

Calgary Christian Secondary School

22/23 School Year

Welcome

This is our celebration of learning - written edition. Our school, deeply rooted in academic excellence, community values, and most importantly, our shared faith, shines in many areas. This artifact is meant to celebrate the success of our 22/23 Educational Plan while also outlining some areas that we want to continue developing. Thank you for your interest in our ongoing story!

Assurance Framework

The Assurance Framework is a new system Alberta Education uses to ensure all schools are providing the best possible education. It focuses on five key areas:

- 1. Student Growth and Achievement**, ensuring students are continuously learning and succeeding;
- 2. Teaching and Leading**, emphasizing quality teaching and leadership;
- 3. Learning Supports**, creating supportive and inclusive environments;
- 4. Governance**, ensuring effective management and decision-making; and
- 5. Local and Societal Context**, adapting to the unique needs of our community.

This approach provides focus as we track our school's progress, improve education quality, and maintain transparency and accountability.

Within each of these key areas, the Palliser school division has outlined what success would look like through the [desired states](#). In partnership with the Calgary Society for Christian Education, we work together as we pursue the desired states here at Calgary Christian Secondary School alongside an experience integrated with our Christian faith.

Data

Our Assurance Measure Results

Within the 282 pages found in the link above, the following key takeaways emerge:

<p>Student Learning Engagement: The school has maintained a strong level of student engagement, with a slight decrease from the previous year but consistent with the previous three-year average.</p>	<p>Citizenship: The school scored very high in citizenship, showing a slight increase from the previous year and exceeding the three-year average.</p>	<p>High School Completion Rates: Both the 3-year and 5-year high school completion rates are very high, with current results outperforming the three-year average.</p>	<p>Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) & Diploma Exam Results: The school has very high ratings in both acceptable and excellence categories, indicating strong academic performance.</p>	<p>Education Quality: Education quality has been rated as high, with a slight decline from the previous year but still consistent with the three-year average.</p>
<p>Learning Supports: The school provides a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment, with access to supports and services both maintaining high ratings.</p>	<p>Governance: Parental involvement is very high, with a substantial increase from the previous year, reflecting strong community engagement.</p>	<p>Impact of External Events: The report notes that interpretations of trends should be cautious due to external events like wildfires and the COVID-19 pandemic, which have affected participation in Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examinations.</p>	<p>Improvement Evaluation: The school's performance is assessed not just in terms of current results but also in comparison to past performance, with most areas showing maintained or improved status.</p>	<p>Survey Responses: Data on the percentage of teachers, parents, and students who agree that students are engaged in their learning at school is included, with the majority indicating agreement.</p>

If we compare our school to provincial averages, the following insights were noted:

<p>Higher Achievement in Many Areas: CCS has outperformed the Alberta average in many measures, notably in the Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate and Safe and Caring environment. This suggests a highly effective educational environment at CCS that supports academic excellence and a positive school culture.</p>	<p>Excellence in Completion and Transition Rates: CCS's completion and transition rates are significantly higher than the provincial averages, indicating that CCS students are completing high school and transitioning to further education or work at a higher rate than the Alberta average.</p>	<p>Consistent Improvement and High Standards: Across most measures, CCS either maintained or improved its performance, often at a level marked as "Very High" or "Excellent." This consistency indicates a robust approach to education that prioritizes continuous improvement and high standards.</p>	<p>Engagement in Lifelong Learning: CCS's measures for lifelong learning are higher than the provincial average, suggesting that the school is successful in instilling a value for continuous learning in its students.</p>
<p>Effective Support for At-Risk Students: The Program of Studies for at-risk students at CCS is high and maintained, which could reflect the effectiveness of the school's interventions and support systems for students who may face academic challenges.</p>	<p>Lower Satisfaction with Program Access: While still within an acceptable range, CCS has a lower satisfaction rate with program access compared to its other measures. Although it is above the Alberta average, this could be an area for CCS to explore further improvements.</p>	<p>Strong Community Engagement: The increased parental involvement at CCS, compared to the Alberta average, underscores the active role the community plays in the school's operations and governance, which may contribute to the overall success of the school.</p>	

Overall, CCS is performing well, often exceeding provincial averages. The results suggest that CCS is providing a high-quality educational experience, with particular strengths in fostering academic success, creating a safe and caring environment, and engaging the community. However, there are areas where our school can still seek to improve, such as program access - a measure of satisfaction with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community.

The CCS [Brand Story](#), [Educational Vision and Philosophy](#), and our [CCS Values](#) present a framework for holistic Christian education focusing on academic, emotional, physical, social, and spiritual development. Together they emphasize integration of faith into all aspects of education, aiming to develop students who will actively serve and positively impact the world.

Though the Alberta Education Assurance Measures serve as a baseline for certain aspects of academic and performance, these standard metrics do not fully capture the distinctly Christian vision CCS holds as a measure for success. As we prepare to share our artifacts of learning, we do so hoping to highlight our broader vision that extends beyond academic achievement alone.

Artifacts

Extracurricular

- **Arts** - a renewed focus on the development of our performing arts has led to increased program participation along with new opportunities.



Band Performance



Drama Performance

- **Athletics** - a significant portion of our student body also participates in athletics. We participate at the 2A level provincially (ASAA) and are part of the Independent Schools Athletics Association (ISAA) for our league play.



League Champs



Great Fans

- **Clubs** - we continue to support the developing and initiation of student interests through clubs. These spaces also allow our students to interact with others who share similar interests while within the safe and caring environment of our school.



Improv Club: Dinner Theatre



Robotics

Celebrations

- **Of Learning** - we have begun the tradition of celebrating our learning in a very public way. Each spring, our community gathers to discover and celebrate what we have learned throughout the as staff and students. It continues to grow and has already become a major highlight.



Art Show



Spanish Game



Computers



One Act Play

- **Faith Formation** - We continue to facilitate intentional activities and events to support the development of a personal relationship with Jesus. On Fridays, we meet as a school or as a cross-graded small group as we look to foster different areas of spiritual growth.



Remembrance Day



Small Group Faith Formation

Off Campus

- **Italy 2023** - Students from grade 10-12 went to Europe for 10 days to experience many incredible cities, sites, and adventurous bus rides.



Venice



Florence

- **Field Trips** - Students leave our building regularly to experience learning that happens outside of our walls. Experiential learning continues to be the highlight of our students' time here at CCSS so we will continue to work hard to maintain current opportunities while considering new and exciting possibilities for the future.



Outdoor Education



Triathlon



Jill of All Trades



Sailing - PE 30

- **Team Building** - Our grade 9 and 12 students participate in off campus overnight trips to begin their years together. We are in the process of considering trips for other grades as well as the feedback from students and parents is extremely positive.



Circle Square Ranch - Gr. 9



Frontier Lodge - Gr. 12

Conclusion

As we conclude this report, it is with immense pride that we reflect on the remarkable achievements of Calgary Christian Secondary School. Our students' exceptional performance, both in academics and extracurricular activities, is a testament to their hard work and our dedicated staff. We celebrate these accomplishments, recognizing that they are not just milestones but stepping stones towards even greater successes.

However, our journey does not end here. The rapidly changing world demands continuous adaptation and improvement. It is essential that we keep learning, enhancing our teaching methods, and expanding our curricular and extracurricular offerings. Our goal is not just to prepare students for today but to equip them with the skills, knowledge, and a deep understanding of their value that they will need for tomorrow. This commitment to continual growth is what makes our school a nurturing ground for future leaders, innovators, and compassionate citizens ready to make God's world a better place.

We invite you, our valued parents and stakeholders, to join us in this ongoing journey of excellence. Together, we will keep striving to provide an educational experience that is not only outstanding today but remains relevant and impactful for the challenges and opportunities of the future.