A Participatory Approach to the Development Of An Evaluation Framework

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Research Summary:

The Education Act states school boards must regularly evaluate the effectiveness of policies. However, no guidance is provided on how. The focus of my research is the design an evidence-based plan to guide the creation of an evaluation framework aimed at supporting a large urban and diverse school division in Western Canada. The lack of an evaluation framework needs to be addressed to meet legislative requirements. However, the process of creating the framework can contribute to organizational learning and assist the division in better understanding how their policies impact student success. A contributing factor for consideration is equity, specifically who participates, to what degree are policies equitable and how are judgements ultimately made. The framework will be created using a participatory approach to support utilization. Grounded in principles of engagement, participatory evaluation can create new opportunities to support leadership in their efforts to use data to improve performance.