



September 16, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 3 Students:

Important Information: Grade 3 Pilot Student Learning Assessments

Alberta Education is initiating a third pilot year of Student Learning Assessments (SLAs), to support student learning. This year, the Pilot SLA is limited to a sample of 20 school authorities who have chosen to opt in. Grade 3 classes in the Calgary Board of Education will participate in the pilot.

As in the previous two pilots, the SLAs have four components:

- Literacy
 - Assessments completed on a computer
 - Written performance tasks
- Numeracy
 - Assessments completed on a computer
 - Written performance tasks

This year, teachers may administer and re-administer SLA components at any time between September 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Your child's teacher will select the times and dates within these periods when students will complete each of the four components.

The primary purpose of assessment is to improve student learning. SLAs are one of many formative assessment tools. They give teachers valuable information about each student's learning which in turns helps them to address individual student learning needs throughout the year. You may access a report of your child's results through your child's teacher. Interpretation of results is best accomplished through conversation between the parent/guardian, student and teacher.

For answers to commonly asked questions about SLAs, visit the Alberta Education [SLA website](https://education.alberta.ca/department/ipr/slas/) at <https://education.alberta.ca/department/ipr/slas/> for more information. To become familiar with the types and interactivity of the questions completed on a computer in the Grade 3 SLA, students can try out the practice questions publicly available in the [SLA Application](#). Released questions from the 2014 and 2015 pilots, also available in the [SLA Application](#), will allow students to become familiarized with examples of content and question types.

You are welcome to contact your child's teacher or me at any time to discuss your child's learning.

Sincerely,

Tori Healing

Principal

e | tthealing@cbe.ab.ca