Early Learning & Education

6.14 Implement coordinated approach to education, building on proven projects in London and other communities, to increase high school graduation rates

CYN Partners will discuss, select and seek endorsement to develop a Pathways to Education™ parallel program for London with Ending Poverty partners, and subsequently seek endorsement from CYN membership.

Partners will conduct evaluation of Boys and Girls Club’s Senior My Action Plan to Education (M. A.P.) to understand the program’s alignment to the evidence-based Pathways to Education™ program. Partners will utilize the results of the evaluation to determine the fit of M.A.P. for the community-wide, coordinated model to increase secondary school graduation rates, and:

- If deemed appropriate, partners will address identified gaps and recommendations for proceeding of the development of an effective model for London.
- If deemed not appropriate, partners will determine next steps for developing a Pathways to Education™ parallel (if endorsed) for London.

Partners will address considerations for developing a Pathways to Education™ parallel for London (if endorsed) identified in Pathways to Education Research, Analysis, and Implementation Options for London’s Child & Youth Network (October 2017) with appropriate stakeholders. Considerations include:

- Determine which organization can serve as host and identify stable resources for long-term investment in the program.
- Determine how the significant and instrumental Student Parent Support Worker role will be integrated into the model.
- Determine if there are stable, viable sources of support to meet the expected annual costs of a typical Pathways to Education™ program.

Youth Connector Training

The development of this initiative began in 2015 when the Child and Youth Network consulted over 700 young people, service providers, parents, teachers, guidance counsellors, and more about how to support young people to graduate from high school. From this, several youth-focused initiatives related to high school graduation were brought forward in the 2017-2021 Child & Youth Agenda.
Through these interviews there was a clear theme that meaningful, supportive relationships with adults and peers in mentorship roles are critical to the success of young people. In response to this learning, the CYN moved forward with its initiative to develop a training program that can build on the skills and capacity of individuals working with youth across the community.

**School Within a College (SWAC)**

Fanshawe College has partnered with Thames Valley District School Board and London District Catholic School Board to offer five sections of School Within A College. SWAC is offered at London, St. Thomas and Woodstock campuses.

SWAC is designed for disengaged, underachieving students who are in their last year of secondary school and require 8 to 10 credits to graduate. Students can request more information on the application process from their home school Guidance Department or Alternative Education program.

SWAC students attend classes on campus five days per week and four of those days are spent with a secondary teacher working on OSSD credits. One day per week students attend a Dual Credit course (College delivered class taught by College faculty). Students have the opportunity to obtain up to four College credits over two semesters.