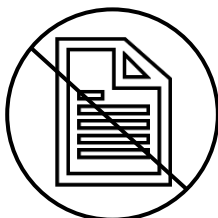


K E Y B O A R D I N G

Following a Board motion in May 2016 regarding keyboarding instruction, the Toronto District School Board implemented the **Keyboarding Pilot Program** in 12 elementary schools during the 2016-17 school year. Following is a summary of the program and its research findings.

Background



Keyboarding is not part of Ontario curriculum

- The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) recognizes the importance of keyboarding skills as a basic, necessary life skill, and that students should receive comprehensive keyboarding instruction from Grades 3 through 6. However, **keyboarding is not part of the provincial education curriculum** in Ontario, and as such could be taught ad-hoc.
- The TDSB created the **Keyboarding Pilot Program** as a way to **inform decisions** regarding the integration of keyboarding instructions into the TDSB curriculum.



Study Goals

The **Keyboarding Pilot Program** examined the following:



Keyboarding

Valuable skill

Somewhat valuable

Not valuable

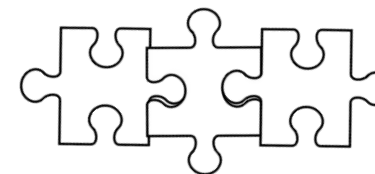
Perceptions regarding the **value of keyboarding**



Student **keyboarding knowledge and practices**



Perceptions regarding **typing curriculum**



Implementation of typing curriculum



Methodology

The study involved a mixed methods research design, with before and after online surveys completed by students, administrators, and teachers. In addition, data were collected from students' online keyboarding lessons (i.e., Typing.com).



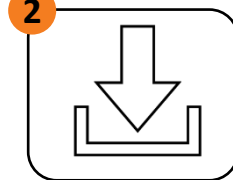
11 schools; data were collected



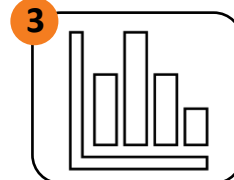
21 classrooms



1 Pre-survey



2 Program Implementation



3 Data collection from online keyboarding lessons



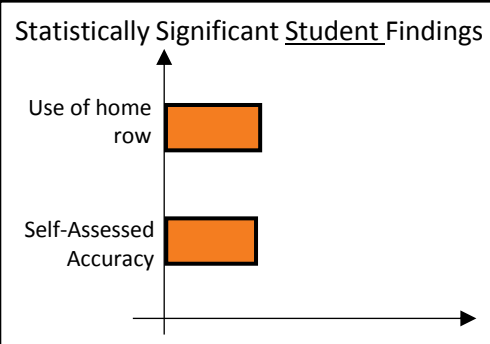
4 Post survey

Key Findings



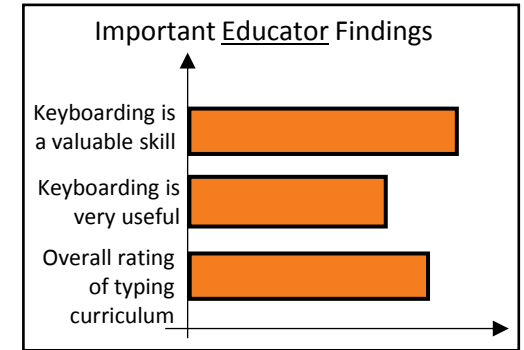
Key Student Findings

- Students found learning to type challenging, but **enjoyed it** and found it **useful**.
- Improved self-perceptions of **keyboarding knowledge**.
- Increased self-perceptions of increased **accuracy**.



Key Educator Findings

- **Favorable viewpoints** of keyboarding
- Keyboarding should be taught in **primary grades**.
- Keyboarding should be **integrated** in learning.
- Most educators felt the **typing curriculum** was excellent to very good.



Next Steps



Integrate keyboarding **within existing subjects**



Include keyboarding as part of **ICT standards and digital fluency improvements**



Further research on long-term benefits of keyboarding instruction



K E E P K E Y B O A R D I N G

