



ONTARIO PUBLIC
SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

(For the purposes of this survey alternative education is defined as any program/approach that supports students who are not successfully engaged in school and require an alternate delivery model)

Note: The program/strategy/initiative must have been in operation for a minimum of one year.

School Board: Trillium Lakelands DSB

Contact Person and Email Address: Traci Hubbert traci.hubbart@tldsb.on.ca

Name of Program/Initiative/Strategy: R.E.A.L. (Return, Earn and Learn)

Hyperlinks to Documents or Website(s) Describing this Program/Initiative/Strategy:

Alternate Education Website: anewstart.ca

Description of Program/Initiative/Strategy

The focus is on programs/initiatives/strategies that increase student engagement, confidence, achievement and well-being. In the brief description please provide answers to the following questions: Where the program/initiative/strategy is delivered (school/board locations)? Who is responsible for delivering and monitoring the program/initiative/strategy? Who is the target audience? Are there any community partnerships involved? Are there any staffing or budget implications? Are there any special resources required? What are your indicators of success, etc.?

R.E.A.L. (Return, Earn and Learn) is a continuous intake program that is offered at six sites around the board including sites in Lindsay, Fenelon Falls, Haliburton, Gravenhurst, Bracebridge and Huntsville as well as in our classrooms at the Central East Correctional Centre. The R.E.A.L. program is delivered by teachers who are responsible for supervising students and supporting them as they work through independent modules. Students complete one course at a time and in many cases where possible students are also enrolled in a co-op credit where they are able to continue to earn income while also earning credits. The R.E.A.L. program allows students to start a credit at any time during the school year.

R.E.A.L. targets adult students who have returned to school and are working towards graduation but who are unable to attend school on a full time, daily basis as they are juggling jobs as well as families. The R.E.A.L. program allows students in conjunction with their teacher to establish realistic deadlines within a six week time frame which can be extended to a maximum of twelve weeks.

Success indicators include the numbers of credits issued, pass and retention rates along with graduation rates in combination with students involved in the Day School Program.

What has been the impact on Student Learning?

The R.E.A.L. program has been an excellent model for adults who return to school. Many of our adult students are juggling jobs as well as families. The R.E.A.L. program allows students to start a credit at any time during the school year and allows them the opportunity to complete required credits in a timely manner without having to wait for a set course to be available in day school.

During the 2016/2017 school year 1067.5 REAL school credits were earned. In 2016/2017 in conjunction with the Day School program 162 students graduated from an Alternate Education and Training Centre.