



MAC Islamic School
Edmonton

Three-Year Education Plan

2023 - 2026

For more information regarding MAC Islamic School Edmonton's *2023/2026 Three-Year Education Plan*, please contact:

Principal Mariam Hashmi, Ed.S., M.Ed.

Email: principal@macislamicschool.com

MAC Islamic Elementary School

Phone: 780-453-2220 / Fax: 780-452-2233

11342-127 Street

Edmonton, AB T5M 0T8

MAC Islamic School Junior/Senior High School

Phone:

12325 - 140 Street

Edmonton, AB

This document can be viewed on our website at: <https://macislamicschool.com>

Accountability Statement

The Education Plan for the Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) commencing September 2023 was prepared under the direction of the MAC Board in accordance with the responsibilities under the *Education Act* and the *Fiscal Planning Transparency Act*. This plan was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used its performance results to develop the plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results.

MAC Islamic School Edmonton's 2023/2026 Education Plan can be accessed from www.macislamicschool.com.

The MAC Board has approved the 2023/2026 Education Plan on May 30, 2023.

Mourad Mhiri

MAC Board Chair

Muslim Association of Canada (MAC)

The Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) is a Canadian, independent, national, faith-based, charitable organization that provides spaces, services and programs for holistic education and personal development for Canadian Muslims. In addition, MAC focuses on building communities and strengthening neighbourhoods nation-wide, through services and collaborations with groups from different religious, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.

MAC offers an approach that emphasizes the holistic message of Islam within the context of a pluralistic society and hence, a message that respects all faiths and Canadian institutions, traditions, and values. MAC believes that the personal development of every individual is key to a real and fruitful involvement in the community. It brings a balanced, constructive and engaged understanding of Islam that aims to inspire Muslims in Canada and throughout the world.

Over the past two decades MAC has grown to be the largest grassroots Muslim organization with a national reach rooted in strong local chapters in 14 cities across Canada. MAC has 50 institutions ranging from full-time school, community centres, weekend school, and child-care centres. In all, MAC serves more than 50,000 community members weekly.

Providing parents with excellent educational alternatives is paramount. It is fundamentally important that parents have as much ability to choose the path in the education of their children. We take this very seriously and over the years we structured many options for parents to choose from.

MAC constructed its educational model on two main ideals. Firstly, the premise that every youth has the potential to be a leader. This premise is encompassed in the following noble prophetic tradition: “All of you are a guardian, and are responsible for what is entrusted with.” Equally important, the second premise, which is the basis of community capacity building, is that no one is without capacity. It just often needs to be developed. Our educational program was developed for nurturing and developing this potential through fostering the development of agency, connectedness, and competence in children as they pass through the phases of becoming youth and then young adults.

Integrated within this curriculum is

- To continuously enhance the student learning outcomes
- To ingrain a greater spiritual awareness that leads to a meaningful connectedness to Allah (God) and His creation
- To build a stronger moral foundation
- To cultivate a greater sense of civic responsibility
- To inculcate a deeper connection to the community

Through our planning cycle, we built our strategy around these objectives:

1. Building Inclusive and safe learning Spaces:

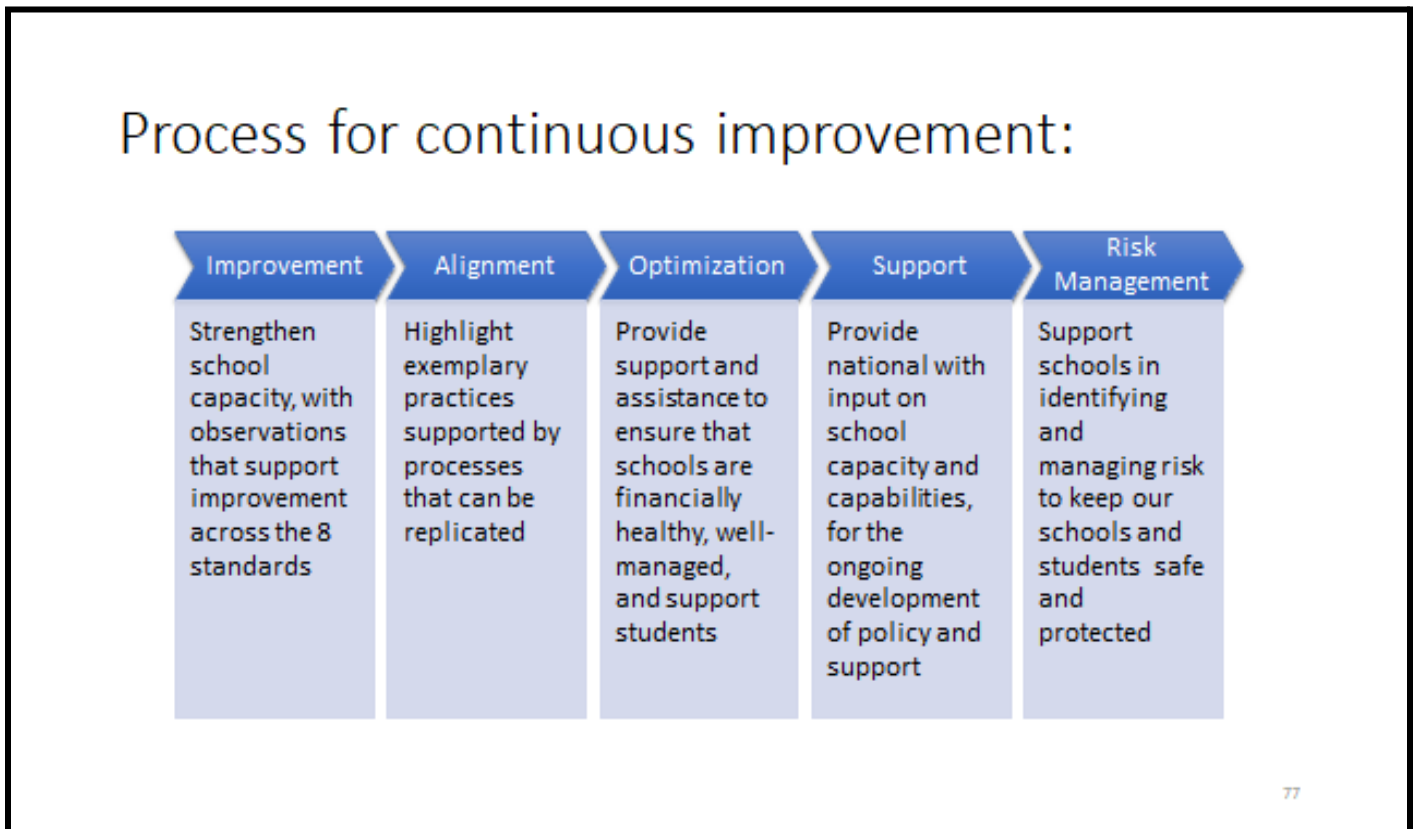
- Secure modern infrastructure through acquisition or lease arrangements to operate schools that meet community needs.
- Create a safe and inclusive environment that is conducive to learning.

2. Ensure fiscal responsibility and stability:
 - Ensuring implementation of the financial procedures and guidelines for budgeting, reporting, and auditing
 - Resource allocation
 - Securing additional revenue to cover any financial deficits

3. Fostering a collaborative culture of high expectations for teaching and learning which nurtures our Islamic values
 - Optimize and expand programs to build a students' school and classroom leadership.
 - Enhance programs to build academically engaged students that demonstrate pathway thinking.
 - Enrich and improve programs to an integrated character education program.
 - Enhance recruitment, retention, engagement, capacity and leadership of highly effective staff.

4. Encouraging good stewardship of resources by building leadership and management capacity through:
 - Leveraging and sharing best practices
 - Identifying opportunities for continual improvement

The process for continuous improvement is highlighted in the chart below:



Foundation Statements

Confident, strong, and healthy children are the cornerstone for a bright and prosperous future. Built around an integrated educational model at the school and beyond, our programs create many growth opportunities.

At MAC Schools, we strive to:

- ★ Provide high quality and viable alternatives for parents
- ★ Enhance academic achievement
- ★ Develop attitudes and behaviours for healthy living
- ★ Enrich the curriculum through:
 - Getting children physically active by helping them explore their abilities in sports and build their passion for physical fitness;
 - Providing students with comprehensive exposure to science, technology, and the world at work, including appreciation for the environment;
 - Developing students' artistic and creative talents;
 - Developing strong leadership skills and instilling a strong social and community consciousness.

Another foundational aspect of our educational program is the character-leadership initiative known as MAC iRISE. This is a research-intensive, evidence-based and community-driven integrated character education program whereby students will learn how to embody Islamic values, rooted in developing a strong relationship with Allah, while acquiring relevant life skills to help students meet the challenges of the 21st century. This will be demonstrated by the students:

- embodying the Islamic character;
- being inspired to reach their full potential;
- having a strong sense of responsibility and care, exercised through ethical engagement as global citizens;
- being prepared to RISE above the challenges that they will most certainly face.

MAC Islamic School Edmonton

The Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) established the MAC Islamic School (MIS) Edmonton in 2012. MIS is a registered full-time accredited Elementary and Jr. High school serving children from pre-school to grade 10. MIS is expanding to provide educational services to high school students in grade 11 in the 2023 - 2024 school year, thereby adding grade 12 in the 2024 - 2025 school year. This is our eleventh year in operation. We have over 500 students from varying cultural backgrounds. At MIS we are committed to mainstreaming Islamic values and teachings in all subject areas. We implement the Alberta Education Program of Studies along with Quran, Arabic, and Islamic Studies.

Mission

MAC Islamic School is a school of choice focusing on academic excellence that produces positively influential individuals with exceptional Islamic character, while having fun.

Vision

The purpose of our mission stems from our bearing witness to the Oneness of Allah (God), the Creator of all things and the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Our curriculum is informed by these Islamic moral and ethical imperatives. Those moral values are the foundation of the character building mandate entrusted to us and expected by our parent community. Through it, our students will develop a strong Muslim-Canadian identity, embody universal values and acquire relevant life skills to meet 21st century challenges.

At MAC Islamic School we are determined to teach our students to be lifelong learners, contributing members of society and to accept all of Allah swt's creations with an open heart. We strive to develop a strong relationship with Allah swt and embody the iRISE values of Rabbaniya, Integrity, Service, and Excellence. Furthermore, we want to develop the love of learning in our students and enable them to become confident and productive leaders.

Education Plan

MAC Islamic School Edmonton's Education Plan shares strategic priorities to support continuous improvement and provide successful experiences for all students.

The Education Plan is an integral part of the Assurance Framework and reflects stakeholder feedback and data informed decision-making. Furthermore, the Educational Plan is aligned with MAC Islamic School Edmonton's 2022-2023 Budget. More information regarding the 2022 - 2023 budget can be accessed in the school Office. Thoughtful actions and reflections regarding the five interconnected domains of the Assurance Framework guides our Education Plan.

Evidence-based decisions and reflections on various sources of data informs our Education Plan. This document is in response to the Annual Education Results Review (AERR), feedback from stakeholders via formal and informal surveys, School Management Committee, Parent Council, Student Council, Teacher collaborative meetings, Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) results, Student Learning Assessments (SLA) and other local measures of data. As outlined in the Education Plan, MAC Islamic School Edmonton promotes high quality teaching and learning thereby supporting student growth and achievement.

Our strategic plan is implemented by acknowledging and addressing the diverse needs of our students and the context of Islamic education within an accredited school system. The curriculum is designed and implemented according to the guidelines provided by Alberta Education. MAC Islamic School promotes high academic standards that are developmentally appropriate and support students to reach their personal best. Mastery of foundational knowledge in various subject areas, character development and community service are important features of our overall program planning. Our students thrive in a learning environment that promotes civic participation and respect for diversity.

We continue to build capacity within our school community and make decisions that are responsive to the community. Furthermore, the implementation of a continuous improvement cycle of inquiry, research, strategic actions and reflective evaluation will strengthen the impact of our Education Plan.

Assurance Domain #1: Student Growth and Achievement

School Priorities:

- MAC Islamic School is a community school of academic excellence
- Students demonstrate Islamic character and Islamic Leadership
- Specialization in Quran, Arabic and Islamic Studies for all students
- Support for English Language Learners (ELL)
- Implementation of new Alberta Education Curriculum
 - Kindergarten to Grade 6 English Language Arts, Math, Physical Education and Wellness

Outcomes:

Student learning, development and growth is supported.

Strategies:

- Arabic language instruction, resources, and curriculum with iRISE integration
- Islamic Studies and Quran integration
- iRISE integration in ELA and daily routines
- Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) administered to grades 6 & 9 students in the spring
- Student Learning Assessments (SLA) administered to grade 3 students in the fall.
- Provincial, MAC National and school surveys for students, parents and staff administered in the spring
- Diagnostic reading assessments administered in the fall, winter and spring
- Math assessments administered in the fall and spring
- Writing assessment (HLAT) is administered in the spring
- School-wide use of HLAT writing rubrics and exemplars
- Empowering Writers program
- ELL PD and mentoring for staff
- New Alberta Education Curriculum implementation PD for teachers

Measures:

- Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)
- Student Learning Assessments (SLA)
- Provincial student, parent, teacher survey
- MAC National student, parent, staff survey
- MAC Islamic School Edmonton student, parent, staff survey
- Stakeholder feedback: students, families, staff members
- Reading Assessments (BAS, Reading A-Z, Scholastic)
- Math Assessments (Key Math, MIPI)
- Quran, Arabic and Islamic Studies Assessments
- iRISE Fair Project Rubric
- Highest Level of Achievement Test (HLAT) Writing Assessment
- Empowering Writers Rubrics
- Environmental Public Health Inspection
- Compliance with Alberta Health Services guidelines (AHS)
- New Alberta Education Curriculum implementation teacher feedback

Assurance Domain #2: Teaching and Leading

School Priority:

- MAC Islamic School has excellent teachers and school leaders.
- MAC Islamic School promotes Islamic Leadership

Outcomes:

MAC Islamic School learners are supported through high quality learning environments and Islamic leadership opportunities.

Strategies:

- Professional Growth Plans
- Teaching Quality Standards, Leadership Quality Standards
- School-wide professional growth goals and calendar
- Supervision & Evaluation
- Mentoring & Feedback
- Digital Curriculum and IT Support
- Islamic Leadership sessions and opportunities
- iRISE workshops, weekly lessons and integration
- Staff iRISE professional development
- Cycles of evidence-based learning
- Staff Hub and Instructional Planning documents
- Staff new Alberta Education Curriculum PD

Measures:

- Provincial student, parent, teacher survey
- MAC National student, parent, staff survey
- MAC Islamic School Edmonton student, parent, staff survey
- Stakeholder feedback: students, families, staff members
- Self-reflection for students and staff
- Supervision and evaluation of iRISE implementation
- Various Assessments: pre-assessments, formative and summative

Assurance Domain #3: Learning Supports

School Priority:

- Effective planning and implementation of learning supports to support student growth and achievement

Outcomes:

- Students at MAC Islamic School are successful

Strategies:

Specialized Supports

- Program Unit Funding (PUF)
- Low Incidents Support (DHH)
- Occupational Therapy (OT)
- Speech and Language Pathology (SLP)
- Mental Health & Life Coaching
- Parent education regarding specialized supports
- Educational Assistants supporting English Language Learners
- Collaboration with community organizations: Junior Achievement, Revive Counselling, Catalyst Behaviour Services, S.Z. Wellness

Safe & Caring Learning Environment

- iRISE character education & Islamic Leadership
- Maintain a focus on enhanced safety and well-being of students and staff
- Adhere to Alberta Health Services (AHS) and environmental public health guidelines

Measures:

- Provincial student, parent, teacher survey
- MAC National student, parent, staff survey
- MAC Islamic School Edmonton student, parent, staff survey
- Supervision and evaluation of iRISE implementation
- Various Assessments: pre-assessments, formative and summative
- Staff knowledgeable in mental health literacy and first aid
- Stakeholder feedback: students, families, staff members

Assurance Domain #4: Governance

School Priority:

MAC Islamic School Edmonton is well governed and managed.

Outcomes:

MAC Islamic School Edmonton provides enhanced educational services as a result of effective strategic direction, policy implementation and management of fiscal resources.

Strategies:

- Implementation of MAC Islamic Schools vision and mission
- Ongoing and open communication with stakeholders
- Clarity in the roles and responsibilities of governing partners
- Fiscal resources are effectively managed and allocated according to priorities
- Continuous improvement is supported by evidence-based decisions
- Engage stakeholders with advisory committees, focus groups and surveys
- Review feedback and adjust policies and practices
- Open High School as follows: grade 10 for the 2022 - 2023 school year, grade 11 in the 2023 -2024 school year and grade 12 in the 2024 - 2025 school year

Measures:

- Provincial student, parent, teacher survey
- MAC National student, parent, staff survey
- MAC Islamic School Edmonton student, parent, staff survey
- Stakeholder (students, staff, families, volunteers, community members) feedback

Assurance Domain #5: Local and Societal Context

School Priority:

MAC Islamic School Edmonton promotes stakeholder engagement and supports diverse student learning needs.

Outcomes:

Stakeholders are engaged in supporting diverse student needs.

Strategies:

- Integration of Islamic principles and teachings
- Islamic Leadership
- iRISE Character Education
- Compassionate Funds for needy families
- Developing and applying FNMI knowledge to support the advancement of reconciliation
- Mental health and wellness awareness and support for staff, students and families

Measures:

- Provincial student, parent, teacher survey
- MAC National student, parent, staff survey
- MAC Islamic School Edmonton student, parent, staff survey
- Stakeholder (students, staff, families, volunteers, community members) feedback
- Fundraising and resource allocation