

Journey to Excellence 2.0

Quick Overview
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“Something better’ is the watchword of education, the law of all true living. . . . To honor Christ, to become like Him, to work for Him, is the life’s highest ambition and its greatest joy.”

(Education, p. 296)

The original *Journey to Excellence* document affirmed the purpose of Adventist education and identified areas of preferred practice. *Journey to Excellence 2.0* challenges Adventist educators to commit to a journey of ongoing growth by providing practical strategies to continually improve Adventist education.

Journey to Excellence 2.0 focuses on:

- the WHY of Adventist education—an affirmation of its CLEAR PURPOSE and philosophy
- the HOW of Adventist education—a summary of the CORE ELEMENTS OF LEARNING, the compelling need for a COLLABORATIVE CULTURE, and essential CAPACITY BUILDING actions
- the WHAT of Adventist education—a call to a COMMITMENT TO GROWTH for every Adventist educator

WHY: Clear Purpose

The **Clear Purpose** of Adventist education is to lead students to encounter Jesus, accept His gift of salvation, and follow Him. Optimal student learning can only be achieved with excellence when there is unwavering focus on the sacred purpose and the divine partnership in Adventist education. The clear purpose must be visible in all curriculum, instruction, assessment, and support practices.

HOW: Core Elements of Learning, Collaborative Culture, Capacity Building

The **Core Elements** (coherence, authenticity, competencies, metacognition, Adventist worldview, structured lessons, purposeful assessment, equity) capture the importance of assessing, planning, implementing, and reflecting in a cycle of continual improvement.

In a **Collaborative Culture**, educators work together at all levels to assess, plan, implement, and reflect. The involvement of everyone leads to smarter decision-making while reinforcing the value of each individual.

Capacity Building is an investment in people—educating, equipping, encouraging, and empowering educators so that they can engage and prepare their students for lifelong learning and service.

WHAT: Commitment to Growth

Commitment to growth compels educators to a recurring cycle of improvement, a journey to excellence. Adventist educators must commit to reflective learning from God’s word, school data, instructional research, and professional practice to improve learning for themselves, their colleagues, and their students.

Journey to Excellence 2.0 is integral to Adventist education because it includes:

- the WHY, HOW, and WHAT of excellence in Adventist education
- a shared understanding of the redemptive purpose of Adventist education
- a deeply held understanding of wholistic student learning goals
- A framework and guide for continuous improvement at all levels
- Encouragement to create a culture of innovation without fear of failure
- A commitment to continuous improvement—a journey to excellence!

