



## Update on BC's New Curriculum from Education Minister Mike Bernier

November 29, 2016

Dear Parent,

The world is changing and B.C.'s

education system needs to succeed in this changing world. We have just announced an important update to our new curriculum—on how it will be implemented in grades 10 to 12, and on the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) written in grades 4 and 7.

### Grade 10 to 12 curriculum implementation

Teachers, principals and trustees asked for more time to work handson with the redesigned draft curriculum in grades 10 to 12—and we agree. The extra time means teachers can try out the draft curriculum, get feedback before it is fully implemented in the 2018/19 school year. The new curriculum is already in place in the earlier grades.

The extra year for the workforce.

When it comes to provincial exams, we have mapped out which old exams and new exams will be used and when. The most important thing is that new or old, our standards remain high, testing student knowledge and combined with in-class exams we will be thoroughly testing student knowledge. Detailed exam information can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation>

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### Foundation Skills Assessments

Along with our new curriculum, we are enhancing our Foundation Skills Assessment so that students in Grades 4 and 7 are required to write under B.C.'s School Act. The FSA measures reading, writing and math problem solving skills that students have gained over several years of learning and provides critical information for parents, for teachers, and for the education system.

Starting next year, students in grades 4 and 7 will complete their FSA in the fall instead of the spring. This means you and your child's teacher will get results earlier—and that means any necessary interventions can be taken sooner. More information on the new FSA can be found at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/new-foundation-skills-assessment>

Additionally, we will be giving parents like you a snapshot of the FSA results in your broader school reports. You deserve to know how your child's school is succeeding on a variety of fronts—and we will include that information to provide a complete picture.

Together with teachers, our new curriculum is making sure that your child learns the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic while also engaging in the collaboration, critical thinking and communications skills they'll need to succeed in college, university, and the workforce.

Thank you,



Mike Bernier  
Minister of Education