



Program and School Services Committee Report No. 05 (Part A)

PSSC:005A
Wednesday, June 5, 2024
4:30 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting
Boardroom, 5050 Yonge Street

Members Present Trustees Deborah Williams (Chair), Alexis Dawson, Malika Ghous, Debbie King, Alexandra Lulka Rotman and Farzana Rajwani

Also Present Trustees Aarts, Chernos Lin, de Dovitiis, Hassan, Laskin, Patel, Pei, Rajakulasingam and Shan

The meeting was a hybrid model with Trustees Aarts, Chernos Lin, Dawson, de Dovitiis, Hassan, Hastings, King, Lulka Rotman, Rajwani, Shan and Williams participating in person, and other trustees present participating by electronic means in accordance with [amendments to Section 7 of Ontario Regulations 463/97, Electronic Meetings](#)

Part A: Committee Recommendations

1. The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement, Year 2 Update, 2024 [4729]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 1 and attached) presenting information on key actions that align with the mandate of the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement.

Moved by: Trustee Dawson

Seconded by: Trustee Shan

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be received.

Carried

2. Combating Hate and Racism: Student Learning Strategy Update, 2024 [4705]

Consideration to be continued at the special meeting of the Program and School Services Committee on Tuesday, May 18, 2024.

3. Amendments to the Special Education Plan, 2024-2025 [4731]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 359 and attached) presenting information on amendments to the Special Education Plan, 2024-2025 for submission to the Ministry of Education for review.

Moved by: Trustee Chernos Lin

Seconded by: Trustee Dawson

The Program and Schools Services Committee **REFERS** the matter **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.**

Carried

4. Caring and Safe Schools: Annual Report, 2022-2023 [4691]

To be considered at the special meeting of the Program and School Services Committee on Tuesday, May 18, 2024.

5. Review of the Current Financial Literacy Implementations Within the Curriculum

Moved by: Trustee Chernos Lin

Seconded by: Trustee Dawson

The Program and Schools Services Committee **REFERS** the matter **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION:**

Whereas, recognizing the increasing importance of equipping students with essential financial literacy skills is crucial for their success and well-being; and

Whereas, financial literacy is an essential life skill, and its absence may lead to negative consequences for individuals in terms of economic well-being; and

Whereas, an evaluation is needed and should include modules on budgeting, saving, investing, understanding credit, and other fundamental financial concepts;

Whereas, promoting existing financial literacy resources would include better integration and increased awareness of these modules within existing courses;

Whereas, twelve student-based consultations with hundreds of students grade 4-12 were held across twelve TDSB schools about the pillar of financial literacy and its importance; and

Whereas, the largest student-led financial literacy organization in the country, Target Alpha STC, was consulted on the importance of utilizing existing financial literacy learning modules in K-12 Education;

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the Director:

- i. re-evaluate the existing financial literacy learning modules currently available across all grades to understand their current utilization and effectiveness;
- ii. more actively promote and utilize existing financial literacy resources rather than developing new curriculum materials;
- iii. present a report to the Program and School Services Committee by fall 2024 on methods to enhance the visibility and usage of existing educational resources, including textbooks, online materials and interactive tools, to broaden financial literacy education across all grades;
- iv. initiate a broader implementation of enhanced financial literacy education through existing modules in the 2025-2026 academic year.

Carried

Part B: Information Only

6. Call to Order and Acknowledgment of Traditional Lands

A meeting of the Planning and Priorities Committee was convened on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, from 4:32 p.m. to 12 a.m., including a fifteen-minute recess, with Deborah Williams presiding.

7. Approval of the Agenda

On motion of Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Laskin, the agenda was approved.

8. Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interest

No matters to report

9. Delegations

re Combating Hate and Racism: Student Learning Strategy Update, 2024 [4705]

1. Sam Lampert, Charles H. Best Junior Middle School

re A Collaborative Approach to School and Community Safety

2. Donna Harrow, Ripple Effect Circle
3. Orlando Bowen, One Voice One Team Youth Leadership Organization
4. Lisa Grogan-Green, Go Green Youth Centre
5. Valerie White, Secretary, Karma Sonam Dargye Ling
6. Nadeem Sheikh, Scarborough Muslim Association
7. Mikael Kham, Director, Taking Kids Out of Poverty (TKOP)
8. Sean Boyd, Chair of the Board, Agnico Eagle Mines and Delroy, TDSB Student

re The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement, Year 2 Update, 2024 [4729]

9. Bethel Tekie, Centre for Black Student Achievement
10. Courtney Walters, Hart House
11. Emmanuel Weldu, Ellesmere-Statton PS
12. Isaiah Smith, Graduate, Central Technical School

13. Josiah Calderon-Roper, Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement

re Combating Hate and Racism: Student Learning Strategy Update, 2024 [4705]

14. Elizabeth Block, Independent Jewish Voices
15. Marilyn Kanee, Independent Jewish Voices
16. Simon Glass, Jewish Faculty Network
17. Zoë Wool, Clinton St Jr Public School
18. B.H Yael, Artist and Professor, OCAD University
19. Amina Sherazee, Brock Public School
20. Ameena Sultan, Rawlinson Community School
21. Rabbi David Mivasair, Community Stakeholder
22. Dr. Jen Preston, Community Member
23. Arlo Kempf, Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute
24. Paula Glick, TDSB Parent

re Annual Reporting on Student Attendance (Trustees King and Shan, on behalf of Trustee Ehrhardt)

25. Krista Burns, Community Member, Parent of students in the TDSB

re Review of the Current Financial Literacy Implementations Within the Curriculum (Trustees Williams and Shan, on behalf of Student Trustees Bell, Zhou and Indigenous Student Trustee Secord)

26. Victor Vasilev, Target Alpha Canada

10. Adjournment

On motion of Trustee Chernos Lin, seconded by Trustee King, the meeting adjourned at 12 a.m., Thursday, June 6, 2024.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

11. Postponed Matters

The Committee postponed consideration of the following matters to the next regular meeting.

- Mental Health and Addiction Strategy, 2023-2026 [4730]
- Annual Reporting on Student Attendance (Trustees King and Shan, on behalf of Trustee Ehrhardt)

Submitted by: Deborah Williams, Committee Chair



Centre of **Excellence** for **Black Student** Achievement

Year 2 Update

June 5, 2024

  @tdsb_cebsa



Overview of the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement

The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement is the first of its kind in public K-12 education in North America. Launched in 2021, it was built on community voice following the recommendations, advocacy and work of Black communities.

Honouring the ongoing work in the Centre of Excellence, staff continue to:

- Partner with Black students, families and community to identify challenges that must be met.
- Provide results of well -implemented programs and initiatives centred on school, family, and community partnerships.



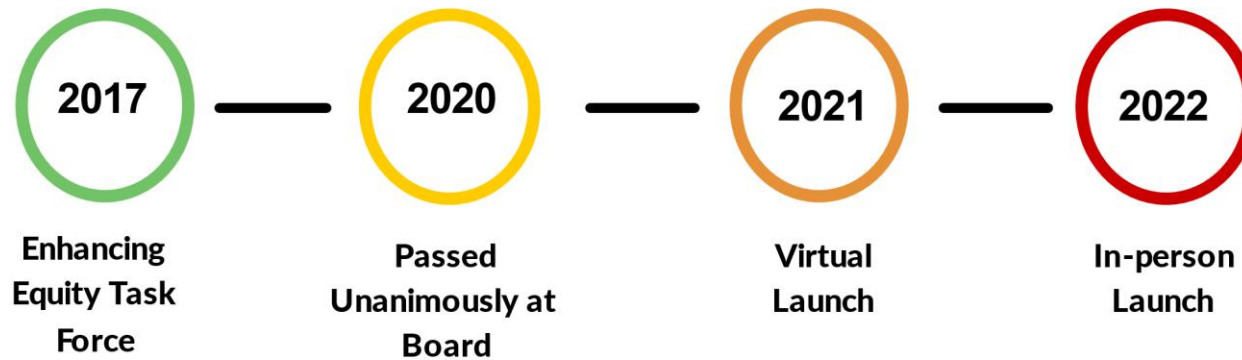
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Mandates of the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement

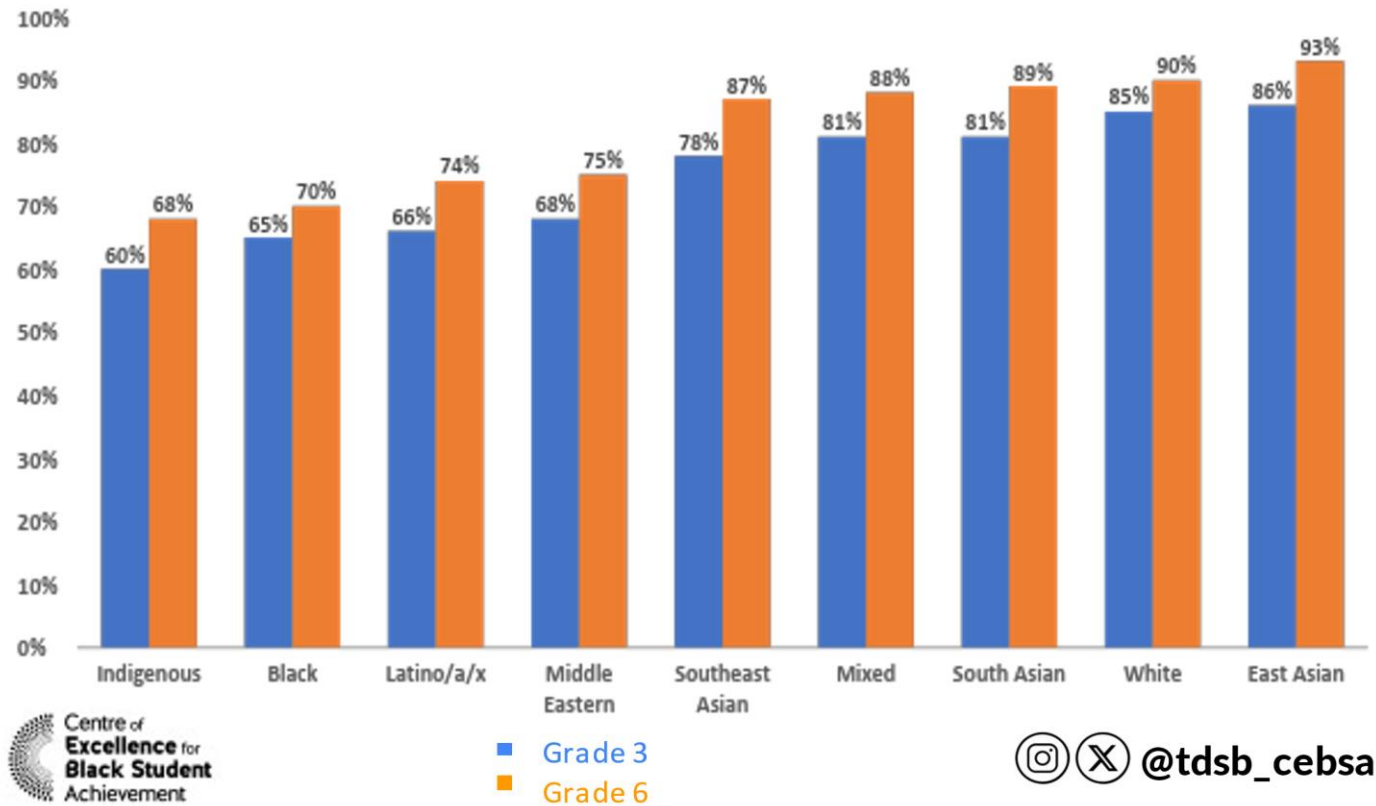
STUDENTS	FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES	SYSTEM AND STAFF
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide support to Black students in TDSB schools to combat racism, navigate complaint processes, identify barriers to success and access appropriate resources (e.g., scholarships, networking, mentoring); 2. Identify, develop and facilitate culturally responsive, and relevant healing practices for groups of students; 3. Establish effective mechanisms for monitoring improvement in the achievement of Black students; and 4. Inform changes to policies and procedures so that all students may benefit from the learning and innovative practices developed by the Centre. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support meaningful engagement and advocacy of caregivers for their children in TDSB schools and programs and improve communication to them about Black student success, system navigation and complaint processes; and 2. Engage in strategic community partnerships related to education within the annually identified approved budget for this purpose. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use evidence to highlight promising practices and engage in meaningful research on topics relevant to Black students that are then integrated across schools and at the system level within the TDSB; 2. Create professional learning in anti-Black racism and collaborate with other staff in facilitating learning in decolonization, anti-racism, anti-oppression & human rights recognizing the similarities and intersections of various forms of oppression; and 3. Provide annual accountability reports and recommendations to the Board of Trustees and staff.



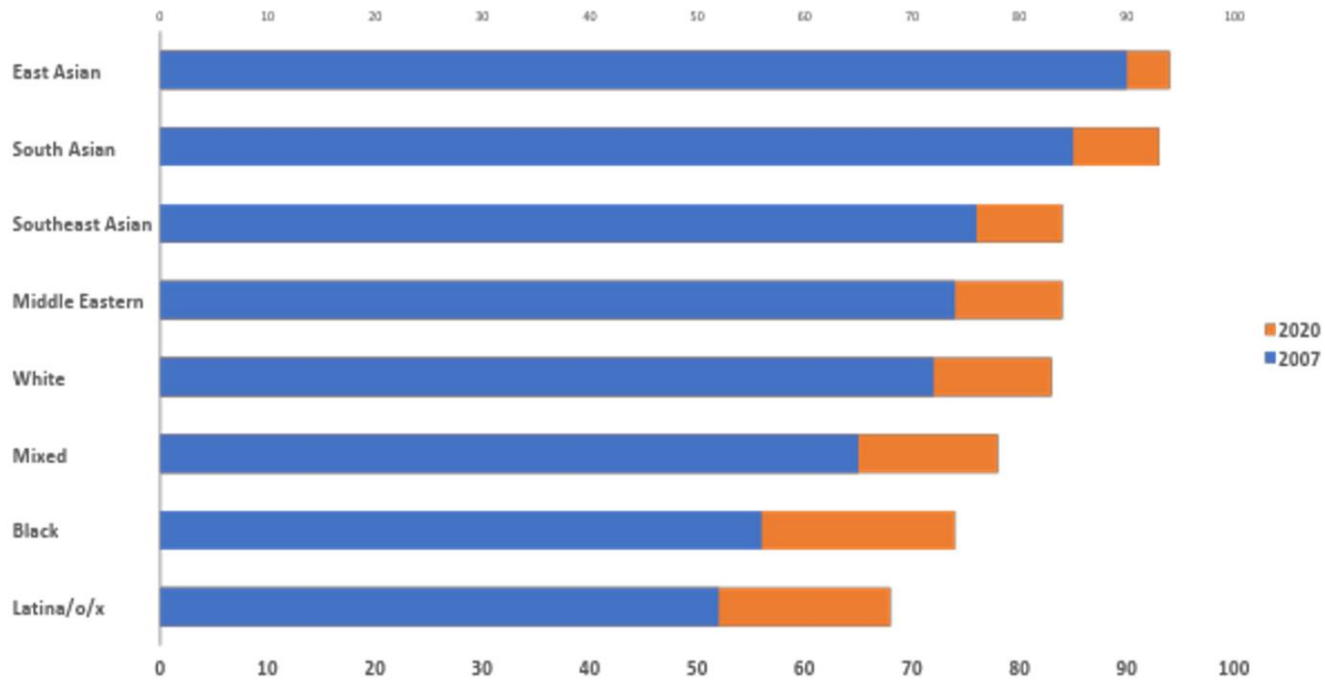
Journey of the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement



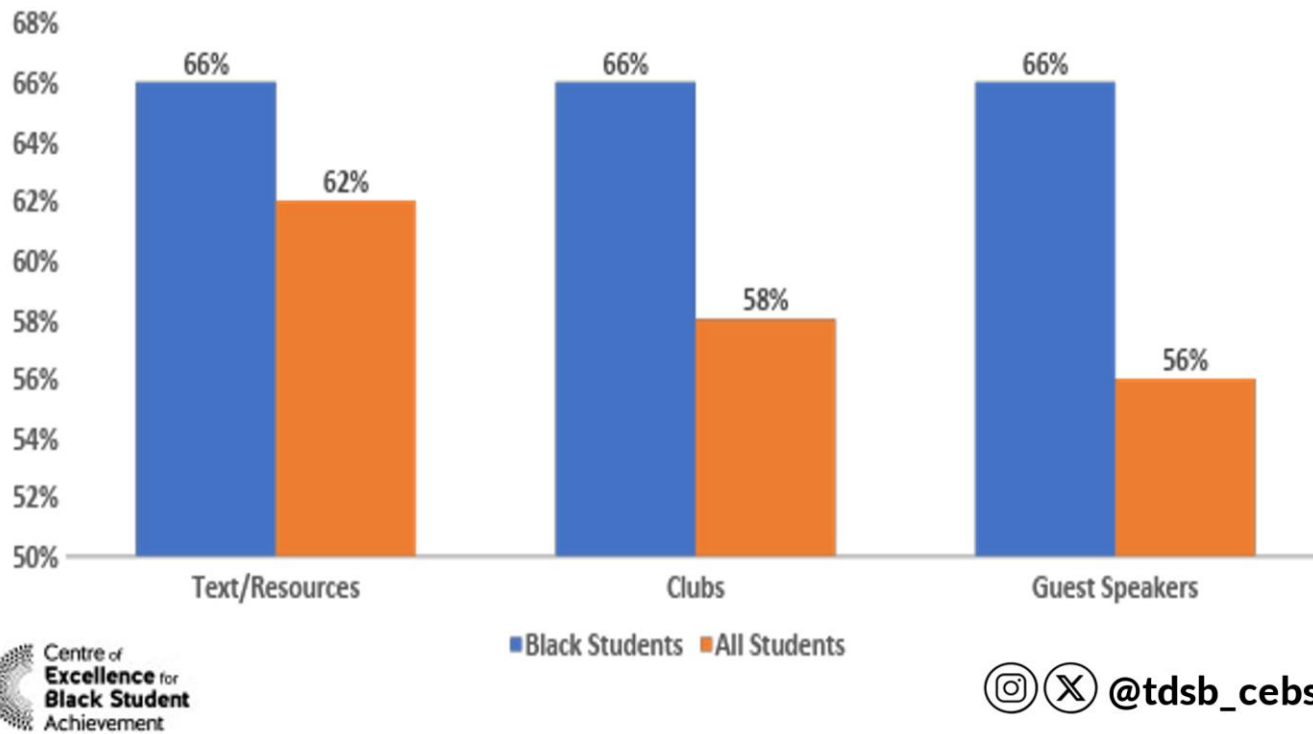
Examining Data: Three-Year Combined EQAO Performance for Reading (2018-2023)



Examining Data: Postsecondary Application by Year 5 (2007 -2020)



Examining Data: Students reporting in 2023 the opportunities they had to learn from their own culture and identity in schools





Centre of Excellence Focus Areas for 2023-2024



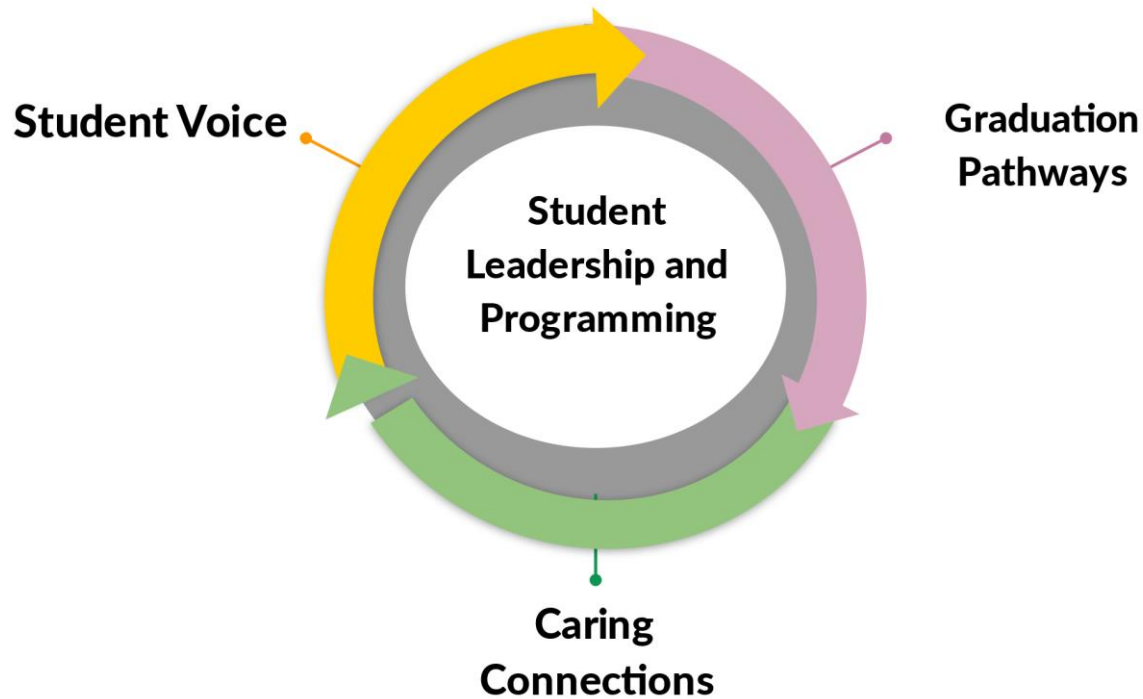
Setting Context: Key Actions 2023-2024

Key actions for 2023-2024 continue to align with the Centre's mandates through collaborative, multidisciplinary team approach to support Black students:

- Provide support to Black students in TDSB schools to combat racism, navigate complaint processes, identify barriers to success and access appropriate resources (e.g., scholarships, networking, mentoring).
- Use evidence to highlight promising practices and engage in meaningful research on topics relevant to Black students, which are then integrated across schools and at the system level within the TDSB.
- Identify, develop and facilitate culturally responsive and relevant healing practices for groups of students.
- Engage in strategic community partnerships related to education within the annually identified and approved budget for this purpose.



Focus Area 1: Students



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Student Leadership and Programming



Graduation Pathways

Pathways to Veterinary Medicine
(Image of students staring at the skeleton of an animal.)



Student Voice and Caring Connections

Black Girls' Book Club
(Image of high school students smiling for a photo alongside author Julianne Mundle.)



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Focus Area 2: Family Engagement and Involvement

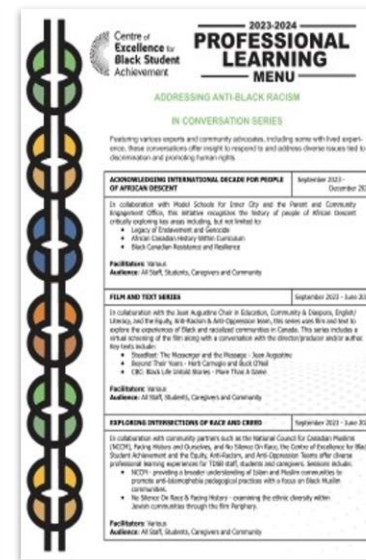
01	Webinar Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Quarterly virtual session for Black families
02	ABC's of Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Literacy and numeracy workshop for Black families
03	2024 Black Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mental health and wellness session focused Black families and community members



Focus Area 3: Staff Professional Learning and System Wide Initiatives

A variety of professional learning opportunities are offered to develop and enhance the capacity of staff and educators.

This approach is to deepen educators' understanding of Anti - Black racism, Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy (CRRP), and Culturally Responsive Healing for an inclusive working environment.



Focus Area 4: Community Engagement and Outreach

The Centre of Excellence is committed to ongoing efforts to be responsive to the recommendations from families, build partnerships, encourage collaboration, and involve various stakeholders (e.g., post-secondary institutions).

The end goal of these efforts is to increase support and resources, enhance learning experiences and strengthen community relationships with the Centre of Excellence's Community Support Workers.



Black Student Post-Secondary Engagement Symposium

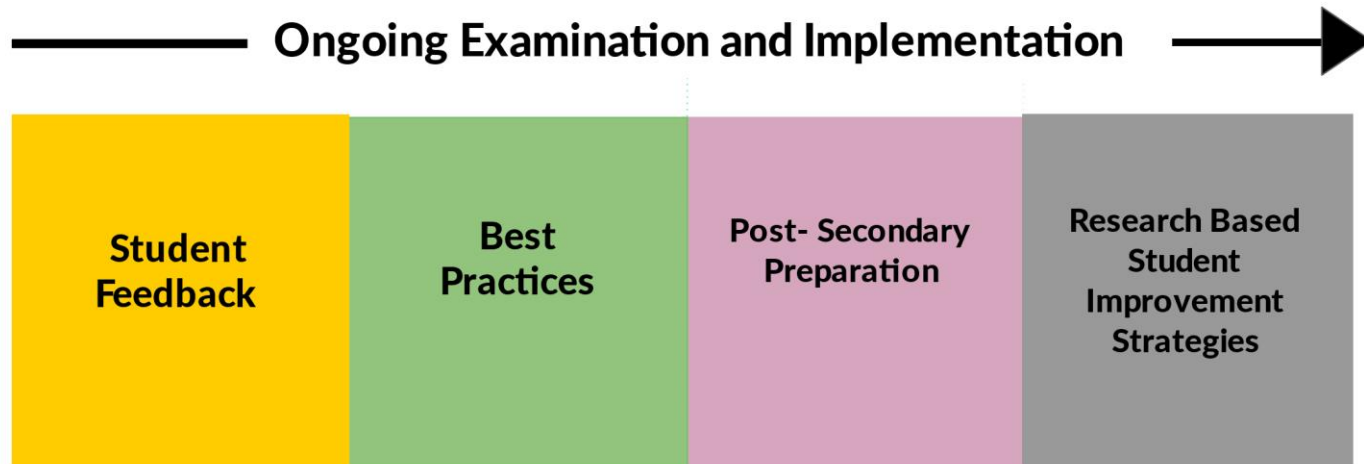


Martin Grove CI Parent Council Community Event

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Moving Forward: Next Steps





Thank You

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