were created by a teacher to provide all students in Kindergarten to grade 2 with age-appropriate stories, activities, and resources that can be used by all teachers in their classrooms;

- An Indigenous Learning Day in Middle School actively engaged students and staff in the recognition and celebration of indigenous perspectives and appreciation of cultural diversity;
- Aurora School ensures Land Acknowledgements are made at all student assemblies and School Council meetings;
- Aurora Middle School established a learning relationship with neighboring Prince Charles School;
- We have established a school partnership with amiskwaciy Academy and Mother Earth's Charter School to expose our students to First Nations, Métis, and Inuit history and culture.

Alberta Education Outcome **3**

Alberta has excellent teachers, school leaders, and school authority leaders

Performance	R	esults	(in perc	entage	s)	Targets			
Measure	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.	70.4	76.5	74.0	75.8	77.0	76.0	77.0	78.0	79

Reflections and Strategies

- We have greatly expanded our extracurricular athletic program in the Middle School and run intramurals weekly;
- Middle School continues to offer various in-school physical education field trips such as Alien Inline skating, dance, and yoga;
- The Aurora Career and Technology Foundations Foods program continues to grow in our renovated facilities;

- A variety of clubs and extracurricular activities are offered for Middle School students including sports teams, travel opportunities, leadership clubs, theatre club, running club, art club, talent show, science clubs, robotics and activities, as well as other clubs based on student requests;
- Elementary clubs have continued to expand to complement the academic curriculum in all grades, including clubs in music, running, fitness, handicrafts, intramurals and leadership. Clubs are paused during COVID or integrated into students' regular cohorts;
- Teacher action groups will be initiated to share leadership opportunities and focus on specific goals and distributed leadership development. This process will be synchronized with our new Aurora Aspiring Leadership Program focused on building leadership capacity and competencies with our staff and administration teams;
- Increased Physical Education time for Elementary and Middle School students;
- We have added new options for the Middle School that are based on student interest;
- Guest speakers and presentations have further engaged students in relevant and timely themes;
- Aurora Middle School has hired specialists in PE, CTS, Music, and Fine Arts. Teachers in the Middle School are subject specialists. Aurora Elementary has hired a French Second Language teacher specialist, and has expanded the French curriculum in grades 2-4;
- The French program in Elementary now includes a drama component with plays performed in French by students in grades 2, 3, and 4 for parents and community members;
- The Elementary has brought in a number of special artist-in-residence and special programs for activities in dance, yoga, painting, internet safety, wellness, nutrition, and music. These programs may continue virtually during COVID;
- Staff are committed to increasing the diversity of options we can bring to our students by developing their capabilities through their own Professional Growth Plans and associated developmental activities;
- Teachers are active in leadership roles on committees such as the Joint Health and Safety Committee, the ATA's committees on Teacher Welfare, Science Specialist Council, Collective Bargaining committee, Aurora Aspiring Leadership Program (AALP);
- Middle School continues to have Curriculum Leads to provide guidance and leadership in each core subject department. The Elementary has Special Projects to enhance programming in all subject areas;
- The school administration with support of the Board of Directors has significantly increased the number of mobile computer labs to ensure that all students have timely and supported access to Chromebooks to assure that technology can be infused into the curriculum learning outcomes.

Alberta's K-12 education system is well governed and managed

Daufarman a Manager		Result	s (in perce	ntages)			Та	rgets	
Performance Measure	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage of teacher, parent and student agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.	85.8	88.6	88.0	86.7	86.8	89.0	89.5	90	90.5
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.	93.0	92.7	91.8	91.7	91.2	92.0	92.5	93	93
Percentage of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	89.4	91.6	90.2	92.9	89.1	93.0	93	93.5	94
Percentage of teacher and parent satisfaction that students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning.	70.3	65.8	67.7	70.1	70.1	72.0	73	74	75
Percentage of teachers and parents satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.	80.1	80.2	85.5	84.2	90.0	84.5	85	85.5	86
Percentage of teachers, parents and students indicating that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same the last three years.	74.9	78.5	74.2	79.9	79.7	80.5	81	81.5	82

Reflections and Strategies

- Our administration and staff, in collaboration with parents and students, will continue to nurture a welcoming, safe and caring school culture that includes visible, accessible, and positive modeling of respectful and polite interactions throughout the school day and at all school-based co-curricular and extracurricular activities;
- Administrative staff created and implemented a new Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation Handbook to ensure ongoing support of all teachers in alignment with the new TQS;
- Administration created an online Professional Growth Plan system in alignment with the new TQS to assist teachers in the planning of their professional learning;
- Administrative staff lead bi-monthly New Teacher Mentorship Meetings that focus on creating a safe space for new teachers to share questions and co-generate solutions with each other and administration. Teachers in second year roles take a mentorship role with teachers new to the school, while themselves being mentored by teachers with 10+ years of experience. Academic research on best practices for student assessment, reporting, communicating with parents, and planning is disseminated to all teachers;
- Administration organized a four-part professional development program to ensure all new staff are familiar with the Riggs' method of reading and writing;
- Administration organized a six-part professional development program by Alberta Health Services about Zones of Regulation to help all students learn about self-regulation;
- Our morning, lunch hour, and recess supervisory staff are clearly identifiable with supervisory high visibility vests coupled with ongoing assurance of safe and caring student behaviours that are reinforced and modeled by all stakeholders with our Aurora team;
- Administrative decisions are funneled through a "best interests of the student" lens;
- Elementary and Middle Schools have a program that provides "anti-bullying" presentations and infusion into curriculum;
- Elementary School has implemented a new security protocol for student safety and increased the number of lunch supervisors by 50%;
- Our Aurora Academic Charter School Emergency Protocols Handbook and procedures have been updated and reflect valued input by our Staff, Parents, Students and our Edmonton Police Service School Resource Officer. It has also been updated to include phone numbers and information about Mental Health Wellness Supports available in the community for emergency and non-emergency situations involving mental health and wellness;
- Prospective Kindergarten parents are invited to an evening information session to outline the philosophy, Mission, and Charter of Aurora School. This evening also includes resources from Alberta Health Services, Alberta Education, and community partners on ways to prepare children to enter school;
- Middle School Student Council and the grade 5 and 6 leadership team plan activities to help improve and enhance the overall feeling of community within the school and foster positive relationships across all grades;

- Parents and students entering grade 5 are offered a video orientation to meet the teachers, see the classrooms and given an opportunity to learn about the Aurora culture and to ask questions;
- Our Leadership Option creates projects to be shared with classes on safe and caring knowledge, skills, attitudes and competencies;
- Administration has adopted a restorative justice protocol for student behaviour and this has proven to be very effective and positive;
- Continue to actively engage with all stakeholders and continue improvement of our school website as an important component of our communication framework in addition to face-to-face interactions;
- The broad issue of systemic improvement will continue to be an important topic of discussion and advisement with staff, Board, and School Council;
- The Board has negotiated a Teacher Board Liaison committee in a 2015 to 2018 ratified collective bargaining agreement with teachers that addresses workplace conditions in an ongoing fashion;
- The Board is working actively to build relationships with staff through special celebrations including team-building sessions, lunches, and the end of year dinner that marks staff milestone years;
- Administration is working to improve 2 way communication with parents through regular email updates and surveys that solicit feedback on key questions;
- Both schools use Twitter accounts linked to the school website to provide timely information and celebration to parents and community stakeholders;
- School-based administration provide regular interaction and communication with our exemplary School Council and Board of Directors for feedback in the decision-making processes, both at the school and district level;
- School Council has implemented a Remote Access Meeting capability for parents who wish to participate in meetings but who cannot attend in person;
- The Board of Directors has hosted several Town Hall meetings to elicit feedback on re-entry procedures and protocols during COVID-19;
- Surveys with parents were conducted to ascertain satisfaction with safety protocols and procedures as well as learning during COVID-19. Surveys were administered in the spring and fall;
- Our Board of Directors continue to provide stakeholder consultation meeting opportunities to optimize communication and engagement, especially around the updates to the Charter document;
- Aurora established and runs a Joint Health and Safety Committee that nurtures and supports a culture of safety and wellness for our staff;
- School administrators have focused on student wellness by organizing presentations by Alberta Health Services and other PD providers about student mental health, inclusive learning strategies, and mindfulness;
- The Board has focused on staff wellness through presentations on benefit programs available to staff to help prevent teacher burnout and to support positive mental health in all members of the school community;
- The Board is working actively in professional development in their governance role.



- A Board Highlights monthly update was incorporated to our Aurora Website to improve timely communication with all stakeholders.
- Our Aurora Teaching staff will engage in professional development and collaborative activities to address the current levels of teacher and parent satisfaction that our students demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning. This process will also engage our teaching staff in addressing our pedagogical routines that build confidence in assuring that our students are imbued with relevant and engaging competencies necessary for life-long learning;
- We are increasing opportunities for students in Middle School to take a variety of Career and Technology Foundations courses that allow students to learn and experience multiple career streams and interests;
- Students set goals, present on safe and caring behaviours, and have leadership opportunities available in options, clubs, and student council;
- Staff collaborative professional development activities are utilized to clarify student learning outcomes;
- Numerous clubs and activities are offered to provide opportunities outside the classroom to further engage students;
- In-house action research projects initiated by teachers that involve a community practice
- protocol that informs and provides valuable evidence to support and improve our teacher-directed teaching and learning systems and approaches.

Future Challenges

Aurora currently has more than 3000 students on the registration wait list. The challenge we have is to accommodate the high demand for our programming with the limited space available to us. Our current Aurora Board of Directors are engaged in an active process to optimize communication on the potential for additional teaching and learning facilities (surplus schools in the Edmonton region and/or partnerships with post-secondary institutions) that may assist in our bid to grow our Aurora teaching system and capacity. This process also involves ongoing dialogue with Edmonton regional post-secondary institutions on potential partnerships to plan and eventually deliver innovative high school academic programming with a career mindset.



Alberta Education has seconded and hired a number of Aurora administrative staff over the last several years. Additionally, several members of the senior administrative team have recently retired. This reality has created opportunities to enhance and develop leadership capacity within our organization. We implemented a new Aurora Aspiring Leadership Program (AALP) that will build leadership capacity within our teaching and learning team. AALP is also reviewing in detail the new Teaching Quality Standard and Leadership Quality Standard in a collaborative manner to build awareness and support of all related competencies and indicators with all Aurora staff. The challenges surrounding COVID-19 safety protocols, student isolation, and switching scenarios will be a key focus for 2020/21, and perhaps further into the future. Aurora has had great success in implementing a program to support parental choice through digital support from teachers for students learning at home and a streamlined process to deal with class quarantines efficiently and effectively. A number of these procedures and digital supports will be continued post-COVID as ways to reduce barriers to learning in the future.



(in thousands of dollars)	2	019-20	2	018-19	Change (%)		
Revenue Summary by Source							
Government of Alberta	S	8,118	\$	8,490	-4.4%		
Instructional Fees	- 81	164	25	207			
Transportation Fees		198		272			
Other		141		201			
	\$	8,622	\$	9,170	-6.0%		
Program Expenditures							
Instruction Grades K - 9	\$	6,070	\$	6,009	1.0%		
Plant Operations and Maintenance		1,244		1,328			
Transportation		574		725			
Board & System Administration		430		429	0.2%		
	\$	8,318	\$	8,491	-2.0%		
Surplus (Deficit)	\$	304	\$	679			
Accumulated Operating Surplus		2020		2019	26		
(as at August 31)							
Unrestricted net assets	\$	689	\$	770			
Operating reserves		3,141		3,141			
Total	\$	3,830	\$	3,911			
Revenue Summary by Source (%)	2	01 9-2 0					
Government of Alberta (94.16%)	\$	8,118					
Instructional Fees (1.90%)		164					
Transportation Fees (2.30%)		198					
Other (1.64%)		141					
	\$	8,622					
Expenditures by Program (%)							
Instruction Grades K - 9 (72.98%)	\$	6,070					
Plant Operations and Maintenance (14.95%)		1,244					
Transportation (6.91%)		574					
Board & System Administration (5.17%)		430					

Summary of Financial Results for Aurora School 2020-19

(in thousands of dollars)







Aurora Budget Summary Highlights for 2020-21

REVENUE SUMMARY

		B	Budget	% of Total
		(\$000)	
Alberta	Education Funding			
	Instruction & Administration		6,324	70.61
	Student Transportation		482	5.38
	Plant Operations & Maintenance		1,118	12.48
	Amortization of Capital Allocations		439	4.90
		\$	8,362	93.37
Other Re	evenue			
	School / Instruction Fees		205	2.29
	Transportation Fees		297	3.31
	Other	-	92	1.03
TOTAL		\$	8,956	100.00
EXPENS	E SUMMARY			
	Instruction (Grades K - 9)		6,311	67.99
	Student Transportation		772	8.32
	Plant Operations & Maintenance		1,775	19.13
	Board Governance/System Administration		424	4.56
	TOTAL	\$	9,282	100.00
	Surplus/Deficit	-\$	326	







Capital and Facilities Projects

Our Aurora School facilities have undergone a significant amount of renovation, renewal, update and improvement over the last four years. The Aurora Board of Directors approved a capital plan to provide needed classroom space for school growth in the Middle School grades. This project, completed in the 2015-16 school year, included a state of the art Learning Commons Centre in addition to 6 new large and well equipped classrooms, new central office space, needed washrooms and modernization of five other classroom/learning spaces. Costs for the modernization and middle school addition, including construction and equipment and furniture, exceeded 5 million dollars. The Aurora Board and parent community are grateful to the government for its support via Alberta Capital Planning and Alberta Infrastructure.

Our Aurora Board completed in June, 2018 the addition of a high quality, user-friendly elevator that allows access to all our Aurora teaching and learning facilities by students, parents, staff and stakeholders irrespective of mobility challenges. This project also included the addition of a dedicated flex conference room that optimizes student supports including counselling and wrap-around support services.

The Aurora Board currently is engaged in the modernization of Aurora Elementary School main entrance area. This project includes a new parent/student main elementary entrance school foyer, general office, administration offices, work room, and flex-space staff room. Construction began during the summer of 2019 with an anticipated completion for December 2020.

Aurora School was very pleased to receive \$400,000 in Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) funding in the spring of 2020 as part of the province's stimulus plan to complete upgrades to our HVAC system. These upgrades will ensure the safest possible learning spaces for our students and staff.

Our Aurora Board of Directors and Senior Administration Team are actively engaged in a search for suitable facilities to run future high school programming with an academic, STEM and university/college preparation focus. The addition of high school programming will assist with the limited high school instructional capacity and choice in our Greater Edmonton Region. Our Aurora senior administration and Board of Directors are in dialogue with Alberta Education, Capital Planning, and a number of stakeholders including post-secondary institutions with the hope of opening an Aurora Academic Charter High School. We would also appreciate the opportunity to open another Aurora Kindergarten to Grade 9 school to meet the high demand for our education programs in the greater Edmonton region.

Parental Involvement

The Aurora Board of Directors is working to increase communication with parents and provide additional opportunities for Aurora School Council to be involved in updating school plans. The Board has regular communication with the School Council to share parent and student input and feedback and provide Board perspectives about School Council issues.

The Aurora Board of Directors also convenes:

- Specialist stakeholder committees chaired by a Director where parents and teachers are invited to participate;
- The Aurora School Council has been provided opportunity for discussion and input on the major issues developed by the Board of Directors in this education plan. For example, parents and teachers on the School Council have discussed school enrollment growth, school renovations, policy development and implementation of technology;
- The School Council provided valuable input with our Aurora AERR and 3 Year Plan at their October 2020 meeting. School Council communication and feedback is welcomed by the Aurora Board of Directors;
- The Aurora Board currently is comprised of parents of Aurora children. The Aurora Board and the Aurora School Council have open communication. Parent attendance at the annual AGM is highly encouraged, advertised, supported and improving with dedicated childcare during the AGM to decrease barriers to parent attendance. The November 2020 Annual General Meeting was held virtually;
- The Board of Directors maintains regular communication with the School Council through administration;
- The recently updated school website: www.auroraschool.ca contains information on how to contact the Board of Directors, School Council, senior administration, school administration, staff, current newsletter, and other pertinent school information. The website also contains a dedicated research and innovation section to share with stakeholders from local to international. A Board Highlights section on the website keeps stakeholders informed of Board decisions.

For additional information on sources and uses of School Generated Funds (SGF), please contact Aurora Secretary-Treasurer **Marla Leganchuk** at **(780) 454-1855**.



Web link to this AERR/3YP report: <u>https://www.auroraschool.ca/documents</u>

Web link to Aurora's Audited Financial Statements: https://www.auroraschool.ca/documents

Web link to Jurisdiction Summary: https://www.auroraschool.ca/documents

Web link to The Audited Financial Statements (AFS) – Provincial Roll Up: Audited Financial Statements <u>https://www.alberta.ca/k-12-education-financial-sta</u> tements.aspx

Timeline & Communication Plan

This report was approved by the Aurora School Ltd. Board on November 18, 2020.

Objectives:

- a) To ensure that parents, community members, and professional organizations are aware of Aurora School's program and its successes;
- b) To fulfill the Minister's requirements to communicate Aurora School's program and successes to the community;
- c) To share Aurora School's best practices and ideas with the community;
- d) To provide opportunities for Aurora stakeholders to be aware of and participate in decision making at Aurora Academic.



Key Message:

Aurora's desire is to be an active participant and contributor to the educational community in Alberta

To ensure that parents, community members, and professional organizations are aware of Aurora School's program and its successes;

To fulfill the Minister's requirements to communicate Aurora School's program and successes to the community;

To share Aurora School's best practices and ideas with the community;

To provide opportunities for Aurora stakeholders to be aware of and participate in decision making at Aurora Academic.

Audience	Strategy
Parents, Community	Aurora's vision and mission will be prominently displayed in the school. All visitors will be able to see immediately the core values of our school.
Community, Professional Community	Aurora School will display a promotional video that describes the vision, mission, purpose and innovations of the school on the school's website. See the video at: https://www.auroraschool.ca/copy-of-research
Parents, Community	Aurora School produces two monthly newsletters (Elementary and Middle School) on the website that informs the public of school news and activities including updates from the principal(s), student activities, and upcoming events.
Parents, Alberta Education	Aurora School's Annual Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report will be posted on the school's website.
Parents	Aurora hosts several evening information sessions for parents such as: Phonics Night, Kindergarten Information Night, First Rider program for Kindergarten students who ride the bus, Grade 5/6 orientation, PAT information night, stress management and study skills night.



Professional Community	Aurora School will take part in activities and events along with other schools. This will enable students and staff from other schools to have direct contact with our own students and staff. Understanding, awareness, and acceptance of charter schools in the public school realm will be fostered through these activities (i.e. Science Fair, extracurricular sport teams). Aurora has also established a partnership with amiskwaciy Academy, Prince Charles School, and Enoch Nation to enhance our Indigenous program.
Professional Community	Aurora School will foster a relationship with post-secondary institutions by accepting student teachers. Aurora actively is involved in research and promotes a culture where research and evidence help inform policy and practice.
Professional Community	Aurora School will participate in events with other educational organizations such as The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools, the Alberta School Councils' Association, and the ATA.
Community	Aurora will encourage and actively engage in research and inquiry about Aurora as a charter school and the educational successes we are enjoying.
Professional Community	Aurora School staff will communicate our successful educational practices of our school to teacher organizations.
Community	Aurora School will foster relationships with local community stakeholders and encourage participation in school activities, use of our facility, and cooperation in areas of joint interest.
Research	Aurora has designed and implemented an online research centre at: https://www.auroraschool.ca/research that includes research publications and presentations by Aurora stakeholders both past and present. This innovative research centre also includes research Podcasts, innovative research support section, bi-annual research publication Aurora Action Research - Community of Practice and links to a number of scholarly educational research repositories.

Whistleblower Protection

Our Aurora Whistleblower Protection Board Policy 5450 is in alignment with the Alberta Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act.

As of November 18, 2020, we have had no disclosures reported over the last year with our Aurora School Ltd. Staff.



Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship

bertan

A.8 Work Preparation Measure History

Authority: 6020 Aurora School Ltd.

Province: Alberta

Percentage of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.

			A	urora Sc	hool Ltd	1.								Abe	rta				
20	16	20	17	20	18	20	9	20:	20	201	6	201	17	201	18	201	9	202	20
N	%	N	%	N	26	N	%	N	%	N	26	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
113	89.4	125	91.6	143	90.2	155	92.9	124	89.1	61,412	82.6	61,674	82.7	65,195	\$2.4	66,099	83.0	68,221	84.1



Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship

) Government

A.7 Life Long Learning Measure History

Authority: 6020 Aurora School Ltd. Province: Alberta

Percentage of teacher and parent satisfaction that students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for lifelong learning.

			A	urora Sc	shool Ltd									Abe	rta				
201	16	20	17	20	18	20	19	20:	20	201	6	201	17	201	8	201	9	202	20
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	26	N	26	N	%	N	%	N	26
118	70.3	127	65.8	144	67.7	156	70.1	126	70.1	62,329	70.7	62,589	71.0	66,144	70.9	66,943	71.4	69,182	72.6



Provincial Achievement Test Results - Measure Details

PAT Course by Course Results	by Number I	Enrolled.											
				-		Resu	lts (in p	ercenta	ges)	-			
		20	14	20	15	20	16	20	17	20	18	20)19
		A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E
English Language Arts 6	Authority	100.0	50.0	100.0	43.1	100.0	54.5	100.0	64.6	100.0	42.4	100	50.6
	Province	81.9	17.6	82.8	19.5	82.9	20.4	82.5	18.9	83.5	17.9	91.9	19.6
Mathematics 6	Authority	100.0	47.7	100.0	23.1	100.0	36.4	100.0	43.1	100.0	36.4	97.7	28.7
	Province	73.5	15.4	73.2	14.1	72.2	14.0	69.4	12.6	72.9	14.0	79.8	16.6
Science 6	Authority	93.2	45.5	98.5	47.7	100.0	59.1	100.0	73.8	100.0	63.6	98.9	55.2
	Province	75.9	24.9	76.3	25.3	78.0	27.1	76.9	29.0	78.8	30.5	85.5	31.6
Social Studies 6	Authority	97.7	34.1	92.3	27.7	98.5	37.9	98.5	56.9	98.5	68.2	97.7	56.3
	Province	70.4	16.6	69.8	18.1	71.4	22.0	72.9	21.7	75.1	23.2	84.1	27
English Language Arts 9	Authority	100.0	38.3	100.0	45.7	100.0	38.3	100.0	33.3	100.0	26.4	1000	50
	Province	76.3	15.0	75.6	14.4	77.0	15.2	76.8	14.9	76.1	14.7	84.9	16.7
Mathematics 9	Authority	100.0	70.8	97.8	67.4	97.9	53.2	100.0	68.8	100.0	54.2	100	78.1
	Province	67.1	17.3	65.3	17.9	67.8	17.5	67.2	19.0	59.2	15.0	67.4	21.4
Science 9	Authority	100.0	62.5	100.0	71.7	100.0	68.1	97.9	52.1	100.0	50.0	100	72.9
	Province	73.2	22.1	74.1	22.8	74.2	22.4	74.0	21.4	75.7	24.4	84.5	29.6
Social Studies 9	Authority	91.7	41.7	100.0	54.3	97.9	36.2	91.7	45.8	100.0	43.1	100	55.2
Social Studies 9	Province	65.5	19.9	65.1	19.8	64.7	18.0	67.0	20.2	66.7	21.5	77	23.1

Government

PAT Results By Number Enrolled Measure History

Authority: 6020 Aurora School Ltd. Province: Alberta

		Aun	ora School	Ltd.	Alberta						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
N	111	113	113	138	183	93,095	93,217	96,659	100,210	104,264	
Acceptable Standard %	98.4	99.3	98.7	99.8	99.3	72.9	73.6	73.4	73.6	73.8	
Standard of Excellence %	45.5	47.8	55.5	47.8	56.3	18.8	19.4	19.5	19.9	20.6	



Government

PAT Results By Number Enrolled Measure History

Authority: 6020 Aurora School Ltd. (ESL) Province: Alberta (ESL)

		Aurora	School Ltd	. (ESL)	Alberta (ESL)						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
N	14	13	17	21	14	12,238	12,910	14,180	15,104	16,183	
Acceptable Standard %	98.2	100.0	95.6	98.8	98.2	67.8	68.7	69.1	69.4	70.2	
Standard of Excellence %	17.9	32.7	26.5	25.0	35.7	14.0	14.8	15.1	15.5	16.4	





Government

PAT Results By Students Enrolled - 3 Year Rolling Average

Authority: 6020 Aurora School Ltd. (ESL) Province: Alberta (ESL)

	Auro	ora School Ltd. ((ESL)		Alberta (ESL)					
	2015 - 2017 Avg	2016 - 2018 Avg	2017 - 2019 Avg	2015 - 2017 Avg	2016 - 2018 Avg	2017 - 2019 Avg				
N	15	17	17	13,109	14,065	15,156				
Acceptable Standard (%)	97.9	98.1	97.5	68.5	69.1	69.6				
Standard of Excellence (%)	25.7	28.1	29.1	14.7	15.2	15.7				











			Aur	ora School Ltd. (I	ESL)							
		Achievement	Improvement	Overall	20)19	Prev 3 Ave	3 Year rage	2019			3 Year rage
					N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
English Language Arts	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	8	100.0	9	100.0	9804	81.3	8524	80.2
6	Excellence	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	8	25.0	9	19.4	9804	13.8	8524	13.4
Mathematics C	Acceptable	High	Declined	Acceptable	8	87.5	9	100.0	9792	72.7	8515	69.6
Mathematics 6	Excellence	High	Maintained	Good	8	25.0	9	18.2	9792	14.5	8512	12.6
	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	8	100.0	9	100.0	9819	76.4	8513	74.6
Science 6	Excellence	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable	8	25.0	9	39.4	9819	23.5	8513	23.2
	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	8	100.0	9	93.0	9817	74.8	8512	70.0
Social Studies 6	Excellence	High	Maintained	Good	8	25.0	9	29.4	9817	20.5	8512	18.6
English Language Arts	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	6	100.0	10	100.0	6143	63.4	5352	65.0
9	Excellence	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	6	33.3	10	13.6	6143	6.8	5352	6.6
	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	6	100.0	10	100.0	6102	53.3	5334	58.7
Mathematics 9	Excellence	Very High	Improved	Excellent	6	66.7	10	36.9	6102	16.3	5334	14.3
	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	6	100.0	10	100.0	6163	66.0	5354	66.5
Science 9	Excellence	Very High	Improved	Excellent	6	66.7	10	24.4	6163	18.1	5354	15.5
	Acceptable	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	6	100.0	10	87.5	6151	59.6	5358	56.8
Social Studies 9	Excellence	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	6	33.3	10	29.0	1651	14.1	5358	12.9

Combined 2020 Accountability Pillar Overall Summary 6020 Aurora School Ltd. (ESL)

Measure Category	Measure	Auror	a School Lt	d.(ESL)	,	Alberta (ESI	L)	Ν	leasure Evaluation	ı
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	Safe and Caring	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning	Program of Studies	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Opportunities	Education Quality	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Drop Out Rate	*	n/a	n/a	2.2	2.3	2.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	PAT: Acceptable	98.2	98.8	98.1	70.2	69.4	69.1	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Achievement (Grades K-9)	PAT: Excellence	35.7	25.0	28.1	16.4	15.5	15.2	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work,	Work Preparation	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Citizenship	Citizenship	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Parental Involvement	Parental Involvement	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Continuous Improvement	School Improvement	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

- 1. Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents/students is fewer than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (*)
- 2. Overall evaluations can only be calculated if both improvement and achievement evaluations are available
- 3. Student participation in the survey was impacted between 2014 and 2017 due to the number of students responding through the OurSCHOOL/TTFM(Tell Them From Me) survey tool.
- 4. Aggregated PAT results are based upon a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence). The weights are the number of students enrolled in each course. Courses included: English Language Arts (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE), Français (6e et 9e année), French Language Arts (6e et 9e année), Mathematics (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE), Science (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE), Social Studies (Grades 6, 9, 9 KAE).
- 5. Participation in Provincial Achievement Tests was impacted by the fires in May to June 2016 and May to June 2019. Caution should be used when interpreting trends over time for the province and those school authorities affected by these events.
- Aggregated Diploma results are a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence) on Diploma Examinations. The weights are the number of students writing the Diploma Examination for each course. Courses included: English Language Arts 30-1, English Language Arts 30-2, French Language Arts 30-1, Français 30-1, Mathematics 30-1, Mathematics 30-2, Chemistry 30, Physics 30, Biology 30, Science 30, Social Studies 30-1, Social Studies 30-2.
- 7. Participation in Diploma Examinations was impacted by the fires in May to June 2016 and May to June 2019. Caution should be used when interpreting trends over time for the province and those school authorities affected by these events.
- 8. Weighting of school-awarded marks in diploma courses increased from 50% to 70% in the 2015/16 school year. Caution should be used when interpreting trends over time.
- 9. 2016 results for the 3-year High School Completion and Diploma Examination Participation Rates have been adjusted to reflect the correction of the Grade 10 cohort.
- 10. Improvement evaluations are not calculated for school and school authority Drop Out and Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility rates. Starting in 2019, an updated methodology was applied to more accurately attribute results in cases where students receive programming from more than one provider within a school year. Caution should be used when interpreting school and school authority results over time.

NOTES



