

April 25, 2023

To: Superintendents of School Divisions  
Directors of First Nations Education Authorities and Tribal Councils (*via MFNERC*)  
Principals of Funded Independent Schools  
Directors of Adult Learning Centres

Dear Colleagues:

**Re: REVISED Manitoba's Provincial Assessment Program in 2023/24**

Further to the letter circulated by the Honourable Wayne Ewasko, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, on February 6, 2023, I am writing to provide additional information regarding Manitoba's Provincial Assessment Program for the 2023/24 school year, including the new Grade 10 Provincial Evaluations, the reinstatement of Grade 12 Provincial Tests, and a schedule of dates and timelines.

As you are aware, the Provincial Assessment Program focuses on snapshots of student achievement at points in time in early years, middle years and senior years for specific curricular areas. The provincial assessment program provides both student and system-level information and is a complement to the formative and summative assessments that take place in classrooms and schools on a daily basis. Together, provincial and local student assessment programs provide robust information to inform planning, reporting and decision making.

**Manitoba's New Grade 10 Provincial Evaluations**

- Grade 10 Provincial evaluations are summative evaluations of cumulative student learning in mathematics, reading and responding (writing and comprehension) to the end of Grade 9. They are intended to be used as a formative assessment to identify student learning strengths and needs to inform planning at the student, classroom, school and system level. Currently, there are no plans to include these results on student report cards.
- The evaluations will be administered annually in the fall, beginning in 2023 to Grade 10 students across the English, French Immersion, and Français programs.

- Evaluations are anticipated to take approximately three hours of class time in total. This will include:
  - Reading and responding – consisting of reading and responding to texts and a writing task (approximately two hours); and
  - Mathematics – consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions (approximately one hour).

### **Manitoba's Grade 12 Provincial Tests**

- Grade 12 Provincial Tests will be administered in applicable 40S courses. For the 2023/24 school year, these will be similar in process and structure as the last administration in January 2020. A decision on the proportion of the final course mark is yet to be determined.
  - English Language Arts (Comprehensive Focus, Literary Focus and Transactional Focus):
    - Administration time will be six hours over four days
  - Mathematics:
    - Applied Mathematics – administered over three hours on a single day
    - Essential Mathematics – administered over two hours on a single day
    - Pre-Calculus Mathematics – administered over three hours on a single day
  - Français langue première: Langue et communication
    - Administration time will be six hours over two days
  - Français langue seconde – Immersion: Langue et communication
    - Administration time will be five hours over two days

The existing formative assessments in early (Grades 3/4) and middle years (Grades 7/8) will continue for the time being, with plans to develop provincial evaluations in Grades 4 and 7 following the implementation of the Grade 10 evaluations and recommencement of the Grade 12 provincial tests.

As development of the Framework for Learning proceeds, alignment of assessment, evaluation and reporting language and practices will align with the guiding principles articulated in *Rethinking Classroom Assessment with Purpose in Mind: Assessment for, as, and of Learning* (2006).

Additionally, in spring 2024 a small number of schools will be identified to participate in field testing for the next administration of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2025, for which the major domain will be Science. Schools selected for field testing will be notified in late 2023.

If you have questions or require additional information please contact David Wall, Acting Coordinator, Learning and Outcomes Branch or Jamie Parker, Coordinator, Bureau de l'éducation française at [assesseval@gov.mb.ca](mailto:assesseval@gov.mb.ca).

The attached table (**Appendix**) details the provincial assessment and evaluation schedule for the 2023/24 school year. This information can also be accessed on the website at: [www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/index.html](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/index.html).

Please share this information as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Tomy  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Student Achievement and Inclusion Division

- c. Honourable Wayne Ewasko, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning
  - Board Chairs, School Divisions
  - Manitoba School Boards Association
  - Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
  - Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools
  - Manitoba First Nations School System
  - Independent First Nations Education Partnership
  - Student Services Administrators' Association of Manitoba
  - The Manitoba Teachers' Society
  - Jamie Parker, Coordinator, Bureau de l'éducation française
  - David Wall, Coordinator, Learning and Outcomes Branch

**Appendix:** Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, Provincial Assessment and Program schedule for the 2023-24 school year.

| <b>Assessment / Evaluation</b>   | <b>Administration Timelines</b>  |
|--|--|
| <b>Early Years Assessment</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 3 Assessment – Reading, <i>Lecture</i> and Numeracy</li> <li>Grade 4 Assessment – French Immersion <i>Lecture</i></li> </ul>  | Late October to December 2023  |
| <b>Middle Years Assessment</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 7 – Mathematics</li> <li>Grade 8 – Reading, Comprehension and Expository Writing</li> </ul>   | Late January to early March 2024   |
| <b>Grade 10 Provincial Evaluation</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mathematics, Reading and Responding</li> </ul>  | Fall 2023 (Dates to be confirmed)  |
| <b>Grade 12 Provincial Tests</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts 40S</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: Optional for Français and French Immersion Programs</i></p>  | Semester 1: January 9 to 12, 2024<br><br>Semester 2: May 27 to 30, 2024  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Français langue première, 40S</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: Students' preparatory activities start on the Wednesday prior to administration beginning.</i></p>                           | Semester 1: January 10, 2024 (during Français class); and, January 15 to 16, 2024<br><br>Semester 2: May 29, 2024 (during Français class); and June 3 to 4, 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Français langue seconde, — immersion 40S Standards Test</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: Students' Preparatory Activities start on the Wednesday prior to administration beginning.</i></p> | Semester 1: January 10, 2024 (during Français class), January 15 to 16, 2024<br><br>Semester 2: May 29, 2024 (during Français class), June 3 to 4, 2024          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applied Mathematics</li> </ul>  | Semester 1: January 23, 2024<br><br>Semester 2: June 13, 2024  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Essential Mathematics</li> </ul>  | Semester 1: January 24, 2024 (revised)<br><br>Semester 2: June 12, 2024 (revised)  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Calculus Mathematics</li> </ul>   | Semester 1: January 25, 2024 (revised)<br><br>Semester 2: June 11, 2024 (revised)  |
| <b>Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2025</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Field testing</li> </ul>  | Spring 2024  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main study administration</li> </ul>  | Spring 2025  |