



Three-Year School Education Plan
CALGARY ISLAMIC SCHOOL
AKRAM-JOMAA CAMPUS
2019-2020

FAITH | KNOWLEDGE | INGENUITY

CALGARY ISLAMIC SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

“Calgary Islamic School strives to develop an enriched learning community that promotes academic achievement, leadership, and Islamic values.”

VISION

To create a caring environment that inspires knowledge, faith and ingenuity.

VALUES



BELIEFS

We believe that God is One in being without partner, Unique without peer, Ultimate without opposite, Alone without equal. He is One, Pre-Eternal, Beginninglessly uncreated; Everlastingly abiding, Unceasingly existent, Eternally limitless; the Ever Self-Subsisting through whom all else subsists, Ever-Enduring without end. He is, was and ever will be possessed of all attributes of Majesty, Unannihilated by dissolution or separation through the passage of eons or terminus of interims. *He is the First and Last, the Outward and Inward, and He has knowledge of everything* [Quran 57:3].

He is not a body with a form, or a limitary quantitative substance. He does not resemble bodies in quantifiability or divisibility, or in being a substance or qualified by substance, or being an accident or qualified by accidents. He does not resemble anything that exists, nor does anything that exist resemble Him. *There is nothing whatsoever like unto Him* [Quran 42:11].

We believe that God, Most High, sent Muhammad (God bless him and give him peace), to deliver His inspired message to the entire world. God has favoured him above all other Prophets and made him the highest of mankind.

We believe that acquiring knowledge is a foundational attribute of the human being and that every student has the capacity to learn and grow. We believe that teaching is an essential attribute of our Prophet Muhammad (God bless him and give him peace), and as such, our teachers follow in his footsteps, are cognizant of their professional role, religious responsibility and spiritual significance to students, staff and the school.

SCHOOL PROFILE

Calgary Islamic School (CIS) was founded in 1992 as a full-time private school serving the Muslim Community of Calgary. CIS provides an Islamic learning environment with a

commitment to using effective teaching pedagogy to cultivate and advance a comprehensive academic program, which is fully compliant with the Alberta curriculum of studies. CIS is a K-12 school with two campuses and a wide array of resources designed to foster student achievement that will prepare students to pursue higher education and be successful in their careers. It is our aim to empower our students by cultivating their interests and honing their academic skills as strong Canadian Muslims.

In July of 2015 the Calgary Islamic School and the Muslim Community Foundation of Calgary (MCFC) entered into an agreement with Palliser Regional Schools to become an alternative program school within Palliser. The partnership has brought forth great opportunities for the Calgary Islamic School to better enhance the educational opportunities for our students while respecting our religious and cultural beliefs and values.

STUDENTS

At the Calgary Islamic School – Akram Jomaa campus, over 1000 students are in attendance from K-12. The student population is highly diverse. Many students originate from many Middle Eastern countries and South Asian countries. Students come from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds and are highly motivated to learn and achieve their academic and religious goals. Students at CIS have a variety of learning needs and many students are English Language Learners (ELL). Students are actively involved in extra-curricular activities after school and many co-curricular activities within school. Finally, successful students at CIS are accomplished learners who embody excellence in character and devotion to their religion.

PERSONNEL

The Calgary Islamic School–Akram Jomaa campus employs over 60 fulltime certified teachers, instructors and support staff. The diversity of the staff in experience and

qualification is a great strength that ensures support and effective collaboration. Personnel turnover has greatly subsided over the past few years, especially after the partnership with Palliser Regional Schools. Stability and growth is an important factor that will ensure continuous student learning.

OUR SHARED PURPOSE

As teachers at the Calgary Islamic School – Akram-Jomaa Campus, we commit ourselves to do the following:

1. Inspire and instill Prophetic values
2. Build a strong community of Muslims that understands their purpose and responsibilities for the betterment of the world.
3. We create opportunities to promote lifelong community connections
4. Empower students to follow the examples of The Prophet Muhammed (God bless him and give him peace) in seeking and sharing knowledge.

SCHOOL GOALS

2019-2020

Goal #1

Division Goal: Palliser students will become literate in mental health, gaining knowledge and understanding that will provide them confidence and support in their pursuit of living a healthy life.

School Goal: Students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and experiences required to improve their health and well-being in all five domains.

Build Awareness	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Understanding how to foster and maintain good mental health</i></p> <p><i>Understanding mental disorders and their treatments</i></p> <p><i>Decreasing Stigma</i></p> <p><i>Understanding how to seek help effectively</i></p> <p><i>Students will feel connected through a focus on positive relationships.</i></p> <p><i>Students will be able to identify that caring for self, others and the environment is an essential aspect of their faith.</i></p>	<p><i>Our School Survey</i></p>	<p>Communicate the definition of mental health literacy to all stakeholders to build a common understanding.</p>
		<p>Develop a mental health page on the website with information and resources for students and parents Build community partnerships to help develop mental health literacy.</p>
		<p>Develop teachers' capacity in understanding mental health/illness and how to support student understanding</p>
	<p><i>U of C Research Study</i></p>	<p>Use of restorative circles as a means of avoiding/solving conflicts</p>
		<p>Health & Wellness committee composed of all stake-holders to work within the comprehensive school health framework</p>
	<p><i>Focus Groups</i></p>	<p>Involve students in self-assessments, surveys and opportunities to share and reflect on their faith and their overall experience at school</p>
	<p><i>Other</i></p>	<p>Continue to involve the students in community service projects and good will events.</p>
		<p>Implementation of the "4th R", "Healthy Relationships Plus" and "HAL 2.0" to improve peer-to-peer relationships</p>
<p>Involve students in community initiatives that focus on service as a fundamental aspect of faith</p>		

Goal #2

Division Goal: All Palliser students will engage in intentional and meaningful literacy learning across all aspects of daily living.

School Goal: Students will demonstrate literacy competencies to participate fully and successfully in living, learning and work.

Build Awareness	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Promote literacy learning by communicating the importance of literacy development for student success.</i></p> <p><i>All stakeholders working together to create a sustainable culture for literacy</i></p>	<p><i>Accountability Pillar</i></p>	<p>Communicate the definition of literacy to all education stakeholders to build a common understanding.</p>
	<p><i>Surveys</i></p>	<p>Develop a literacy page on the school website.</p>
	<p><i>Focus Groups</i></p>	<p>Identify and share promising literacy practices and universal and targeted instructional strategies with teachers and parents.</p>
		<p>Develop teacher resources to support diverse learners.</p>
		<p>We will create opportunities to share and celebrate literacy learning.</p>
Literacy Learning	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Ensure that every student has an equal opportunity for literacy learning</i></p>	<p><i>F&P Data</i></p>	<p>Utilizing LLI to help provide at-risk students with opportunities to be successful</p>
	<p><i>Instructional Supervision</i></p>	<p>Effective use of RTI to help at-risk students close the gap</p>
	<p><i>ESL Benchmarks</i></p>	<p>Collaborative meetings with grade teams and administration to discuss student performance and check-in data</p>
	<p><i>Anecdotal Evidence (Grade/Subject Meetings)</i></p>	<p>Students will participate in meaningful literacy learning that allows for student choice, authenticity, and shared literacy experiences (balanced literacy).</p>
		<p>Schools will create opportunities for community partnerships that provide literacy support for students and families.</p>

Assessment & Reporting	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>We will ensure that assessment & reporting practices are aligned from grade to grade.</i></p>	<p><i>Report Cards</i></p>	<p>Use F&P data to inform instruction at all grade levels and develop interventions</p>
	<p><i>Rubrics</i></p>	<p>Create collaborative assessment opportunities for teachers</p>
	<p><i>Performance Task Assessments</i></p>	<p>Collaborate with Alberta Assessment Consortium</p>
Enhance Opportunities	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Support professional learning opportunities that focus on literacy in all subject areas and grade levels.</i></p>	<p><i>Professional Development Attendance</i></p>	<p>Parent Learning Committee through Parent Council</p>
		<p>Book Studies</p>
		<p>Support professional learning by examining and sharing promising literacy practices and processes in different classrooms.</p>
		<p>Teacher led PD with specific focus on Literacy in all content areas</p>

Goal #3

Division Goal: All Palliser students will engage in intentional and meaningful numeracy learning across all aspects of daily living.

School Goal: Students will demonstrate the ability, confidence and willingness to engage with quantitative or spatial information to make informed decisions in all aspects of daily living.

Build Awareness	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Promote numeracy learning by communicating the importance of numeracy development for student success.</i></p> <p><i>All stakeholders working together to create a sustainable culture for literacy</i></p>	<p><i>Accountability Pillar</i></p> <p><i>Surveys</i></p> <p><i>Focus Groups</i></p>	Communicate the definition of literacy to all education stakeholders to build a common understanding.
		Develop a numeracy page on the school website.
		Identify and share promising numeracy practices and universal and targeted instructional strategies with teachers and parents.
		Develop teacher resources to support diverse learners.
		We will create opportunities to share and celebrate numeracy learning.
Numeracy Learning	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Students will recognize forms of numeracy across subjects and contexts.</i></p> <p><i>Schools will implement a comprehensive whole-school approach to numeracy.</i></p>	<p><i>Instructional Supervision and Anecdotal evidence.</i></p> <p><i>PAT & Diploma</i></p> <p><i>MIPI</i></p>	Find a reliable intervention method to provide at-risk students with opportunities to be successful
		Effective use of RTI to help at-risk students close the gap
		Regular meetings with grade teams and administration to discuss student progress

Assessment and Reporting	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>We will ensure that assessment & reporting practices are aligned from grade to grade.</i></p>	<p><i>Report Cards</i></p>	<p>Use of MIPI data to inform instruction at all grade levels and develop interventions</p>
	<p><i>Rubrics</i></p>	<p>Create collaborative assessment opportunities for teachers</p>
	<p><i>Performance Task Assessments</i></p>	<p>Collaborate with Alberta Assessment Consortium</p>
Enhance Opportunities	Measures	Action Steps / Strategies
<p><i>Support professional learning opportunities that focus on literacy in all subject areas and grade levels.</i></p>	<p><i>Professional Development Attendance</i></p>	<p>Parent Learning Committee through Parent Council</p>
		<p>Book Studies</p>
		<p>Classroom Observations</p>
		<p>Support professional learning by sharing promising numeracy practices and processes from different classrooms.</p>
		<p>Teacher led PD with specific focus on numeracy</p>
