



PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, March 9, 2021
5:30 pm – M.S. Teams
AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
4. New Business:
 - West Niagara Secondary School Update Helen McGregor, Mat Miller
 - New Elementary Math Curriculum Report Marian Reimer Friesen, CSS Math Team
 - De-streaming Grade 9 in DSBN ReportHelen McGregor, Leanne Smith
 - Additional Qualification ReportMary Anne Gage
 - Educational Research Committee ReportMary Anne Gage
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment
7. Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 6 , 2021 at 5:30 p.m.



Program and Planning Meeting West Niagara Secondary School Update March 9, 2021

Background

In March 2017, the DSNB Board of Trustees voted to build a new secondary school in West Niagara, in a central location for secondary students living in the communities of Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln. In June 2017, the Ministry of Education approved funding for the new school. In Fall of 2019 the community engaged in a school naming process with the board selecting the final name "West Niagara Secondary School". The Ministry of Education provided approval to proceed with the build on December 23, 2020. WNSS will be opening in September 2022 with approximately 1500 students.

Branding



Crest



Athletic Logo

Details about West Niagara Secondary School

Building Layout and Features:

- Modern state-of-the-art school
- State of the art classrooms
- Synthetic turf field and 8 lane rubberized track
- Two (2) double gyms
- Fitness Centre
- Greenhouse
- Specialized tech shops with modern and industrial quality equipment: Transportation (Auto), Manufacturing/Welding, Construction (wood), Cosmetology (hair and esthetics), Hospitality (student-run cafeteria and bakeshop), Computer Tech, Design Tech, Health Care
- 20-acre property



Breadth of Programming:

- We will be gathering student voice to determine additional courses and programs to be offered when the school opens
- All existing programs at BDSS and GSS will continue in the new school
- Specialized School to Community (SSTC)
- Specialized School to Work (SSTW)
- French Immersion – 10 or more different course offerings taught at school, by our teachers
- Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Programs in Construction, Manufacturing/Welding, Sport, The Arts, Hospitality, Food Processing, Horticulture

Athletics and Extracurriculars:

- We will be gathering student voice about new activities/athletics students would like to see at WNSS
- Sports currently offered: Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Track and Field, Badminton, Field Hockey, Rugby, and Ultimate. Rowing, Swimming, Baseball, Three-Pitch, Tennis, Golf, Curling, Cross-Country and Ice Hockey will continue off-site
- Extracurriculars currently offered include: Student Council, Music Council, Athletic Council, Camp Leaders, Tech Skills, Robotics Club, School Reach, White Pine Reading Club, Concert and Jazz Bands, Vocal Ensemble, Drum Line, Percussion Ensemble, Social Justice League, Positive Spaces Project, DECA, Floral Club, Environmental Club, Intramural Sports, University Math Prep, Math Club, National Theatre School Productions, Improv, Cabaret, One Acts, Grade 9 Play, Prefects, Art/Anime Club, Yearbook, Grimsby Parade Group, Prefects, Student Mediators, Dance Team, DELPH Prep, French Club, Talent Shows, Open Mic, AV support team, Musical, International Food Fair, Tutors, Holiday Cards for Seniors, Morning Announcers, Cardboard Boat Competition



Transportation:

- Preliminary transportation information has been based on NSTS simulations
- Average overall bus ride time is 13 minutes
- Overall, 92% of rides are 30 minutes or less
- Average ride times by municipality:
 - Grimsby - 9 minutes
 - Lincoln - 11 minutes
 - West Lincoln - 25 minutes

Next Steps

- Tendering and the start of construction this spring
- On-going updates to all DSBN families in West Niagara - "Track the Pack"
- February and March School Council Presentations to all elementary schools
- Student voice opportunities for current and future students of WNSS

Fundraising Committee for Theatre

- Large committee called *Friends of the Arts in West Niagara* are launching a fundraising campaign to raise the \$2.6 million community contribution
- Letters of Support already gathered from the community include: All DSBN school councils in Grimsby, Jacob Beam PS, Caistor Central PS, Senator Gibson PS; Canadian Improv Games, CFUW - Grimsby, Conversations Cafe, Diner Bistro, Expressions Dance Company, Foodland Smithville, Friends of the Arts in West Niagara, Garden City Productions, Grimsby and District Lions Club, Grimsby Chamber of Commerce, Hamilton All-Star Jazz Band, John Ripley - Starmakers, Judge and Jester (Grimsby), Kerry Short Insurance, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, Lincoln Leapers, Rotary Club of Lincoln, Mayor Jeff Jordan - Town of Grimsby, Niagara Youth Orchestra, Playwrights

Niagara, Simply Moto (Grimsby), Stanpac Inc, Station One Coffee House, Sunbit Theatre, West Niagara Psychology, Amici's Pizza, August/Smoke and Moonshine/You Had Me At Pizza (Lincoln/Grimsby), Rotary Club of Grimsby, Twintage Photography

- The first money contributed to the fundraising campaign was \$200,000 from the Town of Lincoln announced on March 2, 2021
- The committee has made presentations to the Town of Grimsby, Town of Lincoln, and West Lincoln in February and received motions of support from all three Councils

WNSS Online Presence

- Website (westniagara.dsbn.org)
- Twitter (@WestNiagara2022)
- Instagram (@westniagarasecondaryschool)

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McGregor, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (9-12)



Program and Planning Meeting New Elementary Math Curriculum Report March 9, 2021

Background

The Ministry of Education released a new [Math Curriculum](#) for Grades 1-8 which DSBN implemented in September 2020. This curriculum replaced the 2005 version. Notably, DSBN was one of a few boards consulted in the development of the new document.

Rationale

The new math curriculum has 7 main underlying principles:

- A mathematics curriculum is most effective when it values and celebrates the diversity that exists among students.
- A robust mathematics curriculum is essential for ensuring that all students reach their full potential.
- A mathematics curriculum provides all students with the foundational mathematics concepts and skills they require to become capable and confident mathematics learners.
- A progressive mathematics curriculum includes the strategic integration of technology to support and enhance the learning and doing of mathematics.
- A mathematics curriculum acknowledges that the learning of mathematics is a dynamic, gradual, and continuous process, with each stage building on the last.
- A mathematics curriculum is integrated with the world beyond the classroom.
- A mathematics curriculum motivates students to learn and to become lifelong learners.

Summary of Main Changes

The new elementary math curriculum is different in many ways, but most notably:

- Addition of 2 new strands: Social Emotional Learning and Financial Literacy
- Addition of a focus on coding skills and mathematical modelling
- Reporting in math moves from 5 separate strands, to an integrated single mark which reflects the curriculum focus on cohesive instruction and the interconnectedness of different math topics

Support for Teachers

During a pandemic, normal professional development, and support for such a major curriculum change has been a challenge. Our team has focused on producing ready to use resources for teachers, that are useful for both in-person and virtual learners. These resources have been carefully designed to support a deeper understanding of math instruction, while providing activities that are classroom ready for our hard-working staff. We have also adapted our DSBN Elementary Math Scope and Sequence to reflect the changes in curriculum, and have provided virtual PD through staff meetings, voluntary after school sessions, training modules that can be accessed at any time by staff, and by equipping Instructional Coaches to offer school based support.

Summary

DSBN staff have had a positive introduction to the new math curriculum and look forward to building upon the knowledge and experiences gained during this school year as we plan for further in-service and supports in 2021/2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian Reimer Friesen, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (K – 8)



Program and Planning Meeting De-streaming Grade 9 in DSBN Report March 9, 2021

Background

Currently, students entering Grade 9 make streamed pathway course selections. For English, French, Math, Science, and Geography students need to choose either academic, applied or locally developed courses. The Ministry of Education is de-streaming Grade 9 Math by issuing a new curriculum for implementation in September 2021.

Why De-streaming?

Research confirms that streaming students before the age of 15 significantly impacts them by narrowing their future opportunities including apprenticeship, college, and university. Ontario is the only Province still streaming students in grade 9. Most importantly, de-streaming supports marginalized populations and addresses many equity issues:

- “The effects of ability grouping are the same as the effects of inflation - the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. The effects of early streaming can last a lifetime.”
- Ken Leithwood
- Research shows students in applied courses are less likely to graduate or attend post-secondary school, and that streaming disproportionately affects students who are Black as well as students from poorer and marginalized communities.
- *Restacking the Deck: Streaming by Class, Race & Gender in Ontario Schools, 2014*
- Demographic data from EQAO, along with 2006 Census data, show that schools with higher percentages of students from low-income families also have higher proportions of students in applied mathematics
- *People for Education, 2015*
- Global research clearly indicates that streaming contributes to inequitable outcomes for students and particularly disadvantages specific groups of students, including those who are racialized and those who come from lower socioeconomic backgrounds
- *Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2012*
- 59% of students who took the Grade 9 Applied Mathematics course transitioned into postsecondary education within seven (7) years, compared to 88% of students who took the Academic course.

OnSIS data of 2011-12 Grade 9 Cohort Transitioning to Post-Secondary Education by 2017-18

DSBN Proposed Plan

DSBN has seen positive outcomes for multiple cohorts of graduates from the DSBN Academy which has pioneered a de-streamed curriculum in Grade 9.

We need to make a change beyond math in all of our secondary schools, so that we don't limit future opportunities for our students.

Starting September 2021, DSBN will offer de-streamed Grade 9 math (MTH1W) and English (ENG1D) courses in all schools. Individual schools can choose to also de-stream Grade 9 Geography, Science and French in September 2021. In September 2022, all DSBN secondary schools will offer de-streamed geography (CGC1D), French (FSF1D) and Science (SNC1D)

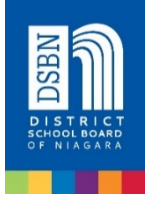
Next Steps

In March we will communicate the decision to administrators, staff, students, and parents. We will then plan writing teams and professional development opportunities

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McGregor, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (9-12)

Leanne Smith, Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (9-12)



Program and Planning Meeting Additional Qualification Report March 9, 2021

Background

Professional learning for teachers plays an integral role in improving student achievement and well-being. At the DSBN, our priorities demonstrate a strong commitment to student growth, staff growth and system growth. By fully funding Additional Qualification (AQ) courses, we are investing in the professional learning for teachers which will ultimately contribute to student success.

Over the past 3 years, we have financially supported over 1400 teachers with completing additional qualification courses in a variety of areas including Math, Reading, French, Special Education – Communications and Indigenous Education.

Our current model is to partner with different Ontario universities.

New DSBN Model

- The DSBN is becoming an accredited Additional Qualification provider.

Rationale for Change

There are many benefits of becoming an accredited AQ provider. As a provider, we can design courses that reflect our communities, our own contexts and directly support our DSBN strategic direction and priorities. We will also have the autonomy to create our own schedules of AQ offerings, decide on the course format and hire DSBN educators to both write and instruct the courses.

There is also a financial benefit to being our own AQ provider as our cost per course offering would significantly decrease by approximately 60%.

Next Steps

Our goal is to be ready to offer DSBN AQ courses this fall. We are in the process of hiring writers and once courses are written, we will submit each course to the Ontario College of Teachers for certification.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Gage, Superintendent of Education, Curriculum and Student Achievement (K-8)



Program and Planning Meeting Educational Research Committee Report March 9, 2021

Background

On Monday, February 22, 2021 the Educational Research Committee met to review newly proposed research projects. The outcome of this meeting was that we are recommending the following proposal be approved:

Title of Research

- The 2021 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS)

Principal Investigator(s)

- Dr. Hayley Hamilton, Ph.D. Study Director, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
- Dr. Samantha Wells, Director, Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

Summary

- The Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS) is an ongoing epidemiological study of Ontario students in grades 7 to 12, conducted every two years since 1977 by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).
- It is the longest ongoing school survey in Canada and one of the longest in the world.
- One purpose of this cross-sectional, anonymous survey is to describe the trends in the prevalence of tobacco, alcohol, cannabis and other drug use and related harms, as well as to identify the use of emerging drugs and new forms of use.
- Mental health (e.g., symptoms of depression and anxiety, self-harm), bullying, technology use, physical health (e.g., physical activity, concussions), and other risk behaviours (e.g., gambling, impaired driving) are also monitored.

Logistics

- Number of Schools: 5 Elementary Schools, 2 replacements; 4 Secondary Schools; 3 replacements
- Age of Student Participants: Grades 7-12
- To Commence/Conclude: Any date to June 29, 2021
- Time Requirements: online, anywhere using an electronic device, 20-25 minutes

The Educational Research Committee recommends this research be APPROVED.

Submitted by,

Mary Anne Gage, Superintendent of Education, Curriculum and Student Achievement
Mary Zwolak, Chair of Educational Research Committee