

Our plan

Develop and implement a multi-layered approach to assessment, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year:

- To implement the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 1 & 2 for our students.
The individualized nature of the data means that all students can be presented with learning materials and tasks at their required level and strengthens our commitment to differentiated instruction so that all our students can achieve.
- To adapt and adopt the Grades 7, 8 and 9 common assessments as a summative assessment piece for our students.
 - Adoption of common assessments will provide our students the necessary practice and experience taking final summative assessments (higher stakes) they will need to succeed in high school, post-secondary education, and career licensing/accreditation tests.
 - Adoption of common assessments will help standardize the instruction by teachers and performance of students in these areas across the territory, helping to ensure that all our students, regardless of community receive the schooling they deserve.
- Complete the development of a comprehensive strategy to effectively implement the use of the Canadian Achievement Test, Version 4 (CAT4) for use in grades K-12 .
 - The CAT4 provides data on student achievement in literacy and math and the data provides a standardized measurement of our students' performance across the territory.
 - The data provided by the CAT4 can be used to verify the effectiveness of other interventions we take in our schools by comparing scores before and after the interventions were done.
- To adopt the Early Years Evaluation (EYE) tool for early learners (kindergarten)
The EYE consists of direct assessment and teacher assessment components and is geared for children from 3-5 years of age
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- The assessments can be given in the fall and spring of the kindergarten year to determine measureable gains and to help plan for supports for children when they enter grade one
- To adapt the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey platform to collect reliable data on safe schools, engagement and high school completion.
 - TTFM survey system collects reliable data on various forms of student engagement, mental and physical well-being, bullying and school safety and other drivers of academic success.
 - All surveys can be tailored by the Department to reflect our priorities. Schools and regions can add specific questions to address local needs.
 - Students, parents and teachers who participate in the survey will feel more listened to and the system will better understand the perception of strengths and weaknesses in our system.

Literacy is an absolute necessity for future success in schooling and life, and the Fountas & Pinnell system has been used successfully in other jurisdictions to improve student literacy skills.

The EYE and TTFM surveys will provide important feedback to the system on areas that have a great impact on student success, including children's readiness for school, mental and physical well-being school safety and bullying.