

EQUILIBRIUM INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE

LEVEL 1 PRIVATE SCHOOL

**THREE – YEAR EDUCATIONAL PLAN
2009 -2012**

The Three Year Education Plan can be access through the publicly available web link at
<http://www.equilibrium.ab.ca/contact%20us.htm>

MISSION

Equilibrium International Education Institute’s mission is to put students’ educational goals within their reach by providing highly individualized instruction consistent with students’ needs, abilities and interests.

ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

“The Education Plan for the three years commencing the school year of 2008-20011 was prepared under the direction of the Equilibrium International Education Institute in accordance with the responsibilities specified in the *School Act*, the *Government Accountability Act*, the *School Authority Accountability Policy* and the provincial government’s accountability policies.

The priorities outlines in this Educational Plan were developed in the context of the provincial government’s business and fiscal plans. Equilibrium International Education Institute is committed to achieving the planned results laid out in this plan.”

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Equilibrium International Education Institute President

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Date

EQUILIBRIUM INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE'S PRINCIPLES AND BELIEFS

Equilibrium International Education Institute's vision is to be most accessible private school in Calgary, Alberta.

Equilibrium International Education Institute is committed to its mission of putting students' educational goals within their reach by providing highly individualized instruction. We promise to:

- promote an individual approach to each and every student
- provide an extensive supply of learning & teaching resources (including an on-site bookstore) to ensure that students will always be provided with appropriate, up-to-date, and stimulating learning materials
- organize extra curriculum activities to promote learning and hands on experience
- continue to offer small classes conducive to more effective teaching, with a maximum of 15 students per classroom
- hire qualified teachers who are genuinely eager to teach and have chosen their profession because they take pride in imparting knowledge
- continue to offer our individualized programs, which, if a student attends our school and so chooses, may be introduced to complement classroom lessons, thus enhancing the educational experience
- assist all students with their post secondary applications and work related goal setting
- be dedicated to our student's success
- assist adult students in the Skills Development programs offered by our school to peruse their post –educational goals and /or assist them in reaching their employment goals

Equilibrium International Education Institute would like to be the most accessible private school in Calgary, whether it be completing the high school diploma, learning English from scratch, or acquiring the technical vocabulary necessary for that dream job.

MISSION

Equilibrium International Education Institute beliefs that all students are entitled to a safe, secure and caring learning environment where each individual is respected and valued. Our mission is to provide:

- quality education programs
- equality of students
- respect
- environment were students fully participate in the learning experience in order to achieve their educational success
- flexibly in students' academic schedules in order to accommodate the individual needs of each student
- accountability for each dollar that is spent towards all our programs and school maintenance
- programs that are cost efficient

Equilibrium International Education Institute is committed to promoting global education and intercultural understanding through the interaction of international and Canadian students.

EQUILIBRIUM INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE PROFILE

Equilibrium International Education Institute is a coeducational high school accredited by the Alberta Education Ministry from grade 10 to 12.

Equilibrium was established as a school for international students, who wish to improve their English and increase their awareness of life and culture in Canada. Although originally created for international students, Equilibrium has now both Canadian and international students in roughly the same proportion.

Many Canadian students found Equilibrium's personal approach to teaching as well as small class size policy a good alternative to the public system.

A wide range of High School credit courses are offered for students to choose from that lead to Alberta matriculation.

Equilibrium International Education Institute is also offering two Skills Development Programs founded by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry (AEII) to adult students in financial need who wish to go back to school. It includes the Academic Upgrading Program from grade 10 to 12 as well as the English for Special Purpose Program.

The school supports students through its advisor program and individual counseling. Throughout each semester students spend afternoons and weekends experiencing a variety of recreational and cultural activities in and around Calgary.

In addition we have a growing library of books as well as a computer laboratory that are easily accessible to the staff and students.

Equilibrium has a policy to maintain small class size in order to enable students to have a closer relationship with their teachers, and a more personalized teaching style.

We feel that we offer a unique opportunity, where students meet interesting people from all over the world and experience a vast array of cultures.

ISSUES AND TRENDS

Equilibrium International Education Institute's most important issue concerns attracting a higher number of international students to Calgary. It became very apparent that international students' enrollment decrease of around 30% on the national scale since 2003 also had some negative influence on our school's overall enrollment trends.

Although Equilibrium International Education Institute is unable to control natural disasters, health problems like SARS and H1N1, political unrest in the Middle East like war in Iraq and war on the terrorism, we can plan strategies that would help minimize these effects.

Equilibrium International Education Institute's strategy is to concentrate more on the local market by attracting higher numbers of Canadian students to our programs as well as expend number of seats in our Skills Development Programs founded by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry (AEII).

Issues to be taken into account while planning and budgeting each semester:

1. minimum class size that can generate enough revenue to cover staff and teacher salaries, maintain school in operational standing
2. staff and teacher rate of salaries
3. expenses that include: building maintenance, office/classroom supplies, library/computer lab upgrades, utilities, teacher training/membership fees, advertising
4. planning of innovative and engaging field trips/extra curriculum activities that would attract potential students
5. expending the list of potential guest speakers
6. plan marketing strategies than would result in increased Canadian student enrollment (advertising in local newspapers, shopping malls and billboards)

PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2009/2012

Equilibrium International Education Institute's priority areas for improvement include:

1. Lobby AEII to allocate more funds into existing Skills Development programs in our school to allow more financially disadvantaged students as well as adult students (who otherwise do not qualify to return to secondary school system) attend our programs. Equilibrium International Education Institute with its personal approach to teaching and small class sizes is able to offer high quality education to students who would normally be unable to afford it. Equilibrium International Education Institute recognizes the existing need in the community for such programs.
2. Continue to organize supplemental English/ Social Studies classes for the English as a Second Language students in order to help them succeed in the regular classroom as well as increase their performance on the provincial diploma exams.
3. Continue to provide access to information technology. Equilibrium International Education Institute is planning to maintain its existing computer lab by adding new equipment and upgrading existing software. An alternative to the tuition fee and government-funding source of revenue will be used for that project. Equilibrium International Education Institute will keep using the resources provided by "Computers for Schools Program" that are free of charge.
4. Develop further the AISI Social Studies project. Equilibrium International Education Institute recognizes the need as well as benefits of such unique extra curriculum program tailored towards English as a Second Language students. We found that many English as a Second Language students struggle with basic Social Studies facts and knowledge since they were raised aboard. We would like to expand students' learning opportunities particularly in Canadian History and Geography to ensure that these international students come to appreciate their Canadian community, especially Alberta. To do so, we plan to engage students in field trips, have guest speakers, and undertake special projects, e.g. Remembrance Day.

**PROVINCIAL GOAL 1:
HIGH QUALITY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL**

OUTCOME: SCHOOLS PROVIDE A SAFE AND CARING ENVIRONMENT.

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Overall teacher, parent and student agreement that students are safe at school, learning the importance of caring for others, learning respect for others, and are treated fairly at school.	91 %	85 %	Very High	Maintained	95 %	93 %	94 %	95 %

Strategies:

1. Equilibrium will organize number of events to highlight the ethnic, cultural and language diversity among our students to celebrate their uniqueness and learn to respect each other.
2. School nurse as well as school's friends from the fire department and police will be asked to deliver educational speeches on health safety (including smoking and drank driving) as well as safety on the road (since many of our students already drivers their own vehicles) and at school (fire drills, option of certified CPR courses).

OUTCOME: THE EDUCATION SYSTEM MEETS THE NEEDS OF ALL K-12 STUDENTS, SOCIETY AND THE ECONOMY.

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Overall teacher, parent and student satisfaction with the opportunity for students to receive program of studies, including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.	82 %	85 %	High	Maintained	90 %	83 %	84 %	85 %
Overall teacher, parent and student satisfaction with the overall quality of basic education.	92%	95%	Very High	Maintained	95 %	95 %	95%	95 %
Overall teacher, parent and student satisfaction with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community.	95%	95%	Very High	Maintained	95 %	95 %	95%	95 %

Strategies:

1. Equilibrium does not have a gym facility hence the difficulty with providing students with the physical education option. The goal is to try rent a gym facility from University of Calgary or SAIT in order to accommodate our student's needs.
2. Equilibrium will continue to offer affordable tuition fee as well as offer the option of the funding through the AEII.
3. Equilibrium will continue to incorporate information technology into the curriculum by providing easy and complimentary access to the computer lab. Students are encouraged to use information technology in order to increase and expand their subject knowledge as well as have frequent and additional communication with the teachers after school hours.

OUTCOME: CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT RISK HAVE THEIR NEEDS ADDRESSED THROUGH EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT.

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Annual dropout rate of students aged 14 to 18	02 %	05 %	Very High	Maintained	05 %	05 %	04 %	03 %
<p>Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equilibrium is a safe and caring school where each student is treated as a family member. To continue our great results in keeping students in school and eliminating completely the dropout rate we will continue to have small classes (maximum of 15 students) and provide very individualized program of teaching. 								

OUTCOME: STUDENTS COMPLETE PROGRAMS.

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
High School completion rate of students within three years of entering grade 10.	99 %	97 %	Very High	Maintained	95 %	95 %	95%	95 %
<p>Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equilibrium will monitor all students to make sure that they follow their academic schedules that set their educational goals and time framework for completing them. Once a student fails to complete their set goals for a given semester a meeting will be called to have them adjusted and/or a new alternative ways of reaching the goals will be suggested (Summer school or individualized program like tutoring or peer help). 								

**PROVINCIAL GOAL 2:
EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

OUTCOME: STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE HIGH STANDARDS IN LEARNING OUTCOMES.

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Overall percentage of students who achieve the acceptable standard on diploma exams	55 %	65 %	Intermediate	Declined	65 %	63 %	64 %	65 %
Overall percentage of students who achieve the acceptable standard of excellence on diploma exams	5 %	10 %	Low	Maintained	15 %	13 %	14%	15 %
Percentage of students writing four or more diploma exams within three years of entering Grade 10	90%	95%	Very High	Maintained	95 %	95 %	95%	95 %
Percentage of Grade 12 students eligible for a Rutherford Scholarship*	00%	05%	Acceptable	Declined	10%	05%	05%	05%

Strategies:

1. Equilibrium will continue to be committed to providing small class sizes conducive to more effective teaching, with a maximum of 15 students.
2. Equilibrium will continue to offer after school provincial diploma exam preparation programs tailored towards English as a Second Language students.
3. Equilibrium will continue to develop further AISI Social Studies project. We would like to expand students' learning opportunities particularly in Canadian History and Geography to ensure that students with international background come to appreciate their Canadian community as well as learn essential social studies skills from lower grades (K to 9) that their fellow Canadian students were exposed to throughout their childhood.
4. Please note that majority of our students are adult/upgrading learners that do not qualify for the Rutherford Scholarship. This year we had 0 students that qualified for the Rutherford Scholarship.

OUTCOME: STUDENTS ARE WELL PREPARED FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
High School to post-secondary transition rate of students within six years of entering grade 10.	100 %	99 %	Very High	Maintained	99 %	99 %	99%	99 %

Strategies:

1. Equilibrium will continue to assist all their students who wish to continue their studies at the post-secondary level. Equilibrium's staff will help students to set out their academic schedules to include required high school pre-requisites, plan wisely the high school credit course completion dates (to synchronize them with the post-secondary deadlines) as well as complete on time all language requirements (like TOEFL).
2. Equilibrium will continue to organize Career Days that bring a number of post-secondary representatives to speak to our students about a variety of post-secondary options.
3. Equilibrium will continue to teach students how to use local resources (library, career fairs, computer skills, etc) to continue their learning after their graduate.

OUTCOME: STUDENTS ARE WELL PREPARED FOR EMPLOYMENT

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Overall teacher and parent agreement that students are taught attitudes and behavior that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	100 %	99 %	Very High	Maintained	99 %	99 %	99%	99 %
<p>Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students are taught how to work in groups and share the responsibilities of various projects as well as appreciate others. 2. Equilibrium will continue to use its strict attendance policy that encourages students to be punctual as well as take a responsibly for their actions. 								

OUTCOME: STUDENTS MODEL THE CHARACTERISTICS OF ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Overall teacher and parent agreement that students model the characteristics of active citizenship	100 %	95 %	Very High	Maintained	99 %	99 %	99%	99 %
<p>Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equilibrium's students are well prepared for citizenship. Equilibrium will continue to organize a number of different seminars and guest speakers (including the "Passages to Canada" series) that are designed to inform, teach and embrace Canadian customs and culture. 								

**PROVINCIAL GOAL 3:
SUCCESS FOR FIRST NATIONS, METIS AND INUIT (FNMI) STUDENTS**

N/A
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**PROVINCIAL GOAL 4:
HIGHLY RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE SCHOOL AUTHORITY**

OUTCOME: DEMONSTRATES EFFECTIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011
Overall teacher and parent satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education	95 %	95 %	Very High	Improved	95 %	95 %	95 %	95 %
<p>Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equilibrium will continue its policy of having a close contact over the phone, email or in person with students' parents and legal guardians. 								

OUTCOME: DEMONSTRATES LEADERSHIP , INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

			May 2009 Evaluations		Targets			
Performance Measure	Current Results	Previous 3-yr Avg.	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2008 2009	009 2010	2010 2011
Overall percentage of teacher, parent and students indicating that their school have improved or stayed the same in the last three years	99 %	99 %	Very High	Maintained	99 %	99 %	99 %	99 %
Percentage of teachers reporting that in the past 3-5 years the professional development and in-servicing received from the school has been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth.	90 %	95 %	N / A	N / A	N / A	95 %	95 %	95 %
<p>Strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equilibrium will continue to support their teachers and staff and assist them in their professional growth (professional days, access to educational/learning/teaching resources thorough on site bookstore, professional growth programs like CPR) 								

Three year Education Plan is printed and made available to all students, parents, guardians and teachers in the school library and computer room as well as was posted on our website at the beginning of each semester. Additional copies are available upon request from the main office.