



Program Committee

Thursday, May 21, 2026

7:00 pm

BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Program Committee Workplan

Fall 2026:

- Summary Report on Board Improvement Goals 1- 5
- Math Achievement Action, 2026-2027

Progress Update:

**Growing Our
Commitment to
Indigenous Educational
Wellness &
Reconciliation**

HWDSB



**Indigenous
Education**

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Growing Our Commitment – Progress Report May 2026



Where we were, where we are, where we are going

Motion

RESOLUTION #25-65: Trustees Fehrman/Wong moved that the Program Committee report from June 5, 2025, be approved as amended including that a Working Group be formed and co-led by the Indigenous Education Lead, to explore the opportunities for a new K-12 Indigenous School in HWDSB, driven by and alongside the local Indigenous community with updates to Trustees.

Direction

Form working group; engage with local Indigenous communities.

Status Update

Convened (2) working groups; Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg secured additional funding for community engagement; built internal capacity across team; co-led engagement framework and plan; and initiated environmental scan provincially, nationally and internationally.

An interconnected, interdependent approach



What comes next...



NYÁ:WEN • MAARSI • MIIGWECH



**2025
PROGRAM
STRATEGY
REVIEW**



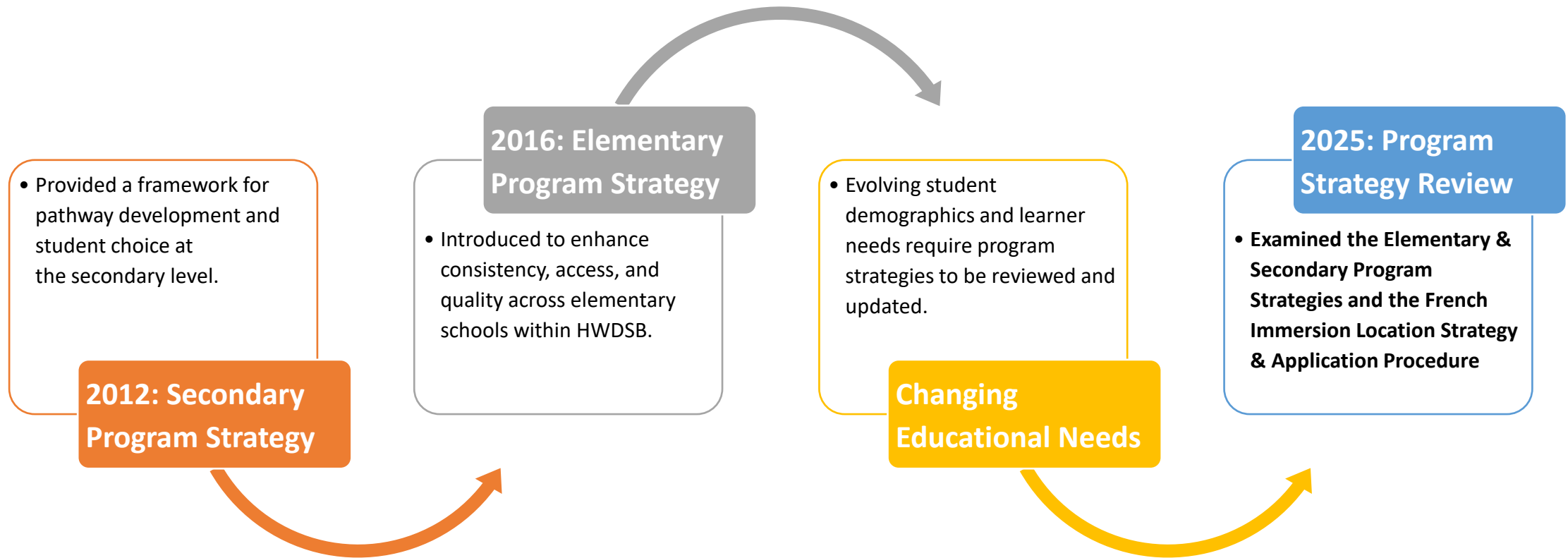
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**Program Review:
A Phased Approach to K–12
Program Planning**



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The HWDSB Program Journey





To ensure every student experiences a sense of belonging and engages in dynamic learning to reach their potential and build their own future.

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Program Review

**Elementary Program Strategy, Secondary Program Strategy &
Elementary French Immersion Location Strategy and Application Process Review**
27 Recommendations

Elementary Program Strategy
6 Recommendations

Secondary Program Strategy
15 Recommendations

French Immersion
6 Recommendations

Centering the Board-Approved Guiding Principles

1. Student Achievement and Well-Being
2. Continuous Improvement and Alignment with Student Outcomes
3. Evidence-Informed Decision Making
4. Equity of Access
5. Fiscal Responsibility and Sustainability
6. Inclusive Community Engagement and Lived Experience
7. Phased and Communicated Implementation
8. Removal of Barriers to Access
9. Learning from Program Evolution and Closure

Vision 2040: **Future-Focused Education**

Renewed strategies support a connected, modern education system aligned with strategic goals and accountability.

K to 12 Learning Vision

- A consistent foundation outlining what every elementary and secondary school and system program will provide for students.
- Equitable access to dynamic programming, including learning opportunities available for every student.
- Learning supports and facilities available for every school community.



First Phase as we Develop a new Vision for K-12 Learning in HWDSB

- Use the data gathered to advance a system-wide vision for French Language Learning by improving consistency in the delivery of French Immersion from Grade 1 to Grade 8 in 2027-2028, explore the possibility of offering Core French earlier than Grade 4, and gather student voice data to understand why some students do not continue into Grade 9 secondary French Immersion programming from Grade 8.
- Explore and create a geographic approach to elementary and secondary specialized programs to improve access, reduce transportation barriers, and expand opportunities for students. Staff will meet with current focus and specialized programs to learn more about why their programs have been successful for students as staff study a new model in HWDSB.

First Phase as we Develop a new Vision for K-12 Learning in HWDSB

- Explore the use of elementary and secondary school facilities including technology and skilled trades spaces to provide elementary students with earlier access to hands-on, experiential learning environments that support pathway development and student engagement.
- Develop a Framework with a three-year review cycle to monitor continued alignment of each program with its intended vision and to monitor program viability, including enrolment, retention, student outcomes, and cost efficiency, and to inform decisions on expansion, relocation, or closure.

Next Steps

Staff will return to the Program Committee with two separate reports:

- Vision for K-12 learning in HWDSB (beginning to encompass the recommendations for the Elementary Program Strategy and Secondary Program Strategy).
- K-12 French Language programming.



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