



PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Grimsby Lincoln Room

AGENDA

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1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of the Agenda
 3. Approval of the Minutes of November 7, 2017
 4. Business arising from the Minutes
 5. New Business
 - Educational Research CommitteePaula MacKinnon
 - 2018-2019 Elementary & Secondary School Year Calendars Michael St. John
 - Secondary School Program Review for the Current Helen McGregor
School Year 2017-18
 - Secondary School Program Review for the Subsequent..... Helen McGregor
School Year 2018-19
 6. Other Business
 7. Adjournment
 8. Next Meeting – March 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. – Grimsby Lincoln Room

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

PROPOSAL REPORT AND SUMMARIES PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2017
4:00 pm

Location: Education Centre
Fort Erie Room

BACKGROUND:

On Thursday, November 16, 2017 the Educational Research Committee met to review one newly proposed research project.

PROPOSAL #1 Summary

- a) **Title of Research:** *The Development of Young Children's Spatial Reasoning and its Role in Mathematics Learning (also known as Math for Young Children* - Principal Investigator(s): Dr. Cathy Bruce, Professor, Dean of Education, Trent University
- b) **Objectives/Rationale/Purpose:** *Mathematics is a crucial area of learning for young children and is shown to be a predictor of later success in mathematics and beyond (Duncan et al., 2007; Jordan & Levine, 2009; Watts, Duncan, Siegler & Davis-Kean, 2014). Spatial reasoning is a predictor of mathematics achievement (Mix & Cheng, 2013) and is relied upon across the mathematics curriculum (National Research Council, 2009), yet very little is known about how to explicitly support children's spatial reasoning. Our research in this area has been ongoing in the province of Ontario since 2011.*
- c) **Number of Schools:** 3-5
- d) **Age of Student Participants:** JK-1
- e) **To Commence/Conclude:** December 7, 2017-April 30, 2018
- f) **Time Requirements:** task-based interviews with students (5-10 per class) conducted by teachers on the inquiry team, interview and survey with teachers in final session, designed as a component to a professional learning cycle of inquiry in which the teachers have already planned to engage over the course of 5 release days (one per month from December to April).

We, the Educational Research Committee, recommend this research be APPROVED.

APPROVED

Recommendation:

The report of the Educational Research Committee of November 16, 2017 be received.

Submitted by:

Paula MacKinnon
Ann Kennerly, Chair

Next Meeting:
February 15, 2018



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

Report to Program & Planning Committee

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendar 2018-2019

Background:

The Education Act, *Regulation 304 — School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days*, sets the requirements for the preparation and submission of school year calendars to the Ministry of Education for approval.

The 2018-2019 calendar provides for 194 possible school days between September 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which three days shall be designated as professional activity days. In addition, up to four days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The board may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days.

Consultation Process

School Year Calendar Committee meetings and electronic communication.

The committee members include:

- Michael St. John, Superintendent
- Scott Anderson – OPC
- Brenda Mahoney – CUPE
- Julie Hopkin – APSSP
- Brian Barker – ETFO
- John Shaw - OPC
- Lisa Etienne – OSSTF
- Melanie Sendzik – CSS/SESS
- Lisa Mooney – PIC

Committee members were tasked with the following:

- Review calendar year information
- Create draft Elementary and Secondary school year calendars
- Vet as appropriate with the groups represented (includes all Elementary and Secondary Principals, Vice-Principals, School Chairs, Parent Involvement Committee and all Federations and Unions)
- Gather feedback
- Vet drafts through Senior Administration
- Consult with the co-terminus Board to achieve alignment

Note: Once the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendar has been approved by the Board and the Ministry, the system will be informed.

Timeline:

Program and Planning — February 6, 2018
Board — February 27, 2018
Ministry Submission — (On or before) May 1, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS FOR 2018-2019

Professional Activity Days

In accordance with the *Education Act, Regulation 304 — School Year Calendar*, the following 7 days have been identified as Professional Activity Days for both elementary and secondary panels for 2018- 2019.

Elementary Professional Activity Days

Friday, October 5, 2018
Friday, November 16, 2018
Friday, January 18, 2019 Assessment Report Card Writing
Friday, February 15, 2019
Friday, May 17, 2019
Friday, June 7, 2019 Assessment Report Card Writing
Friday, June 28, 2019

Secondary Professional Activity Days

Friday, October 5, 2018
Friday, November 16, 2018
Friday, February 1, 2019 Turn Around Day
Friday, February 15, 2019
Friday, May 17, 2019
Thursday, June 27, 2019
Friday, June 28, 2019

Secondary Examination Days

Semester 1 — Friday, January 25 — Thursday, January 31, 2019
Semester 2 — Thursday, June 20 — Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Board & Civic Holidays

Labour Day	Monday, September 3, 2018
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 8, 2018
Christmas Break	Monday, December 24, 2018 – Friday, January 4, 2019
Family Day	Monday, February 18, 2019
March Break	Monday, March 11 – Friday, March 15, 2019
Good Friday	Friday, April 19, 2019
Easter Monday	Monday, April 22, 2019
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2019

"That the report of the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars - 2018-2019 be received and approved for submission to the Ministry of Education by May 1, 2018."

Respectfully submitted by
Michael St. John
Superintendent – Area 6

Date: February 6, 2018

For further information, please contact Michael St. John or the Director of Education.



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

Professional Activity Days School Year Calendar 2018-2019

DATE	PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY EVENT
October 5, 2018	Elementary and Secondary
November 16, 2018	Elementary and Secondary
January 18, 2019	Elementary – Assessment Report Card Writing
February 1, 2019	Secondary – Turn-Around Day activities related to promotion / class placement and school growth plan summary
February 15, 2019	Elementary and Secondary
May 17, 2019	Elementary and Secondary
June 7, 2019	Elementary - Assessment Report Card Writing
June 27, 2019	Secondary
June 28, 2019	Elementary and Secondary



Board
Designated
Holiday

Legend  **H -** Statutory Holiday Schedule


E - Scheduled Examination Day

P - Professional Activity Day

B - Holiday

 Half
Day

Secondary Draft

Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Activity Days	Number of Scheduled Examination Days	1 st Week					2 nd Week					3 rd Week					4 th Week					5 th Week					
				M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
August 2018						1	2	3	6 H	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31	
September 2018	19			3 H	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14 	17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28						
October 2018	21	1		1	2	3	4	5 P	8 H	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			
November 2018	21	1					1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16 P	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	
December 2018	15			3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21	24 B	25 H	26 H	27 B	28 B	31 B					
January 2019	14		5		1 H	2 B	3 B	4 B	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25 E	28 E	29 E	30 E	31 E		
February 2019	17	2						1 P	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15 P	18 H	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28		
March 2019	16							1	4	5	6	7	8	11 B	12 B	13 B	14 B	15 B	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	
April 2019	20			1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19 H	22 H	23	24	25	26	29	30				
May 2019	21	1				1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17 P	20 H	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	31	
June 2019	13	2	5	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20 E	21 E	24 E	25 E	26 E	27 P	28 P						
July 2019				1 H	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			
TOTAL	177	7	10	Note: The 2018-2019 calendar provides for 194 possible school days between September 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. The school year shall include a minimum of 194 school days of which two days must be designated as professional activity days with respect to specific provincial education priorities as outlined in the Policy/Program Memoranda 151 and up to four extra days may be designated by the board as professional activity days. The remaining school days shall be instructional days. The boards may designate up to ten instructional days as examination days																									



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEW FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR 2017-18

Program and Planning Committee

February 6, 2018

Introduction and Background

In accordance with Administrative Procedure 4-3, in the fall of 2017, school data has been gathered by the Superintendents of Area 7 Schools for the District School Board of Niagara working in association with the Student Achievement Leader (9-12). The following summary has been developed, based on this data, to indicate Board-wide trends in the secondary school course offerings for the 2017-18 school year.

Adherence to the Guaranteed Minimum Offerings at School, Program Area and System Levels

For the current school year, all five program areas were 100% successful in meeting the minimum requirements for their program area. 16 out of 17 Secondary schools have demonstrated 100% adherence to the guaranteed minimum course offerings.

Breadth of Program in DSBN Secondary Schools

- There is a net decrease of 38 courses across all 17 secondary schools.
- Open level courses and courses with University, University/College and Academic destinations have the largest overall net decrease in courses running.
- Arts and Canada and World Studies have the greatest decrease (-10 and -11 respectively.) English has the greatest increase (+3)

Statistics of Courses Running in 2017-2018 compared to 2016-2017

Grade	# of Cancellations	# of New Courses	Net Difference
9 and 10	6	7	1
11 and 12	53	14	-39
Total	59	21	-38

Course Destination	# of Cancellations	# of New Courses	Net Difference
University / Academic / University-College	23	8	-15
College	6	3	-3
Open	24	8	-16
Applied / Workplace	6	2	-4

Course Destination	# of Cancellations	# of New Courses	Net Difference
Arts	13	2	-11
Business	5	1	-4
Canada & World Studies	13	3	-10
Classical & Int'l Languages	4	0	-4
Computer Studies	0	0	0
English	1	4	3

Course Destination	# of Cancellations	# of New Courses	Net Difference
French	0	1	1
Guidance / Career Ed.	1	0	-1
Health & Physical Ed.	4	0	-4
Interdisciplinary Studies	1	1	0
Math	1	0	-1
Native Studies	0	1	1
Science	2	1	-1
Social Science & Humanities	6	5	-1
Technological Studies	7	2	-5

Combined Classes

- There are a total of 39 newly combined courses this school year, a decrease compared to last year's 49 newly combined courses
- Arts and Canada and World Studies (18% each) had the highest percentage of newly combined classes for this year

Newly Combined Classes for 2017-18

Classes by Division	# of Combined	% of Combined
Intermediate (Grades 9 & 10)	18	46
Intermediate/Senior (Grades 9-12)	8	21
Senior (Grades 11 and 12)	13	33

Classes by Subject Area	# of Combined	% of Combined
Arts	7	18
Business	0	0
Canada and World Studies	7	18
Classical and International Languages	0	0
Computer Studies	1	3
English	6	15
French	1	3
Guidance and Career Education	0	0
Health and Physical Education	3	8
Interdisciplinary Studies	0	0
Mathematics	1	3
Native Studies	0	0
Others	2	5
Science	5	13
Social Science and Humanities	4	8
Technological Studies	5	10

School Administrator's View of School Program Needs and Concerns

The review process provides an opportunity for Principals to express their needs and concerns relative to program and staffing for their individual schools. The most common comments submitted by principals include:

- concerns at smaller schools with Specialized School To Work (SSTW) programming being able to provide enough university and university/college courses for senior students.
- a continued increase in the number of combined classes due to enrolment changes.
- the increased number of teachers shared between schools is creating scheduling difficulties.

Summary

The 2017-18 courses offered in the secondary schools of the District School Board of Niagara continue to provide a wide range of offerings for students participating in all destination areas. The course offerings and variety of courses are stable.

Recommendation

"That the Board receive the Secondary School Program Review for the Current School Year 2017-18"

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McGregor
Superintendent of Education

For further information, please contact Helen McGregor or the Director of Education



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEW FOR SUBSEQUENT SCHOOL YEAR 2018-19
Program and Planning Committee
February 6, 2018

Introduction

In accordance with Administrative Procedure 4-3, in the fall of 2017 school data was gathered by the Superintendents of Area 7 Schools for the District School Board of Niagara, working in association with the Student Achievement Leader (9-12). Based on this data, the following summary was developed to indicate Board-wide trends in the secondary school course offerings for the 2018-19 school year.

This Program Review attempts to provide a forecast of the overall program available to students for the next school year across the Board's secondary schools.

Detailed Summary of Review

In the fall of every year, our secondary schools make decisions regarding which courses need to be added to / deleted from option sheets for the following school year. Principals are guided by the Board's *Minimum Course Offerings at School, Program Area and System Levels*, changes to Ministry of Education curricula, as well as by the needs of the students in each school.

Key findings:

- majority of the increases and decreases are a direct result of new curriculum offerings.
- net course offerings will increase minimally for the 2017-2018 school year by a total of 23 courses across the 17 secondary schools.

Statistics by Grade: Course Deletions and Additions

Grade	# of Deletions	# of Additions	Net Difference
9 and 10	2	10	+8
11 and 12	5	28	+23

Statistics by Course Destinations: Course Deletions and Additions

Course Destination	# of Deletions	# of Additions	Net Difference
University/Academic/University-College	2	12	+10
College	0	9	+9
Open	5	15	+10
Applied/Workplace	0	2	+2
Other	0	0	0

Statistics by Subject Area: Course Deletions and Additions

Subject Area	# of Deletions	# of Additions	Net Difference
Arts	3	2	-1
Business	0	0	0
Canadian and World Studies	0	4	+4
Classical and Inter. Lang.	0	1	+1
Computer Studies	0	0	0

English	0	0	0
French	0	0	0
Health and Physical Education	3	8	+5
Interdisciplinary Studies	0	2	+2
Mathematics	1	3	+2
Native Studies	0	8	+8
Science	0	2	+2
Social Science & Humanities	0	1	+1
Technological Studies	0	5	+5

Identified Program Developments and Problematic Areas

The following were the most commonly cited comments by principals as they look at the year ahead:

- enrolment at some Specialized School to Work (SSTW) sites poses a programming problem in maintaining programs in some subject areas and for students pursuing certain destinations.
- the number of combined/split classes pose challenges.

Adherence to the DSBN Guaranteed Minimum Offerings

Based on the data submitted under this Review, there is no reason to doubt that the secondary schools and program areas of DSBN will continue to demonstrate strong adherence to the Board's Policy on Guaranteed Minimum Offerings in the 2018-2019 school year. As a result, students of all destinations will have an appropriate range of course offerings to meet their needs as set out in this Policy.

Summary

The proposed 2018-19 course offerings in the secondary schools of the District School Board of Niagara continue to provide a broad range of course offerings for students of all destinations. There has been some increase in the number of proposed courses in a majority of subject areas, in the number of proposed courses for each destination and in the number of proposed courses for each of the Intermediate and Senior Divisions. Schools are to be commended for their efforts in maintaining their breadth of program offerings.

Recommendation:

"That the Board receive the Secondary School Program Review for the Subsequent School Year 2018 -19"

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McGregor
Superintendent of Education

For further information, please contact Helen McGregor or the Director of Education