Review of Secondary Alternative Schools Feasibility Report

To: Program and School Services Committee

Date: 9 June, 2021

Report No.: 06-21-4115

Strategic Directions

- Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being
- Provide Equity of Access to Learning Opportunities for All Students
- Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs
- Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being

Recommendation

It is recommended that the review of Secondary Alternative Schools feasibility report be received for information.

Context

In response to a recommendation from the Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee passed by the Board on May 26, 2021, staff undertook to determine the feasibility and potential timeline of a review of all Secondary Alternative Schools in TDSB to begin in fall 2021.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Under the leadership of the System Superintendent of Secondary Program and Access and the System Superintendent of Continuing Education, Secondary Alternative Schools, Adult Education, Educational Partnerships, Delegations & Heritage Months, the first phase of the review, expected to be completed during the 2021-2022 school year, will focus on an environmental scan of the Secondary Alternative Schools, including demographics and history, and will also include an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats faced by students, staff and communities connected to Secondary Alternative Schools.

The environmental scan will engage multiple stakeholders including students, staff and families and will require collaboration of staff from multiple internal departments to complete research and present a report including system wide findings, long-term visioning and recommendations following completion of the review. An implementation plan and timeline will be included in the recommendations coming forward.

Following the report and recommendations, a review of the Alternative Schools Policy, P062 and Alternative Schools Procedure, PR584, will be completed to align it with the recommendations coming out of the environmental scan.

A subsequent report will be presented in October 2021 to PSSC providing a detailed timeline related to this review. As each phase of the review is completed, reports will be presented to the Governance and Policy Committee and/or the Program and School Services Committee as applicable.

Resource Implications

Not applicable at this time. As consultations evolve and resources are required, an update on this section will be provided.

Communications Considerations

TDSB website will be updated as public consultation information related to this review becomes available.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

P062, Alternative Schools

PR584, Alternative Schools

P013, Optional Attendance

Appendices

Not applicable

From

Craig Snider, Interim Associate Director, Business Operations and Service Excellence, by email at craig.snider@tdsb.on.ca or by telephone at 416-394-2041.

Jim Spyropoulos, Executive Superintendent, Human Rights and Indigenous Education, by email at jim.spyropoulos@tdsb.on.ca or by telephone at 416-397-3678.

Lorraine Linton, System Superintendent, Secondary Program and Admission, by email at lorraine.linton@tdsb.on.ca or by telephone at 416-395-3626.

Peter Chang, System Superintendent, Continuing Education, Secondary Alternative Schools, Adult Education, Educational Partnerships, Delegations & Heritage Months, by email at peter.chang@tdsb.on.ca or by telephone at 416-393-8937.

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