



NEWS RELEASE

Fraser Institute ranks 262 Alberta high schools in annual Report Card

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For Immediate Release

CALGARY—The Fraser Institute today released its *Report Card on Alberta’s High Schools*, the most easily accessible tool for parents to compare the academic performance of their children’s schools.

This year’s Report Card rates 262 public, independent, separate and charter schools based on eight academic indicators generated from Grade 12 provincewide testing, grade-to-grade transition and graduation rates.

“The Report Card gives parents information about their child’s school they won’t get anywhere else, and it’s a valuable tool for them to assess the quality of their child’s education,” said Peter Cowley, the Fraser Institute’s director of school performance studies.

This year, 41 schools suffered statistically significant declines in overall academic performance compared to just 24 schools that improved.

Fortunately, the data suggest that every school is capable of improvement regardless of school type, location and the students’ personal and family characteristics.

For example, Mallaig Community School, a bilingual public religious school northeast of Edmonton, was one of the fastest-improving schools in the province over the past four years, steadily climbing from a rating of 5 out of 10 in 2013 to 8.2 in 2017—despite nearly one quarter of its students having special needs. And Calgary Islamic, which has 99 per cent ESL students, improved its rating from 2 out of 10 to 7 out of 10 over the same period.

“Students are the ones who benefit when a school’s performance improves, but it’s most often only the parents who can effectively advocate for improvements,” Cowley said.

“Parents should use this Report Card every year to assess how their child’s school is doing, and when necessary, ask the principal how he or she plans to turn things around.”

For detailed results of all 262 schools, go to www.compareschoolrankings.org where you can quickly see how a school performed over the past five years and how it compares to other schools.

Ten fastest improving Alberta high schools from 2013 through 2017 (from the top)

SCHOOL	CITY	AFFILIATION
Trochu Valley	Trochu	Public
Calgary Islamic	Calgary	Public
Mallaig	Mallaig	Public
David Thompson	Condor	Public
Innisfail	Innisfail	Public
Lillian Osborne	Edmonton	Public
Bishop McNally	Calgary	Separate
Roland Michener	Slave Lake	Public
Grimshaw	Grimshaw	Public
Olds Koinonia	Olds	Public

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