

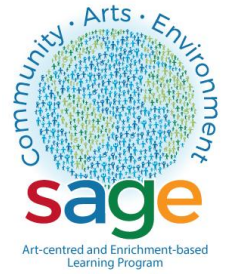


Strathcona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

10 Lamoreaux Street
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1V1
Phone: 905.527.2470
Fax: 905.527.2472

EMAIL: strathcona@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mrs. K. Koop
www.hwdsb.on.ca/strathcona



Scholastics, Arts and Global Education (SAGE)

Scholastics, Arts and Global Education is a Specialized Learning Program offered within the regular school program at Strathcona Elementary School. The program follows the Ontario Curriculum but is enhanced with Arts, Global Education and Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Partnerships. SAGE adheres to the policies of the HWDSB as available at www.hwdsb.on.ca. Please review the following Visioning Statements for a better understanding of the SAGE program.

SAGE Visioning Statement

To spark in each child a passion for learning, a creative spirit and a commitment to community and the environment, in a child centered classroom that is enriched by the arts, enhanced by innovative teaching, supported by strong home and school collaboration, and rooted in appreciation for the differences around us.

Arts: Exploring Creativity in the Learning Process

Through enhanced curriculum that includes instruction from professional artists, cross grade art activities, and an overall strategy to incorporate and integrate experiences in the arts across the curriculum, SAGE endeavours to foster, support and celebrate the creativity, imagination and self-expression of each child in the program. Emphasis is placed on direct experiential learning in a broad spectrum of artistic media, including music, drama, visual arts, and dance. In addition to teaching specific skill sets, the Arts component of SAGE strives to engender an appreciation for all forms of artistic expression, and encourages exploration as a vital part of the learning process.

Global Education: Fostering an Appreciation of the World Around Us

In tandem with an enriched Arts education, the SAGE program offers enhanced curriculum that emphasizes ecology, sustainability and stewardship on the one hand, and cultural diversity, social justice, and peace studies on the other. Students explore these topics across the curriculum and through numerous events organized around such topics as cultural celebrations, International Women's Day, Indigenous studies, habitat exploration, and Earth Day, among many others. As well as fostering an appreciation for ecological issues and engendering a sense of social responsibility, the program strives to create opportunities that inspire children to be active and empowered citizens in their community.



Strathcona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

10 Lamoreaux Street
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1V1
Phone: 905.527.2470
Fax: 905.527.2472

EMAIL: strathcona@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mrs. K. Koop
www.hwdsb.on.ca/strathcona



Innovative Teaching: How We Teach is as Important as What We Teach

While enhanced curriculum forms the backbone of the SAGE program, teaching brings it to life! Emphasis is on integrated, experiential learning that encourages a child's sense of ownership and accomplishment. Teachers blend structured lessons and age appropriate technology with learning centers and student initiated inquiry to provide a rich learning environment that stresses collaboration over competition. Importantly, lesson planning is tailored to incorporate parent skills and participation, helping to build a community centered school environment that has been shown to have a direct impact on academic success.

Parent/Guardian/Caregiver - Teacher Partnerships: Working Together to Improve the Learning Experience

Parent involvement forms a vital part of the SAGE program. Through Enhancement Meetings between teacher and parents, teachers are able to shape curriculum delivery around parent skills and knowledge bases, providing opportunities for parents to be directly involved in the learning process. Becoming a Class Rep a liaison position that helps to facilitate parent teacher interactions as well as aiding in communication flow provides another avenue to engage in the program. Moreover, parents are instrumental in program oversight and management: there are many opportunities to help shape the program by becoming involved in the SAGE Steering Committee or one of its numerous subcommittees.

Building Community: Integrating School, Home and Neighbourhood

The final element of the SAGE paradigm is Community Building, stemming from a recognition that child development does not take place in isolation but rather through the connections that are woven amongst families, educators and school staff. Each month, time is set aside so that students from all grades, together with teachers and families, can gather to explore and learn, both about Arts and Global Education themes, but also about fellowship and sharing. These gatherings can catalyze new friendships, provide mentoring and leadership opportunities amongst the students, and help to foster a sense of belonging and confidence. Moreover, outside of school hours, SAGE families build community through extracurricular activities, ranging from potlucks and camping, to galas and feasts. After all, learning and development do not end when the final bell rings.

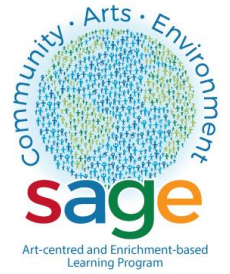


Strathcona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

10 Lamoreaux Street
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1V1
Phone: 905.527.2470
Fax: 905.527.2472

EMAIL: strathcona@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mrs. K. Koop
www.hwdsb.on.ca/strathcona



Parental Involvement

The SAGE Program encourages a high level of parent involvement at the school. How would you like to be involved in the school community? Volunteering with students requires a Vulnerable Sector Police Check and Volunteer Application Form as well as training as per HWDSB Volunteer Directive.

Volunteer in the classroom on a regular day/time _____

Volunteer occasionally in the classroom _____

Volunteer in the library _____

Work with other parents/staff on committees outside school hours _____

Volunteer with educational excursions _____

Other – please specify _____

Expectations and Consent

Please review the following sections and initial or circle your choice to indicate you have read and understood the expectations at the HWDSB SAGE Specialized Learning Program.

Meetings

A variety of meetings may occur over the course of the school year.

- Enhancement meetings with your child's teacher – information about curriculum will be covered as well as the option to offer ways to enhance the curriculum
- General meetings – occur periodically
- Committee Meetings – depending on your interests, any committee you may join may involve meetings at times convenient to all members

Our family will endeavour to attend meetings.

Yes No

I am willing to share my email address with the SAGE Steering Committee, a sub-committee of School Council, for the purpose of exchanging information. This is voluntary. Your email address will not be shared without your consent. You can have your email address removed from the list at any time simply by contacting the SAGE Steering Committee.

I consent to sharing the following email address with the SAGE Steering Committee

_____ Initial _____

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB

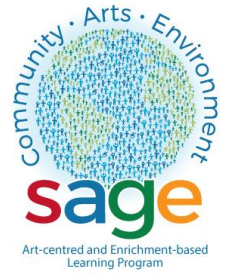


Strathcona Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

10 Lamoreaux Street
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1V1
Phone: 905.527.2470
Fax: 905.527.2472

EMAIL: strathcona@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mrs. K. Koop
www.hwdsb.on.ca/strathcona



Expectations and Consent (cont'd)

Transportation

SAGE is an open catchment program, that is, it is open to any student in the HWDSB. The HWDSB does not provide transportation to any student attending a program of choice. As such, it is the responsibility of the family to provide a means of transportation for their child(ren). Please be aware that this is a large commitment for families, one that can be costly and time-consuming.

I am aware that I will be responsible for providing transportation for my child(ren). **Initial** _____

Funding

SAGE is a program offered by the HWDSB and there is no tuition fee. However, in order to provide enriched programming, such as additional field trips, guest speakers, artists, workshops, etc. some extra fees may be incurred.

I am aware that there may be extra costs associated with SAGE as part of programming and I am willing to commit to these costs as part of my child's education at SAGE. **Initial** _____

(Print Name of Parent/Guardian)

(Signature)