



ALMADINA LANGUAGE CHARTER ACADEMY

Reach the Height, Read and Write

#118, 3132 – 26 Street NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 6Z1

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## Annual Education Results Report (AERR) Summary 2017 - 2018



The Almadina Language Charter Academy encourages our students to become contributing global citizens who understand what it means to give back. We believe our students can become local, national and international leaders who navigate using a strong moral compass. We stress academic excellence and strive to be Alberta's premier English as a Second Language school.

## I. Highlights of 2018

### Quick Facts:

- 21 years in operation
- 2 campuses (looking for third)
- Kindergarten (ECS) to Grade 9
- 17 bus routes
- Full day Kindergarten
- 1,136 Student Enrolment
- Student waitlist of over 700 children

### Teachers & Learning Support Team:

- 62 Teachers
- 2 Inclusion Teachers
- 5 International Language Instructors
- 31 Education Assistants & Support Staff
- 1.5 School Councillor
- 1 ELL Coordinator
- 1 Educational Technologist

### Innovations in Learning:

At Almadina, we optimize student academic potential while focusing on English language learning (ELL).

- Homework Club is available four days per week
- Emphasis throughout schools is on "learning academic content through language" rather than English as a Second Language
- We utilize the "learning by design" unit planning format aligned with the Alberta Program of Studies and our Charter
- We offer Saturday School for students who require extra academic support

### Almadina Highlights:

- Consistently high Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) results
- Strong Pillar results
- 2016 was Almadina's 20 Year Anniversary
- 2018 – Joint Book Club activity between ALCA Grade students and students at the Calgary Jewish School at the Fish Creek Library; the book they reviewed was called "The Breadwinner" which tells the story of a young girl in Afghanistan under Taliban rule. For more information see: <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/fortney-jewish-and-muslim-schoolkids-share-project-life-experiences>
- 2018 – ALCA ED Tech and ELL Coordinators co-presented at the Edmonton ELL Conference
- 2018 – ALCA Superintendent of School was interviewed for a Calgary Herald article in March entitled: "Almadina Brings Learning Success to a Diverse Student Body". For further information please see: <https://www.pressreader.com/canada/calgary-herald/20180328/282342565392286>
- 2018 – ALCA opens four new modular classrooms and

link to the main school building and two existing modulars.

- 2018 -Former ALCA student Fiza Hasan writes her first book, a psychological thriller called “In Warm Blood” More information can be found at: <https://www.inkshares.com/books/in-warm-blood-c04a00>

### **Opportunities and Challenges:**

We continue to reach out to students and community for ideas about bettering the options program (Program of Studies). As a small school district, we have limited ability to provide a large range of options; however, we endeavor to engage students in authentic, interesting options.

### **Staff Engagement – Professional Development:**

Our teachers are encouraged and supported to engage in Professional Development that will enhance their teaching practice.

### **Parental Involvement**

We have a diverse community that represents over 35 countries, many languages and many cultures.

- active monthly School Council meeting and sessions on particular topics where parents interact with each other and the administration or special guest presenters;
- volunteer activities in numerous capacities in and out of classrooms over the year;
- regular parent information sessions on various topics including ELL (English language Learning), Social Media Safety (i.e., parent session with Paul Davis), student anxiety, and programming initiatives such as the Junior High school student leadership project and the elementary Virtues and Zones of Regulation programs;
- multiple opportunities to provide feedback to the school such as annual parent surveys, accountability pillar surveys, ad hoc surveys for particular issues, representation on committees (e.g., Calendar Committee) and individual meetings with the school administration or superintendent;
- review of and input by School Council to the draft Three-Year Education Plan & Annual Education Results Report; and
- participation on the Board of Directors where 7 out of 7 members are parents of current students.

Through these deliberations and activities, the Three-Year Education Plan & Annual Education Results Report reflects the views and values of our parent community.

**Almadina Cares:**

Our staff, students and community do extensive fundraising locally and internationally to help those less fortunate. At Almadina we believe that character and citizenship is developed through giving. We encourage our staff and students to participate in local events.

**Virtues Program:**

Our Virtues Program is provided throughout our curriculum and provides our foundations for good citizens

**Action Research and ELL at ALCA:**

Dr. Hetty Roessingh, a professor from the Faculty of Education at the University of Calgary, has ongoing research that focuses on the role of vocabulary and reading in terms of academic outcomes for English Language Learners. A great emphasis is made on Academic Vocabulary being implemented in the classrooms. Academic Vocabulary Words are high-utility words for mature language users. These words are most prominent in written works, in which empower ELLs to have a high command of the English Language. Research has stated that Vocabulary size in kindergarten predicts reading comprehension in the intermediate and middle school years (Dahlgren, 2008). In addition, orally-tested vocabulary at the end of 1st grade predicts reading comprehension 10 years later (Dahlgren, 2008).

Almadina Language Charter Academy encourages teachers to explicitly teach Academic Language, which is the Tier 2 high-utility words that can be taught and used cross-curricular. Last year, October 2017, was the first year this was implemented such that every grade was expected to teach a minimum of 5 academic vocabulary words. This data will now be compared to the Basic Reading Inventory (BRI) to better understand whether reading levels have improved. Meanwhile this information allows teachers to cater to the needs of the students, therefore allowing staff to discuss the ideal resource to assist the students in reducing the learning gap. The following are the resources being used on a trial basis for this year - in order to ensure there is success in

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[www.esl-almadina.com](http://www.esl-almadina.com)

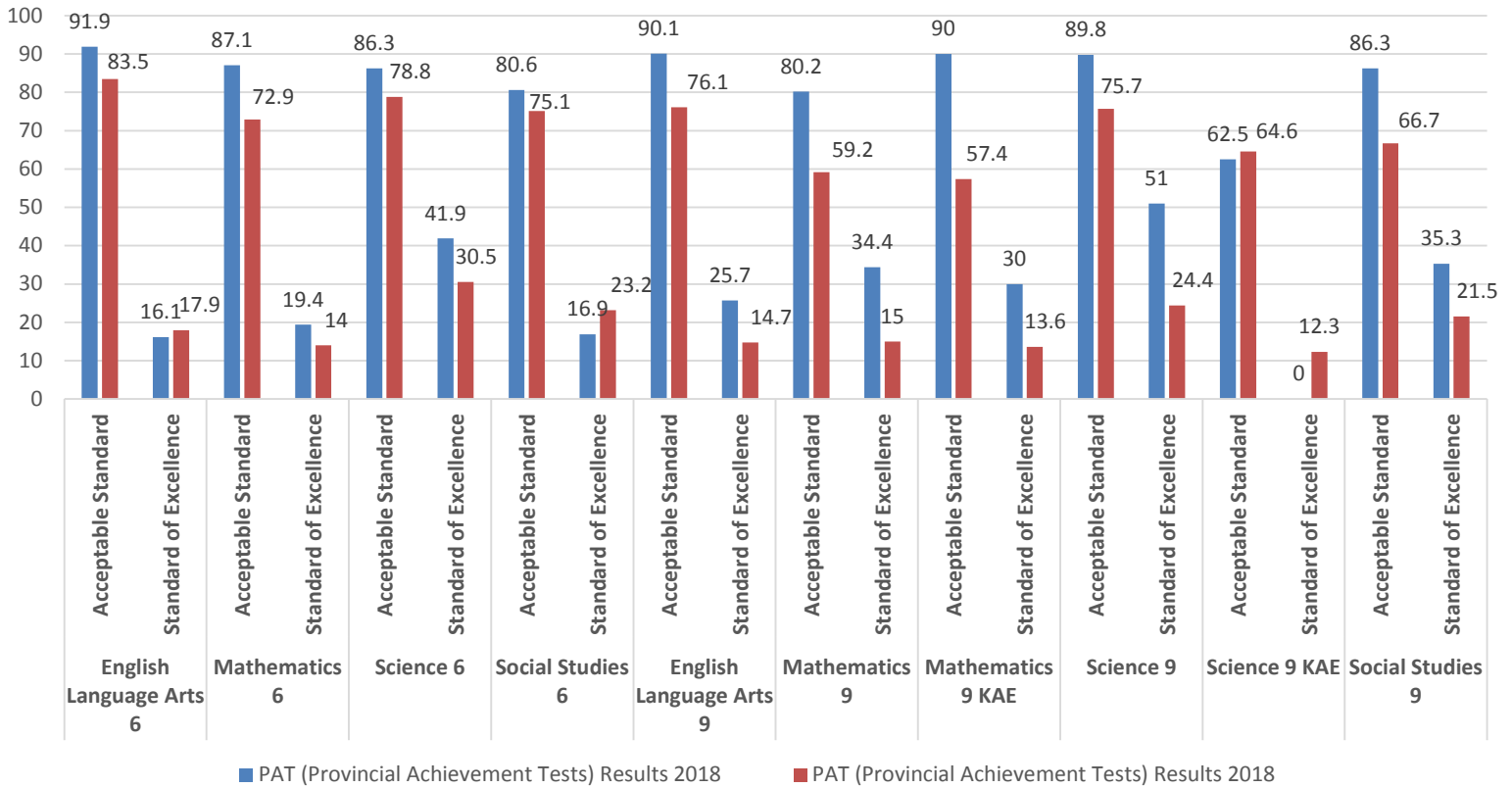
## II. Provincial Achievement Test Results 2018

PAT (Provincial Achievement Tests) Results 2018			
Course	Measure	ALCA %	Province %
English Language Arts 6	Acceptable Standard	91.9	83.5
	Standard of Excellence	16.1	17.9
Mathematics 6	Acceptable Standard	87.1	72.9
	Standard of Excellence	19.4	14.0
Science 6	Acceptable Standard	86.3	78.8
	Standard of Excellence	41.9	30.5
Social Studies 6	Acceptable Standard	80.6	75.1
	Standard of Excellence	16.9	23.2
English Language Arts 9	Acceptable Standard	90.1	76.1
	Standard of Excellence	25.7	14.7
Mathematics 9	Acceptable Standard	80.2	59.2
	Standard of Excellence	34.4	15.0
Mathematics 9 KAE	Acceptable Standard	90.0	57.4
	Standard of Excellence	30.0	13.6
Science 9	Acceptable Standard	89.8	75.7
	Standard of Excellence	51.0	24.4
Science 9 KAE	Acceptable Standard	62.5	64.6
	Standard of Excellence	0.0	12.3
Social Studies 9	Acceptable Standard	86.3	66.7
	Standard of Excellence	35.3	21.5



Indicates that ALCA is above the provincial average for PAT Course scores

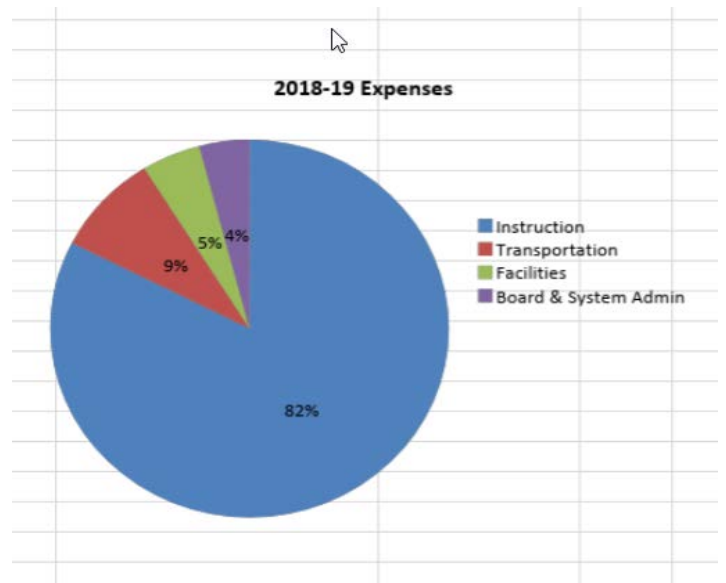
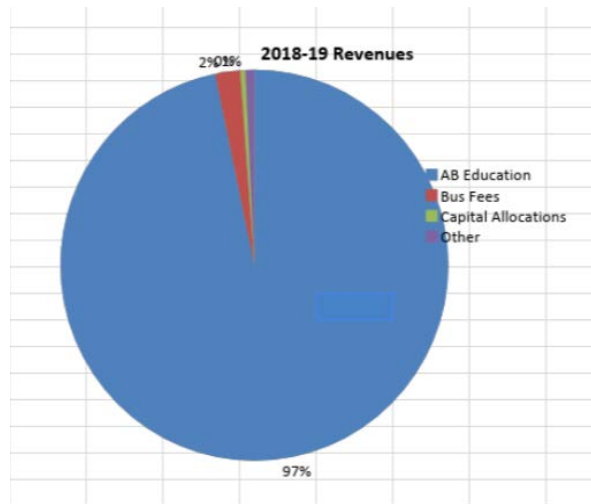
### PAT Comparison ALCA vs. Province



### III. Financial Overview 2018 - 2019

#### 2018-19 Unaudited Financial Results

<b>AB Education</b>	\$	11,239,209	96.7%
<b>Bus Fees</b>	\$	241,967	2.1%
<b>Capital Allocations</b>	\$	50,127	0.4%
<b>Other</b>	\$	85,552	0.7%
	\$	<u>11,616,855</u>	
<b>Instruction</b>	\$	9,439,507	82.5%
<b>Transportation</b>	\$	990,043	8.7%
<b>Facilities</b>	\$	547,912	4.8%
<b>Board &amp; System Admin</b>	\$	466,071	4.1%
	\$	<u>11,443,533</u>	
<b>Expected Surplus (deficit)</b>	\$	<u>173,322</u>	



**Financial Statement Sources:**

Information pertaining to ALCA’s sources of **school generated funds** and their uses for 2018 may be accessed from the 2018 Audited Financial Statements on page 25, Note 14. <http://esl-almadina.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Audit-Financial-Statements-August-31-2018-Signed-November-26-2018.pdf>

ALCA’s most recent Audited Financial Statements may be accessed from the Almadina website at: <http://esl-almadina.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Audit-Financial-Statements-August-31-2018-Signed-November-26-2018.pdf>

The provincial roll up of Audited Financial Statement information can be found here: <https://education.alberta.ca/financial-statements/combined-statements>

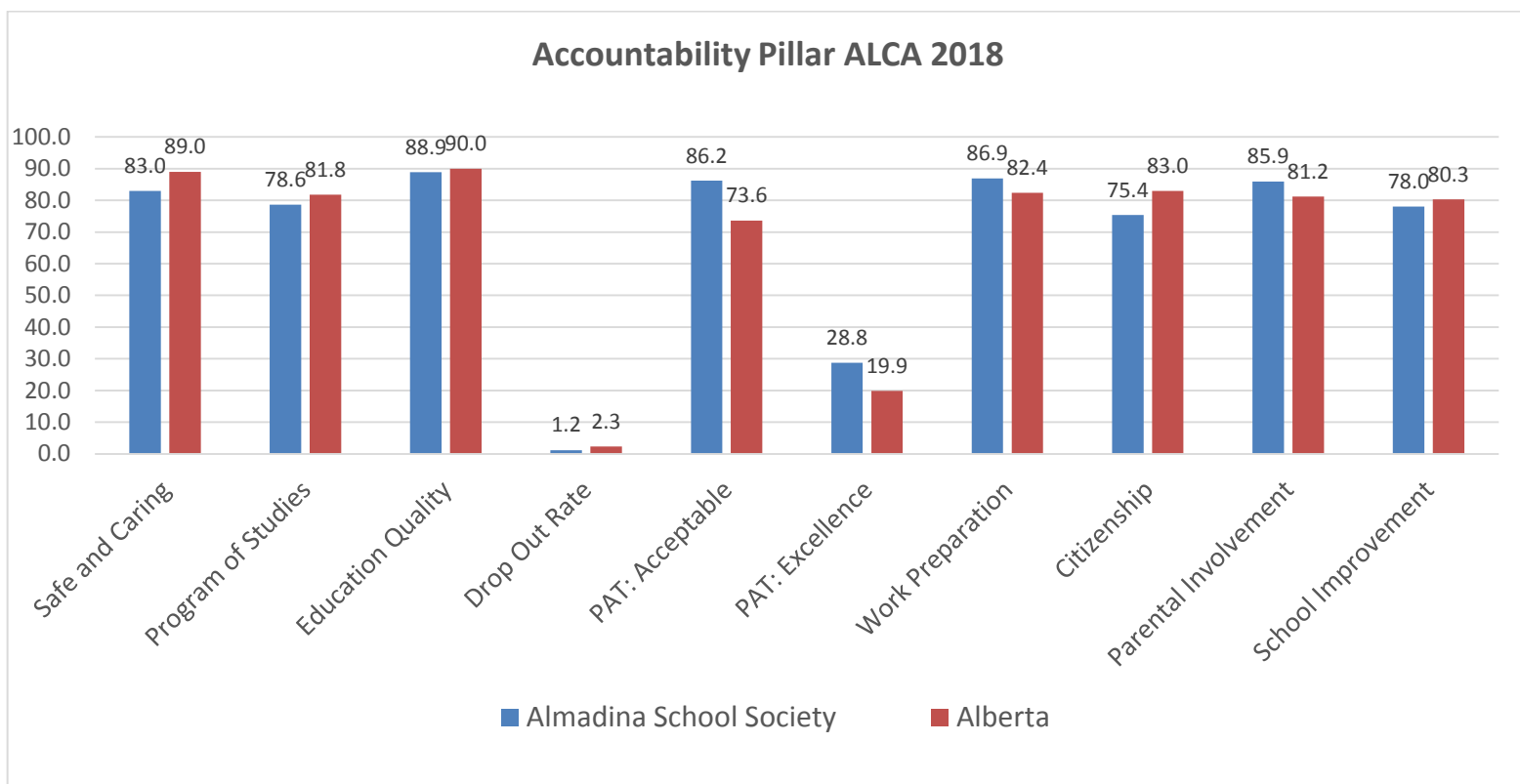
Additional information may be accessed by contacting the office of the Secretary-Treasurer at: [secretarytreasurer@esl-almadina.com](mailto:secretarytreasurer@esl-almadina.com)

#### IV. Combined 2018 Accountability Pillar Overall Summary

Measure Category	Measure	Almadina School Society			Alberta		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average
Safe and Caring Schools	Safe and Caring	<b>83.0</b>	87.4	85.7	<b>89.0</b>	89.5	89.4
Student Learning Opportunities	Program of Studies	<b>78.6</b>	78.5	74.9	<b>81.8</b>	81.9	81.7
	Education Quality	<b>88.9</b>	91.2	90.5	<b>90.0</b>	90.1	89.9
	Drop Out Rate	<b>1.2</b>	0.6	1.4	<b>2.3</b>	3.0	3.3
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	PAT: Acceptable	<b>86.2</b>	92.5	89.0	<b>73.6</b>	73.4	73.3
	PAT: Excellence	<b>28.8</b>	34.5	31.5	<b>19.9</b>	19.5	19.2
	Work Preparation	<b>86.9</b>	82.7	85.9	<b>82.4</b>	82.7	82.4
	Citizenship	<b>75.4</b>	80.8	79.7	<b>83.0</b>	83.7	83.7
Parental Involvement	Parental Involvement	<b>85.9</b>	88.8	84.6	<b>81.2</b>	81.2	81.0
Continuous Improvement	School Improvement	<b>78.0</b>	82.9	83.1	<b>80.3</b>	81.4	80.7



Areas that ALCA will focus on for the upcoming year. See the Three-Year Plan for Strategies.





## **Associated Reports Access**

### **ALCA Average Class Size Report 2018/2019**

ALCA's average class size report for the 2018/2019 school year may be accessed at: <http://esl-almadina.com/about/documents-and-publications/>

### **Three-Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report Access**

The comprehensive plan for 2018/2021 and the Annual Education Results Summary Report for 2017/18 are available at: <http://esl-almadina.com/about/documents-andpublications/>