



Mental *health* Strategy



Mission:

Together we create safe, inclusive, caring and supportive environments that enhance as well as promote mental health and well-being.

Vision:

DSB Ontario North East believes that mental health is key to student success and well-being.

Mental *health* Strategy

AREA OF FOCUS	Mental Health and Substance Misuse		
BACK-GROUND	<p>The DSB Ontario North East Mental Health Strategy was developed to improve the mental health and well-being of students within the board. It includes three core elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to support the development of standard processes and protocols that align with the Ontario Mental Health Strategy, promote accountability and define pathways to care; 2) to enhance mental health awareness, literacy and expertise; and 3) to adopt a three-tiered framework to integrate promotion, prevention and intervention programs within existing networks, and to build the capacity of the school system to deliver evidence-based mental health and well-being services to students. <p>This initiative has been operating since the winter of 2013.</p>		
TARGET AUDIENCE	Elementary and high school students, staff, parents and administrators of District School Board Ontario North East		
STRATEGY OBJECTIVES	The Strategy aims to increase awareness that student engagement and achievement is contingent upon student mental health and well-being. It places emphasis on integrating service delivery within a caring, safe, inclusive and supportive environment. It addresses the needs of the students by delivering school-based mental health and well-being programs. Moreover, it involves all stakeholders from teachers to students, parents, senior administration and support staff, as well as community partners.		
SETTING	The strategy is implemented across the DSB Ontario North East school system.		
KEY COMPONENTS	The strategy is designed to provide a coordinated, evidence-based approach to support student mental health and well-being. It incorporates a tiered framework of intervention. Tier one addresses mental health promotion, tier two targets prevention programs for particular student populations and tier three includes monitoring and liaison services that triangulate students who are at risk or who have needs with the school and community. The strategy integrates pre-existing school and community programs and resources into a greater network for a more efficient and effective service delivery model that fosters the mental health and well-being of all students.		
EVALUATION DESIGN	This initiative is still in the early stages of implementation. However, it will be imperative to evaluate specific implementation stages and programs as they are rolled out.		
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