

A Vision for Full Service Community Schools in Greater Sudbury

Prepared for the CGS Advisory Panel on Children and Youth, May 2012

Our Vision for Full Service Community Schools

We envision a network of Full Service Community Schools selected by School Boards, in partnership with community stakeholders, in strategic, neighbourhood locations. These schools would work towards hosting a range of services for all children, families and neighbours offered during the school day, as well as during out-of-school hours.

Services will be determined by engaging neighbourhood stakeholders: students and parents, School Council, school staff, local structures (business associations, ratepayers or playground associations, Community Action Networks, Best Start Advisory Committees and local churches/faith communities).

Full Service Community Schools will:

- Use publicly funded schools to help meet the complex needs of families in our communities.
- Open schools as neighbourhood hubs- build partnerships to ease school burdens.
- Operate through partnerships with community agencies.
- Provide on-site support services to children and families through coordinated partnerships with community agencies.
- Overcome social and economic barriers to learning and participating.
- Enhance youth and parent engagement and community involvement.
- Welcome diversity.
- Recognize responsive community schools as a key to Poverty Reduction.

Full Service Community Schools will offer:

- Before and after school programs, clubs, recreation for children, youth and families.
- Programs and supports for children and families (Child Care, Best Start Family Centres, Parenting Programs, Adult Skill Development)
- Mental Health and Public Health staff to offer comprehensive programs and supports to students and the community.
- At least one "Open School" evening per week.
- A welcoming "community room" open during the school day, where possible.
- Dedicated community development staffing to develop, promote and support activities and partnerships, as funding is available.
- And others based on community needs

"Strong schools linked to strong communities have the potential to be centres of change, innovation and equity."
People for Education

Stakeholders will include:

Children, families, educators, children and youth serving organizations, neighbourhoods, businesses, law enforcement and recreation providers.

Next steps:

- Support the Ministry of Education identified "Priority schools" to pilot this model.
- Advocate to Ministries of Children and Youth, Education, Health and Local Governments for support to the Full Service Community Schools vision.
- Advocate to Government Funders to collaborate in order to fund school space for community use.
- Seek dedicated funding to hire Community Development resources.
- Educate and engage all stakeholders to work together towards Full Service Community Schools



Want to find out more?

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