

Learning for All: HWDSB Program Strategy Presentation

PART 1 – Program Strategy and Inclusive Education:

GUIDING QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION:

In this inclusive model where all students attend their local school, what supports and strategies need to be considered in the school and community to address:

ACADEMIC NEEDS

- › Assistance for students who require help – after school/day school
- › Full range programming – workplace, College Prep, University – all four levels in all 4 areas – not too many programs in one place
- › Experiential learning
- › Self paced/self directed learning
- › Arts – Focus – AP courses in every school
- › Connection to local partners
- › Students having to guy out to experience opportunities (guest speakers) – not a good idea
- › Bring learning back into the classroom – experience must be integrated
- › Not developing too many initiatives on schools and teachers
- › Extend school day to offer opportunities for students
- › Adding a period of flexible time to school day to provide time for student interest
- › Promoting a culture of caring

SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS

- › Well maintained modern facilities
- › Accessible staff – presence of staff – involved staff (all staff)
- › Sense of community within school – proper physical plant
- › Engaged kids – variety of things for kids to do – help for kids with needs
- › Intramural programs – staff culture – (visual – need to get rid of smoking presence)

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

- › Social worker and public health nurse present on school more often – community support workers – alternatives for youth
- › Student groups that promote inclusivity – if not available in community available in school – needs to be choice- there needs to be more partnerships with community groups – more connection to community groups
- › Social justice – mechanism to engage community groups
- › Support from board to assist staff
- › Take care of staff
- › Exposure to other communities and cultures

STUDENTS CHOOSING TO ATTEND PROGRAMS IN OTHER SCHOOLS

- › Transportation system to get students to cluster schools
- › Setting up times to coordinate program delivery at school sites
- › Twinning of sites from the program perspective and providing the transportation
- › Could use eLearning to provide opportunities for students at various sites
- › Explore partnership opportunities with city of Hamilton about transportation

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PART 2: Program Mapping

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. How does the program map presented align with the guiding parameters?
 - › Missing in Cluster West – Athletics programs – soccer is missing in Cluster West – hockey in Dundas
 - › Can add sport focus programs
 - › Need to have an elite training all sport program – could be done in regular program – commitment for all 4 years
 - › Sport delivered in a different way
 - › Balance in excellence – Athletics, Academics, Arts
 - › Needs more Science SHSM focus in the cluster – An agricultural focus in our of our schools

2. What clarifying questions do you need answered in order to help you develop your ARC recommendations regarding schools and programs?
 - › Do the schools have the physical amenities to accommodate the programs that are being moved?