

This learning guide is designed for use by Professional Learning Communities, learning coaches and teacher leaders or as a self-paced study to explore how technology can support student success.

## What is standing in the way of educational change?

This conversation guide is intended to be used after viewing the video clip, [What is standing in the way of educational change?](#)



### General synopsis

In this brief video, author and researcher Dr. Dave Edyburn talks about the barriers to educational change.

### Key understandings

- It is time to examine 20<sup>th</sup> century legacy factors, such as the way schools are organized by grades, the bell schedule and the use of textbooks.
- Educators have to decide what has long-term value and what we can let go.
- Educators need to communicate to parents that the education system is preparing students for a future that is different from the past.
- One of the key roles that the education system continues to play is the transmission of important cultural knowledge from one generation to the next.
- It is unrealistic and perhaps unnecessary to try to teach students everything our grandparents know, everything we know, and more.
- Educators need to part of an informed and engaged dialogue as technologies emerge and are adapted that reduce students' need to retain knowledge.
- The rapid rate of change in society means we are preparing students for challenges that do not exist today.
- Since creativity and problem-solving are critical skills, educators need to go beyond simply asking students to solve problems that already have known solutions.

### Questions for reflection and discussion

- Which statement did you find most surprising or engaging? Why?
- What are the consequences of **not** communicating to parents that schools need to prepare students for a future that is different from the past? How can that dialogue take place? Who should be responsible for initiating that dialogue?
- How important is the transmission of cultural knowledge from one generation to the next through the education system?
- Do you agree that it is the role of educators to question technology? Why or why not?

Learn more about essential conditions that support implementation planning for new educational policies and initiatives at <http://www.essentialconditions.ca>

### Link to the *Learning and Technology*

#### *Policy Framework*

Policy Direction 1:  
Student-Centred  
Learning



<http://education.alberta.ca/admin/technology/policyframework/policy1.aspx>

### Acknowledgement:

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