



Date of Meeting: 2021 Jan 26

Item #: 12.a

REPORT TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Council <input type="checkbox"/> Program and School Services Advisory Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Working Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
	For Board Meetings: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC <input type="checkbox"/> IN-CAMERA
TITLE OF REPORT:	Suspension Rate Reduction Update to Trustees
PRESENTED BY: (list ONLY those attending the meeting)	Dennis Wright
PRESENTED FOR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Input/Advice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
Recommendation(s): (only required when presented for approval)	
Purpose:	To provide an update to Trustees on suspension reduction at Thames Valley.
Content:	Presentation entitled Update to Trustees: Suspension Reduction at TVDSB.
Cost/Savings:	
Timeline:	Ongoing
Communications:	Ongoing communication with Senior Administration and all Administrators via LSS eNewsletters, COS meetings, PD opportunities, etc.
Appendices:	Appendix A – Presentation – Update to Trustees: Suspension Reduction at TVDSB

Strategic Priority Area(s):

Relationships:	<input type="checkbox"/> Students, families and staff are welcomed, respected and valued as partners.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promote and build connections to foster mutually respectful communication among students, families, staff and the broader community.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Create opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.
Equity and Diversity:	<input type="checkbox"/> Create opportunities for equitable access to programs and services for students.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students and all partners feel heard, valued and supported.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs and services embrace the culture and diversity of students and all partners.
Achievement and Well-Being:	<input type="checkbox"/> More students demonstrate growth and achieve student learning outcomes with a specific focus on numeracy and literacy.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff will demonstrate excellence in instructional practices.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance the safety and well-being of students and staff.

Form Revised June 2019

GOAL: REDUCE OVERALL SUSPENSION RATES ACROSS THE BOARD

- Provide current and relevant information to understand progressive discipline strategies
- School teams use strategies for early intervention, de-escalation and progressive discipline
- Provide learning opportunities to superintendents and administrators to analyze and use suspension data

Thames Valley District School Board

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
AND ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN
19/20

IN MOTION

SUSPENSION RESEARCH



- Once suspended, students have an increased chance of further suspensions, which can start a trajectory of poor performance that continues for years (Cholewa, 2018; Morris and Perry, 2016)
 - Suspensions are also linked to increased rates of grade retention and early school leaving, and decreased engagement, achievement and course completion rates (Cholewa, 2018; Chu, 2018; Hemphill, 2014)
 - Inequities- males, minorities, students living in low SES families, students with disabilities, and students with emotional and behavioural disorders are suspended more often than their peers (Chin, 2012; Brobbey 2018; Cholewa, 2018; Pollock, 2017)
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REMOVAL OF SUSPENSIONS - WHAT THIS MEANS FOR OUR SCHOOLS

- Regular removal of suspension paperwork and Safe Schools Incident Reports ensure the elimination of bias and increase opportunity
- Memo issued to all administrators asking that student discipline records be removed retroactively
- Reinforced retention schedule – removal of new suspension record one year after precipitating event

NEW INITIATIVES



Valley District School Board Promoting Positive Behaviour Toolkit has been designed to provide resources to create positive, safe school climates as we strive to ensure student success. The Thames Valley District School Board recognizes the importance and value of all of our staff working collaboratively to support positive student behaviour. The resource is intended to be a quick reference to help staff understand student learning and social-emotional needs and concerns as they arise. Articles, videos and strategies have been carefully selected to reflect strong research. Resources will be updated on a regular basis adding to the information that is available for schools. Staff and Support Services staff in Safe Schools & Well-Being, Equity, Professional Support Services, and Special Education can access the Promoting Positive Behaviour Toolkit, should they wish more in-depth resources to support their professional practice.



[Positive Behaviour](#)



[Administrator & Leadership Supports](#)



[Safe & Accepting Schools](#)

Promoting Positive Behaviour Toolkit

- Cross-portfolio collaboration designed to support staff with proactive and responsive strategies

Safe and Inclusive Schools Plan

- Collaboration among school, parents and community to develop school-wide strategies to reduce bullying and improve school climate

Restorative Practices

- System wide investment in restorative work
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QUESTIONS?