



Program Committee
Monday, September 26, 2022
Virtual Meeting
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
20 Education Court, P.O. Box 2558
Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1

AGENDA: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. [Summer Learning Program 2021-22 report](#)
5. Adjournment



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO PROGRAM COMMITTEE

TO: PROGRAM COMMITTEE

FROM: Sheryl Robinson-Petrazzini, Director of Education

DATE: Monday, September 26th, 2022

PREPARED BY: Sue Dunlop, Associate Director of Education, Learning Services
Bill Torrens, Superintendent of Student Achievement-Program

RE: Summer Learning Programs 2021-22 Report

Action

Monitoring X

Background

Annually, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) provides summer learning opportunities for its students. Since the summer of 2020, the HWDSB has responded to the impact of school closures and shifts to remote learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic by expanding summer learning offerings. Accessing additional funding sources, such as funding from the Council of Directors of Education (CODE), Ministry of Education Tutoring Support funds, and Ministry of Education Priorities and Partnership Funding (PPF), has enabled staff to offer a wide variety of learning opportunities designed to meet the needs of students from Kindergarten to Grade Twelve. In 2022, more than eight thousand students participated in summer learning activities.

In the summer of 2022, the HWDSB Pandemic Recovery Plan provided a mandate to create programs that closed achievement gaps and developed the academic and social skills needed for success in the new school year. Three HWDSB divisions provided summer learning opportunities: Program, Specialized Services, and Continuing Education. The Program Division provided Camps Power and Climb for students from Kindergarten to Grade Six, including students who are learning English. Specialized Services provided several different programs that catered to the specific needs of students, Kindergarten to Grade Twelve, who receive special education supports and services. Continuing Education provided credit granting summer school for students from Grades Nine to Twelve and reach ahead summer credit for students entering Grade Nine. As well, each Secondary School, as part of their transition plan, provided a Grade 9 Orientation program. Additional literacy and numeracy skill building programs were offered for students Grades Six to Ten, as well as International Language (Kindergarten to Grade Eight) courses, and programs for students learning English (Grades Six to Twelve). The Ministry of Education funds these programs on a per-pupil basis.

Camps Power and Climb

Camp Power is a summer learning program funded by CODE. Originally, Camp Power focused on developing Reading skills with a small number of students from high priority schools. In 2020, a second camp was added to Camp Power, called Camp Climb, to address learning needs arising from the pandemic. In both programs, physical activity, music, and visual arts are used as vehicles for Language and Mathematics learning. Camp Power has a Kindergarten to Grade One audience and an explicit focus on improving student Reading. Classroom teachers invite students to participate, based on the students' learning profile. Camp Climb, formerly known as "Gap Closing," broadens the focus to include Mathematics. It serves students from Grades Two to Six, and its membership is by invitation as well. Camp Climb also serves students who are learning English through a Camp Climb-English Language Learners (ELL) program. Students not specifically invited to Camp Power or Camp Climb can attend upon request, space permitting.

In 2022, Camp Power and Camp Climb were held at five locations (Gatestone, Hillcrest, Lawfield, Prince of Wales, and Queen Mary) and had a total enrollment of 788 students. Camp Power's enrollment was 263 students. Camp Climb's enrollment was 356 students. Additionally, 169 students who are learning English participated in Camp Climb-ELL.

As noted, Camp Power and Camp Climb had an explicit focus on Reading instruction. Teachers in the program used key learning resources, assessment tools, and strategies from the regular classroom in both camps. For example, phonics instruction was a focus in Camp Power. Staff participated in professional development on effective phonics instruction, received decodable texts to use with their classes, and explored ideas around physical literacy and how to make Music and Visual Art connections to Reading and Mathematics to enhance student learning and engagement.

Family and community partnerships and involvement were a key component of both camps. Families were invited to join in the learning each Friday and participate in activities like a “Family Karaoke” singalong. Partners such as the Bay Area Restoration Council and the Royal Botanical Gardens visited the camp and delivered learning to the students. Snacks were provided daily in both camps for all students.

Specialized Services

Specialized Services has provided summer learning opportunities for students requiring special education supports and services since the summer of 2020, when HWDSB first received funding from the Ministry of Education. In 2022, 251 students participated in these opportunities. *Appendix A: Specialized Services Summer Learning Opportunities 2022* outlines the programming offered in the summer of 2022.

Continuing Education

HWDSB Continuing Education provides credit granting and skill development programming throughout the school year. Grades Six to Twelve programs are provided outside of the school day or during the summer. In the context of Pandemic Recovery, Continuing Education programs supported the transition into secondary school from Grade Eight by offering students an opportunity to reach ahead and earn a credit prior to starting school, for example. The credit granting summer school and summer cooperative education programs supported secondary students to get back on track towards graduation. During the summer of 2022, Continuing Education served more than seven thousand students through the following programming:

- **Summer School Online Credit** – Full credit courses for students in Grades Nine to Twelve and adults.
- **Reach Ahead Online Summer Credit Program** – An opportunity for students entering Grade Nine in September 2022 to earn their compulsory Civics and/or Careers credit(s).
- **Grade 9 Orientation Program** – To assist students transitioning from Elementary School to Grade Nine, these programs build common skills but are unique to the individual needs of each Secondary School.
- **Summer International Language Programs** – Provides an opportunity for students from Year One Kindergarten to Grade Eight to develop and/or maintain the ability to speak, listen, read, and write in a new language or the language of their heritage.
- **Summer Skill Builder Programs** – Non-credit programs designed to enrich and develop Literacy and Numeracy skills for students between Grades Six to Ten.
- **Summer English as a Second Language Literacy Program** – In person classes for students in Grades Six to Twelve who have not yet achieved English Level 3/CO.
- **Summer Cooperative Education Program** - Experiential learning opportunity for students in Grades Eleven and Twelve to earn credits.

Appendix B: Continuing Education Summer Learning Opportunities 2022 provides an overview of program offerings, enrollment, and credit attainment for credit-granting programs.

Appendix A; Specialized Services Summer Learning Opportunities 2022

Program	Dates	# Students	Details
Skills for Success in Secondary School (GLE) Course	July 6 th –29 th	44 Students achieved a credit	<p>The GLE 10/20/30/40 Course served students with an Individual Education Plan. During the robust course staff worked daily with students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ learn strategies essential to success in all subjects such as time management, work completion and organization ▪ develop awareness about their individual learning profile ▪ understand the purpose of their Individual Education Plan ▪ provide transitional supports as they from the elementary to secondary panel and between Grades in secondary school
Lincoln Alexander Site			
Empower July Summer Reading Session	July 11 th –22 nd	16 Students (2 Classes)	<p>The Empower Summer Reading Session welcomed learners from Grades One to Eight. Students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ developed age-appropriate Reading skills, decoding, word identification and spelling skills ▪ became self-confident in their Reading abilities ▪ stayed connected with peers and teachers during the summer months ▪ developed new friendships with peers from other schools ▪ developed greater independence in Reading skills
Ray Lewis Site			
Centre For Success Summer Learning	August 15 th –26 th	28 Students (3 Classes)	<p>The Centre for Success Summer Learning served students who use technology as an essential accommodation when accessing the Ontario Curriculum. Students learned to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ develop proficiency with specific technology including the built-in accessibility features of the device ▪ use the accessibility features in the board platforms such as the immersive reader ▪ develop proficiency with designated apps to ameliorate the impact of disability and demonstrate learning in non-conventional ways ▪ use the device to support literacy and numeracy skills such as Reading comprehension, generating ideas for writing, demonstrating various genres of writing and modelling, and comparing fractions. ▪ focus on self-advocacy skills ▪ develop greater understanding about learning disabilities ▪ explain and reinforce executive functioning skills throughout all lessons and learning tasks ▪ explain how and why assistive technology supports their individual learning needs ▪ provide parent/guardian training sessions on technology <p>There were also meetings with parent/guardian and student to individual team meetings to share strengths, needs and strategies for that student by Psychological Services staff.</p>
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)/ Developmental Disability (DD) Summer Learning	August 15 th –26 th	21 Students (4 Classes)	<p>The ASD/DD Social Communication Summer Session supported in-school transitions, skills development, and a range of strategies and interventions to promote social communication and self-regulation for children with autism spectrum disorder or a Developmental Disabilities.</p> <p>Staff used evidenced-based practices for planning individual and group activities. The programs were delivered by an</p>

			interdisciplinary team of Principals/Vice- Principals, Classroom Teachers, Educational Assistants, Child and Youth Care Practitioners, Speech-Language Pathologists, Communicative Disorders Assistants and Board-Certified Behaviour Analysts.
Empower August Summer Reading	August 15 th –26 th	81 Students (6 Classes)	The Empower Reading Program welcomed learners who would benefit from a review of key Empower strategies and skill consolidation.
Templemead Site			
AIM/Excellence in Social Learning (ExSL) Summer Learning	August 15 th – 26 th	33 Students (4 Classes)	<p>The AIM/ExSL Transitions Summer Learning Session is designed to support in-school transitions with a range of strategies and interventions to promote social communication, Self-regulation, and problem-solving skills. Students who attended an ExSL classroom this year or were part of an AIM program participated in activities designed to be engaging and foster pro-social development.</p> <p>The program was delivered by an interdisciplinary team of Principals/Vice- Principals, Classroom Teachers, Educational Assistants, Child and Youth Care Practitioners, Speech-Language Pathologists, Communicative Disorders Assistants and Board-Certified Behaviour Analysts.</p>
I Am a Reader Summer Learning	August 15 th –26 th	28 Students (4 Classes)	The “I Am a Reader! Summer Session” will provide a systematic, direct instruction approach to Reading for the special needs student who is struggling to learn how to read.

Appendix B: Continuing Education Summer Learning Opportunities 2022

Program	Students Registered	Credits Attempted	Credits Achieved	Students Participation
Summer School Online Credit	2704	2664 Full (1.0) & Half (0.5) credits	1567 Full & 354 Half	2330 students
Reach Ahead Online Summer Credit Program	478	891 0.5 credits Civics (CHV20)/ Careers (GLC)	806 0.5 credits Civics (CHV20)/ CareersGLC20)	458 students
Grade 9 Orientation Program	3563			3492 students
Summer International Language Program	618 students in 55 classes			618 students in 55 classes
Summer Skill Builder Program	348			312 participants
Summer English as a Second Language Literacy Program	82			75 students
Summer Cooperative Education Program	45	7 students attempted 1 credit 38 students attempted 2 credits	3 students earned 1 credit 24 students earned 2 credits	45 Students