

IMAGINE WHAT'S POSSIBLE:
Adequate supports for all students
where and when they need them



With adequate government funding for public education,
it's possible

Help Edmonton Public Schools Trustees make
EDUCATION
an election issue for all parties



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MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

What should I ask candidates?

QUESTIONS

1. One in four youth will be affected by mental illness.¹ What is your party's plan to provide adequate, sustainable supports for kids in public schools?
2. Will your party commit to using healthcare dollars for mental health so schools don't have to use education dollars that should go to classrooms?
3. What is your party's plan to provide a coordinated approach between all ministries that support the mental health of students (e.g. Health, Education, Children's Services)?

FAST FACTS

- Mental illness or poor mental health can significantly impact a student's ability to learn and thrive in school. 38% of Division students told us they were not doing well.²
- Asking teachers and school staff to provide mental health care adds to the already heavy demands in classrooms. Educators are not mental health professionals. Access to dedicated mental health professionals in schools would provide more effective care for students and allow teachers to focus on education.
- The government's Child and Youth Well-Being Panel looked into how the pandemic has affected young people. Eight of the 10 recommendations call for increasing access to supports for young people and strengthening ways schools can respond. It's time to put these recommendations into action and see greater mental health support delivered right in our schools.

¹ Mental Health Foundation (mentalhealthfoundation.ca), accessed March 16, 2023

² 2021-22 Division Feedback Survey

