Learning Guide for Parents

Career and Technology Foundations

What do parents/guardians need to know about the new Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) curriculum?

This learning guide is designed for use by parents/guardians as a self-paced study to explore the new Career and Technology Foundations curriculum.

Parents/guardians are also encouraged to use this learning guide as a discussion starter at a School Council Meeting, Parent Information Event, or other school community event.

This learning guide is intended for use after viewing the video: What is CTF?

The new Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) curriculum creates opportunities for grades 5 to 9 teachers to personalize learning for their students, incorporate meaningful and engaging learning experiences and help students explore and develop skills related to various career pathways.

Key Ideas:

- Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) allows students to explore interests and passions while making personal connections to career possibilities and technologies associated with the occupational areas covered in Career and Technology Studies (CTS).
- CTF students work collaboratively towards a shared goal in response to a challenge, they ask questions, seek answers and share their findings through inquiry-based learning.
- CTF students address challenges through hands-on, authentic learning experiences in which they create products, give performances or provide services, often with community partners.
- The CTF Programs of Study is based on 14 learning outcomes that identify what students are expected to learn and what will be assessed, and are the same for Grades 5-9.
- CTF supports the development of literacy and numeracy, as well as the development of cross-curricular competencies.
- CTF students develop skills and safety awareness in the occupational areas of business, communications, human services, resources, and technology while working through engaging challenges.
- Assessment of the CTF curriculum is designed to be student-specific, individualized and flexible because not all students learning in the same way and at the same pace.

Questions for reflection and discussion:

- What opportunities does this new curriculum offer to students?
- How do the principles behind Career and Technology Foundations align with your school's current perspective on complementary courses?
- Considering your own school context, what are some strategies and practices currently in place that align with this new curriculum?

For more information:

CTF –Support for Implementation www.albertactf.ca (ARPDC)

CTF for Educators & Administrators (Alberta Education)

Cross-Curricular Competencies (ARPDC)

My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/

Alberta School Council Association www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca

Your child's teacher and/or principal are also a valuable source of information.

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