

A stack of three books is shown on the left side of the image. The top book has a white cover, the middle one has a blue cover, and the bottom one has a red cover. A red apple is placed on top of the white book, and a yellow pencil with a pink eraser is lying horizontally across the top of the stack. The background is a solid, muted green color.

Choice @ the TDSB



Choice Matters

Programs of Choice provide a wider variety of schools\programs of choice in the TDSB that appeal to different learning styles and interests to allow student/parent choice.



- Programs of Choice are innovative learning experiences designed for students who have differing educational interests. They are a means by which a vision of a future in which all Board learners achieve their full potential can be realized. Broadening the range of program offerings enhances the capacity of a school system to meet the educational needs of individual students within a program best suited to their interests, dreams and desires. Programs of Choice give parents and students a variety of high quality options for learning.

Choice Matters

*That the Board approve a feasibility study for
four elementary Programs of Choice:*





Elementary Programs of Choice for Consideration

- Boys Leadership Academy, Grades K-3
- Girls Leadership Academy, Grades 4-8
- Choir School, Grades 4-8, Co-Ed
- Sports Academy, Grade 4-8, Co-Ed



Advantages of Choice

- Parents who commit to a Program of Choice are generally strongly supportive of the school, the staff and the program
- Programs of Choice provide teachers with the opportunity to choose a working environment that corresponds to their particular skills, interests, expertise or beliefs; and
- Programs of Choice provide natural locations for Demonstration Classrooms which model and share exemplary teaching strategies to build instructional capacity across the district.



Advantages of Choice

- Programs of Choice provide learning environments that promote student learning and respond to student and parent interests;
- Programs of Choice offer the opportunity for parents and students to choose a compatible teaching and learning style and classroom and school environment;
- Families choosing a Program of Choice have a variety of enrichment opportunities, without losing the benefit of the elementary Ontario curriculum;



- The Board currently offers 19 elementary alternative schools, 13 elementary specialized programs and a wide range of French Immersion and Extended French programming (See Appendix A). Alternative schools and specialized programs have an open boundary concept allowing parents to choose their children's school from within and outside their geographical catchment area. In the 2008/09 school year, less than 1% of elementary students attended an alternative school or specialized program.



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