

The TDSB MISSION

Our mission is to enable all students to reach high levels of achievement and to acquire the knowledge, skills and values they need to become responsible members of a democratic society.

Our five Strategic Directions for 2011-2015 are:

1. Make every school an effective school
2. Build leadership within a culture of adaptability, openness and resilience
3. Form strong and effective relationships and partnerships
4. Build environmentally sustainable schools that inspire teaching and learning
5. Identify disadvantage and intervene effectively

How does MODEL SCHOOLS FOR INNER CITIES (MSIC) work?

Over 150 schools in the MSIC Program are divided into seven clusters across the city. Each cluster receives support in the form of staff and resources to carry out the program's five Essential Components. Cluster committees support the program initiatives and cluster-specific needs. Cluster committees are comprised of Superintendents of Education, Principals, Lead Teachers, Teaching and Learning Coaches and Community Support Workers. This group meets regularly to share best practices and learn from, and with, each other.

The VISION

Not every family or community has access to the same economic opportunities or social supports needed for children to learn and thrive to their greatest capacities. The MSIC Program supports the needs of the whole child and is committed to nurturing the individual and collective strengths of students, families and communities. When students' identities and lived experiences are honoured in the classroom and larger school community, we can begin to level the playing field for all.



Supporting our INNER CITIES

In 2006, the MSIC Program was launched with three schools. The following year, the Program expanded to include four more schools. Currently, over 150 of 600 schools in the TDSB are part of the MSIC Program. The Learning Opportunities Index (LOI) measures the level of external barriers to student success. The schools in the MSIC Program are among those requiring the most support to close the opportunity gap to achieve equitable outcomes for all. For more information on the LOI, see www.tdsb.on.ca/loi.



THE GOALS of Model Schools for Inner Cities

1. Equity: Achieving fairness and equity to ensure the lives and realities of our students are reflected and affirmed. Closing the opportunity gap to support equitable outcomes for all students.

2. Community: Equitable educational opportunities and adequate school resources allow schools to become the heart of their communities and the pillars of their neighbourhoods.

3. Inclusiveness: An inclusive culture that respects and reflects all aspects of the school, its community, students and staff.

4. Expectations: Achievement enhances self-esteem, which in turn fuels achievement. Every child is expected to progress to the highest level of which they are capable, regardless of economic or cultural background.



What is a MODEL SCHOOL?

A Model School is one over 150 inner city schools as determined by the Toronto District School Board's (TDSB) Learning Opportunities Index (LOI). Every Model School is committed to the five essential components (see below).

The Model Schools for Inner Cities program is fundamentally rooted in a strength-based approach aimed at increasing access and opportunities for all students. When students, teachers, families and communities work collaboratively to create positive change, student achievement, well-being and engagement are increased.



Every school in the MSIC Program is committed to the following five Essential Components:

1. Innovation in teaching and learning practice and in school structure;
2. Support services to meet social, emotional and physical well-being of students;
3. School as the heart of the community;
4. Research, review and evaluation of students and programs;
5. Commitment to share successful practices.



Connect with PARENT ACADEMY

By Parents, For Parents

Parents, caregivers and school staff all want what is best for children and youth, and by pooling their experience and talents, they can become a powerful force for positive change.



Connect with Parent Academies and be part of shaping your school and your community.

Parent Academies are on Facebook:

 facebook.com/TDSBParentAcademy

CONTACT US

Model Schools for Inner Cities

17 Fairmeadow Ave, Room 103
Toronto, ON M2P 1W6
416-395-MSIC (6742)



tdsb.on.ca/modelschools



twitter.com/tdsb_msic



Model Schools for Inner Cities

The School as the Heart of the Community



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