



# STUDENT RE-ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

“with a little help and a lot of support, I finally was able to work towards what I needed to do to become a better member of society!”

*Kayla, former student*

**ANDREA GERBER**

Re-engagement  
Program Teacher



**JO-DEE DESJARDINE**

Re-engagement  
Program Lead

- Seek out students aged 18-21 who are (or at risk of) leaving school before completing all of their graduation requirements
- Attempt to re-engage them and help them earn credits and/or Community Involvement Hours needed in order to obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (or Certificate)



# Ontario Secondary School Diploma Diplôme d'études secondaires de l'Ontario

This Diploma is granted to  
Ce diplôme est décerné à

**18 Compulsory Credits**

a student of

**12 Optional Credits**

who has fulfilled the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma  
in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Education, Ontario

qui a rempli les conditions requises pour le diplôme d'études secondaires de l'Ontario  
en vertu de la réglementation du ministère de l'Éducation de l'Ontario

**GOAL**

**40 Hours  
Community  
Involvement**

day of SEPTEMBER 19 89  
jour de

*Chris ...*  
Minister of Education/Ministre  
*Shail ...*  
Principal of School/Directeur

# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

3 Main Aspects of Re-engagement

LEFT & RETURN  
TO EARN CREDITS

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT  
HOURS ONLY (have all credits)

AT RISK STUDENTS

# STUDENTS NO LONGER ENROLLED

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS ONLY

- Assess student needs; determine barriers to completion
- Provide support as needed, in:
  - ◆ finding appropriate opportunities
  - ◆ obtaining signatures/confirmation
  - ◆ advocating on student's behalf
  - ◆ arranging transportation
  - ◆ addressing any other challenges



## RETURN FOR CREDITS

- Potential ways to re-engage students:
  - Regular school classroom (rare)
  - COPE programs
  - AMDEC (online courses)
  - ACE (continuous entry online co-op)
  - Credits via Re-engagement Program
    - ◆ co-op & other credits
- Provide support as needed to work on course materials
- Provide support as needed to work on CIH

# PREVENTATIVE INVOLVEMENT

- Students still enrolled in school
  - ◆ deemed AT-RISK of not graduating with their cohort
- Support varies based on student need, but could include:
  - ◆ providing support to complete course materials
  - ◆ providing support to obtain CIH
  - ◆ acting as a caring adult; help them with coping skills/problem solving regarding barriers/etc.



**Did you know that young adults with a high school diploma who live in Huron and Perth Counties earn at least \$70.00 per week\* more than those young adults who did not finish high school?**

We can help you get the 40 hours of community involvement that is standing in the way of earning your OSSD. Visit one of the volunteer organizations to see what opportunities exist for you, or call for more information.

*We want to help you earn your diploma!*

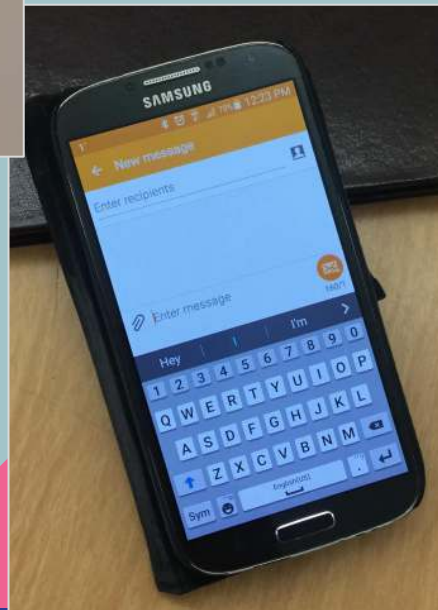
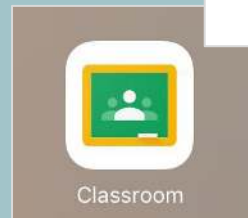
Contact Jo-Dee DesJardine /Andrea Gerber  
Student Re-engagement  
jodedesj@fc.amdsb.ca or text 519-615-1406  
andrgerb@fc.amdsb.ca or text 519-274-3254

**HAND IN YOUR  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS NOW FOR A  
CHANCE TO WIN  
AN IPAD!**

**"Out of all the things in life that be taken away from you,  
education is something that cannot be stolen or revoked."\*\***

# THE LOGISTICS: How We Work With Students

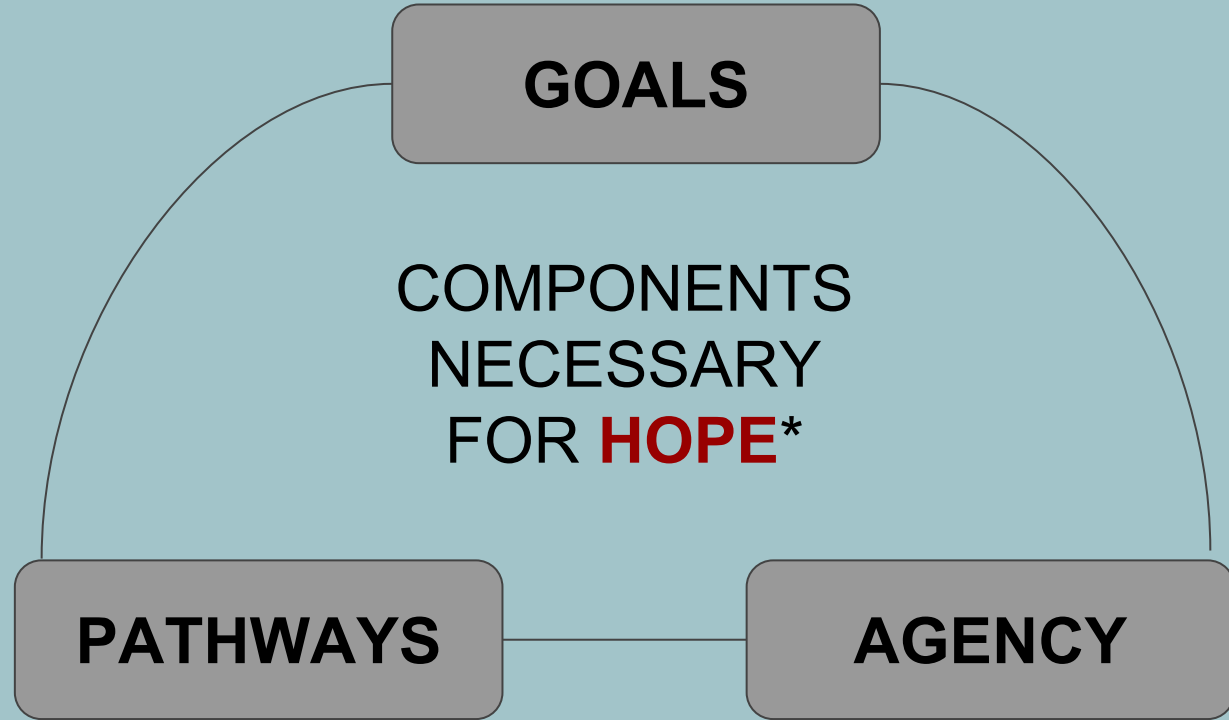
- Obtain contact information
  - ◆ coordinate meetings to register students
- Meet and work with students
  - ◆ usually one-on-one
  - ◆ Google Classroom/GAFE for online course materials
- Maintain contact
  - ◆ primarily by texting/messaging
- Advocate, Support & Encourage
  - ◆ refer to/communicate with agencies & resources as needed
- Congratulate & Celebrate!



## THE STRUGGLE

In order for students to feel motivated to work towards their OSSD, **they need to genuinely believe it can happen:**

i.e. HOPE



\* Brown, B. (2015). *Rising Strong*. New York, New York: Spiegel & Grau (Random House).



# ROADBLOCKS & CHALLENGES

Let's hear a little bit from our students about what their challenges have been, and what has been most beneficial for them.

“I love how much this program is tailored to each individual...so many people have been given up on, but with this program it is like a second chance at life”

*Rebecca*; former student

# Community Resources & Connections

Utilize community supports and local organizations as much as possible. Includes:

- Dual credit programming
  - ◆ AMDSB + various colleges
- Conestoga College Career Centre & Programs
- Youth Matters
- LEAP Program
- Job Shadow Experiences
- Public Health Unit
- Choices for Change
- etc.



# 2014 - 2015 School Year

## Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

- 13 graduates with CIH support
- 13 graduates completing credits via Student Re-engagement Program + CIH support
- 2 graduates from other programs + receiving re-engagement support

## Ontario Secondary School Certificates (OSSC)

- 3 students earned OSSC with credits earned in Re-engagement Program

## Additional Success:

- 3 re-engaged students were able to earn remaining credits during summer school
- 5 re-engaged students completed their last required credits via the program; only remaining requirement is CIH

“If it wasn’t for this program I don’t know where I would be right now but I can guarantee not as happy as I am now, and without a high school diploma.”

*Laura, former student*