

**AIMS 5TH ANNUAL REPORT CARD
ON ATLANTIC CANADIAN HIGH SCHOOLS**
In the media spotlight.

THE DAILY GLEANER

The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton), 13 Apr 2007

Page: A3 | By Shawn Berry | Circulation: 25,328

Education Minister Says Standardized tests should be part of curriculum

Education Minister Kelly Lamrock says he'll present plans to restore some standardized assessments in high schools in his education plan later this month. He made the comments as the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, a Halifax-based think-tank, decried the loss of standardized-test results for the province's anglophone schools as it released its fifth annual report card on schools in Atlantic Canada. "Certainly I agree with them that there should be assessments," Lamrock said Thursday. "There will certainly be among the things in the education plan an accountability framework that will ensure not only that we have more assessments and data, but that we actually use the data to make changes.



The Telegram (St. John's), 16 Apr 2007

Page: A3 | By Alisha Morrissey | Circulation: 33,700

Schools rate high, but critics don't trust numbers

The annual report card for Atlantic Canada's schools was released last week with glowing grades for this province, but Kevin Foley, the president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, says he'd rather get no grade at all. "It's so limited it's not even worth a comment as far as I'm concerned," Foley says from the Canadian Teachers' Association meeting in Ottawa. "Very often I think the criteria used to measure them are just so limited it really doesn't serve much of a purpose. 'As well, if these things are put out to try and pit one school against another, most communities in our province have no ability to chose one school over another.

The ChronicleHerald

The Chronicle Herald (Halifax), 12 Apr 2007

Page: A1 | By Rick Conrad, Education Reporter | Circulation: 110,942

More schools make the grade in survey

A Halifax school on its last legs has dethroned tiny Islands Consolidated School in Freeport, Digby County, as the top-ranked high school in the province in an annual report card prepared by a Halifax think-tank. Queen Elizabeth High School in Halifax, to be replaced by Citadel High in September, rose to the No. 1 position with an overall grade of B plus in the fifth annual report card on Atlantic Canadian high schools from the conservative-leaning Atlantic Institute for Market Studies. "Going out on top," Charles Cirtwill, acting AIMS president and co-author of the report, said in an interview Wednesday.



New Brunswick News 17:30 (CBZ-AM), FREDERICTON, 12 Apr 2007

Time: 05:35pm | Reporter: Michael Stuart | Reach: 4,000

Government agrees with AIMS report

Education Minister "Kelly Lamrock" says he's considering the reintroduction of standardized testing for New Brunswick high schools. Lamrock was responding to the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies' report card on education in Atlantic Canadian high schools.



The Afternoon News 2 (CJNI-FM), Halifax, 16 Apr 2007

Time: 02:05pm | Reporter: Tom Young

AIMS high school report card

EDUCATION: "Charles Cirtwill" is with the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies. Late last week he released what is called the fifth annual high school report card which has to do with the performance in high schools in all four provinces.



ON THE GO -2 (CBN-AM), ST JOHN'S, 12 Apr 2007

Time: 05:21pm | Reporter: Ingrid Fraser | Reach: 8,000

Making the grade

EDUCATION: Host Ingrid Fraser is joined by acting president Atlantic Institute for Market Studies "Charles Cirtwill" to discuss their fifth annual report card on Atlantic Canadian high schools.

TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

New Brunswick Telegraph-Journal. (Saint John), April 13 2007,

Page: A1 | Reporter: David Shipley | Circulation: 45,000

Think-tank takes aim at Liberals' goal for education

New Brunswick must reintroduce provincial high school exams in order to meet its goal of going from worst to first in education, says the head of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies. "You can't go from worst to first unless you know where you are today," said Charles Cirtwill, acting president of the Halifax-based think-tank. Education Minister Kelly Lamrock said Thursday he agrees on the need for more assessments of how students and schools are performing.



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Truro Daily News (Truro), P, 13 Apr 2007

Page: 3 | By Jason Malloy | Circulation: 7,200

Area's high schools middle of the road

The majority of central Nova Scotia's high schools received Cs on an annual report card handed out yesterday by an independent think tank. Nine of Chignecto-Central Regional School Board's schools received Cs from the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies while two schools received Bs and two Ds. "The vast majority of those schools seem to sit right fair in the middle of the province, both physically and performance wise," said Charles Cirtwill, AIMS acting president "Sure there's a couple of schools that have slipped a little but there's a couple schools that have gone up." The top school in the province was Queen Elizabeth High in Halifax which dethroned Islands Consolidated School in Freeport for the first time in the report's five-year history.



Cape Breton Post (Sydney), P, 13 Apr 2007,
Page: A1 | By Nancy King | Circulation: 27,000

AIMS issues report card of Atlantic Canadian high schools

Parents and students should look beyond just the letter grades issued in a new report card of the province's high schools and carefully review all the measures that went into determining the marks, its co-author says. The Atlantic Institute for Market Studies issued its fifth annual report card of Atlantic Canadian high schools Thursday. For the second straight year, Cape Breton Highlands Academy in Terre Noire was the top-ranked Cape Breton school, coming in third overall in Nova Scotia. The think-tank noted the Strait Regional School Board also scored two other schools in Nova Scotia's top 10 — Dalbrae Academy in Mabou and Richmond Academy in Louisdale.



The Western Star (Corner Brook), 13 Apr 2007
Page: 1 | Reporter: Cliff Wells | Circulation: 9,265

AIMS rank Templeton top school in district

Templeton Academy rose seven places in the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS) provincial school rankings this year and took over first place in the Western School District. The AIMS report cards were released Thursday. Grades in the report cards are based on a three year rolling average. The fifth annual report card is based on data from the school years 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2004/05. AIMS also provides an on-line report card on its website, www.aims.ca, which provides parents, students, teachers and anyone else interested the opportunity to do further review of a school's results. Newfoundland and Labrador schools fared best of the Atlantic provinces with the largest percentage of high schools scoring B grades or better — 60 per cent.