

MAKER CENTERED LEARNING, CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATIONS AND CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES

Background

Student participation in Maker Centered Learning, Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) and Career and Technology Studies (CTS) is a valuable learning experience for students in grades K to 12.

The Assistant Superintendent, Learning Services will be responsible for the administration of this administrative procedure.

Definitions

Maker Centered Learning – Play based learning experiences where students are able to experiment with electronic, robotic, programmatic and similar modern environments to engage in innovation, design and problem solving.

CTS – Career and Technology Studies program is a competency-based curriculum designed for senior high school students. Students develop competencies for daily living, personal interest, career planning and preparation as well as entry into the workplace and post-secondary programs. CTS offers multiple entry points and recognizes prior learning and experiences.

CTF – Career and Technology Foundations is an exploratory curriculum designed to expose students to a variety of potential career possibilities while learning to collaboratively plan, create, appraise and communicate. The common CTF program of studies applies to grades 5-9 courses, and experiences in the areas of Human Services, Business, Communication, Resources or Technology occupational clusters.

CTS Course – an individual unit of instruction offered at a senior high school level with at least twenty-five (25) hours of accessible instructional time. CTS Courses are aligned to the Career and Technology Studies (CTS) Programs of Study.

CTS Cluster – A collection of CTS courses built around common career themes (HRH – Health and Human Resources, BIT – Business Administration, Finance and Information Technologies, MDC – Media, Design and Communications, TMT – Trades, Manufacturing and Transportation, and NAT – Natural Resources)

CTS Pathway – A specific selection of CTS courses used to build a High School class (For example: Cosmetology Studies, Fabrication Studies, etc.).

Regional CTS Pathway – specific pathways (i.e. Cosmetology Studies, Fabrication Studies, Mechanics and Professional Commercial Cooking) only offered at single sites and may be accessed by senior high students throughout the Division.

Procedures

1. Grades K-4 Maker Centered Learning

- 1.1 Maker Centered Learning experiences are optional opportunities for students grades K-4
- 1.2 Maker Centered Learning experiences do not have an explicit connect to the Alberta Program of Studies. Experiences are instead to be connected to outcomes within other Alberta Programs of Study (for example Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Art, etc).
- 1.3 It is the responsibility of the teacher to design and assess Maker Centered Learning Experiences. Teachers can draw on the support and expertise of non teaching staff such as Learning Commons Facilitators, community experts, etc.

2. Grades 5-9 CTF

- 2.1 The CTF program will be offered to students grades 5-9.
- 2.2 The CTF program offered at the junior high level is to be designed by combining components of courses within and across CTF Clusters and Occupational areas to enable students to **explore** a wide range of career options.
- 2.3 Grades 5-9 programs that align to the CTF Clusters and Occupational Areas shall be aligned to the CTF program of studies.
- 2.4 Grades 5-9 may provide instruction aligned to the CTF program of studies as
 - 2.4.1 a component of other learning experiences (for example drawing from the Communications cluster to create a multimedia presentation to communicate perspectives within a social studies project while exploring careers in the communication industry),
 - 2.4.2 a stand-alone learning experience such as designing a community market, club, or individual challenge, or
 - 2.4.3 As a Junior High School complementary course.
- 2.5 Maker Centered Learning experiences are optional opportunities for students grades 7-9.
- 2.6 Maker Centered Learning experiences grades 5-9 must be connected to the CTF program of studies.

3. Senior High CTS

- 3.1 CTS pathways offered at the senior high level are to be designed to provide students the opportunity to investigate potential career choices from introductory courses to advanced courses in a career pathway of their choice, based on course availability and access.
- 3.2 Students may elect to take a course in any year, depending on the availability of staff, facilities, and student places, recognizing that not all courses may be offered at all levels.
- 3.3 CTS provides significant opportunities for Community Partnerships. Decisions around partnerships are focused on student learning. The school principal must be involved in any decisions that bring non-FSD adults into the building or place students on a worksite. These decisions must follow Provincial Legislation as well as FSD policies and procedures. Ref: AP215, AP260.

4. The administration of CTS and CTF courses shall follow the guidelines and requirements established by Alberta Education.
5. CTS and CTF programming will be offered to learners with due consideration of the abilities and interests of the students, expertise of the staff, financial, material and physical resources within the school and student enrolments.
6. When developing CTF and Maker-centered learning programs for their school, principals shall where possible align Career Clusters available to the CTS Pathways offered at the High School level.

Reference: AP215: Off Campus Education
AP260: Field Trips
CTF and CTS Safety Manual
Relevant Legislation & Regulations