Table 1. Rubric for assessing the qualities and characteristics of an Learning Management System*

	Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four	Score
	Far Below Expectations	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	
Ease of Use Intuitiveness for parents/teachers/ students: posting/sending news, information and attachments, companion sites for students	Students/Parents struggle to locate information Teachers make little use of this tool due to its complexity and time commitments	Students/Parents encounter a learning curve to locating information Teachers make some use of this tool, but do not value its abilities	Students/Parents can locate information Teachers make use of this tool as a compliment to their regular teaching day	Students/Parents can easily locate and access information. Students/Parents can easily communicate with Administration/Teacher Teachers can easily add resources and content for Students/Parents and can use LMS for course companion sites	4
Privacy Ability to develop a secure site for both parents and students.	Open to public; no secure means to control access	Can be accessed by secure log in and non-registered users	Requires secure log in and password LMS provider controlled	Requires secure log in and password Controlled by school administrator	4
Design Form and function of pages.	Developer is forced to construct a website (LMS) that is convoluted and difficult to edit or adjust There is no logical hierarchical control of pages/content	Developer is able to construct a website (LMS) with some hierarchy Tabs or a toolbar have to be coded by hand and is not part of a general template provided to the developer	Developer is able to construct a website (LMS) with some hierarchy Tabs are possible, but limited	Developer is able to construct an intuitive website (LMS) that is built around a hierarchy of linking pages Provided tabs and/or toolbars avoid unnecessary mouse clicks	3

Purpose Ability to improve and enhance student success.	Little to no ability to expand or broaden depth of program and use System can only deliver course material via web page. No tools available for communication between instructors, students, and parents	Enhances student learning via options to communicate with instructors, obtain course material and resources System is capable of supporting one course only	Encourages and promotes student learning via options to communicate with instructors and peers, obtain course material and resources Work is submitted in class only System is capable if supporting multiple courses	Strongly encourages and promotes student ownership of learning via options to communicate with instructors, obtain course materials, and resources, as well as to submit finished work Capable of supporting and managing multiple online courses Administrative staff can add student details	4
Capacity for Growth Ability to adapt to future needs such as: Interactivity - Student - student communication - Student - Faculty communication - Faculty - Parent communication	No flexibility or room for adding in new online communication strategies No capacity for meeting the needs of future blended learning or e-Learning situations	Minimal flexibility for adding in new online communication strategies Minimal potential for meeting future demands for blended learning	Structure in place for some online communication between some of the parties involved Potential for future blended learning or e-Learning program development with some assistance or add-ons	Structure in place to afford for online communication between any of the parties involved (students, parents, faculty) Fully meets the potential demands for future blended learning or e-Learning program development	4

Cost What is the cost of the LMS to the institution? If open source, what is cost of maintenance?	The initial cost, maintenance, and support costs represent greater than 25% of the yearly tech budget	The initial cost, maintenance, and support costs represent between 25-10% of the yearly tech budget	The expenditure for development and support of the website or LMS represents between 10-5% of the tech budget	The expenditure for development and support of the website or LMS represents less than 5% of the tech budget	
	Requires a large percentage of IT staff's time to start and maintain.	Requires a large percentage of IT staff's time to design and start up website (LMS)	Requires Moderate amount of set-up and management time from IT.	Minimal IT support is required after initial set-up and design. Additional servers and	4
	Additional Servers and Space will need to be purchased and or constructed to host website or LMS	Some additional Servers or Space may be needed to host website or LMS	Server space is present or can be purchased for little cost	space already exist on site or costs for external hosts meet budget constraints	

^{*} This rubric is a modified version of one created for ETEC 565 at UBC by Janet Barker, Sheila Hancock, David Horn, Ryan McKeown & Linda Pham.