

PROGRAMS AND STUDENT SERVICES

Updates on Education, Innovation, Programs and Services

A Monthly E-Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2019

Promoting Healthy Minds and Bodies Through the Expansion of Leadership Committees Throughout the SRCE!



The four Child and Youth Care Practitioners in the Strait Regional Centre for Education are working collaboratively with the SRCE's Health Promoting Schools Consultant to establish leadership committees in schools throughout the Strait Region. This proactive initiative focuses on building relationships and leadership skills among our students, and promotes positive social contact, exercise and helping others. All key determinants of good mental health and a focus in the Mental Health Strategy that has been developed by the SRCE.



Schools include: St. Andrews Consolidated, Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy, Bayview Education Centre, Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre/Academy, HM MacDonald Elementary School, and Whycomomagh Education Centre

"The leadership committees are a fantastic initiative that aligns nicely with Mental Health outcomes and supports the social emotional learning for our students which develops their problem solving skills. I am willing to bet that any school who commits to supporting a leadership committee will see a decrease in office discipline referrals". Tyler Shea, CYCP, Antigonish Family of Schools



"I am really excited about being on the leadership committee because we are inspiring other students to become leaders, to solve problems and have better cooperation with each other." Student, St. Andrews Consolidated School



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Expanding Partnerships to Promote Positive Relationships, Social Emotional Health and Mental Wellness!



Dr. Chris Gilham, Faculty of Education, St. Francis Xavier University and Faye Fraser, SRCE SchoolsPlus Community Outreach Worker, facilitate training on evidence-based programming to support mental wellness.

SRCE Guidance, Youth Health Centre Nurses, SchoolsPlus Outreach Workers, Child and Youth Care Practitioners, along with other partners from the RCMP, Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, St. F.X. and staff from CBVRCE participated in training aimed at promoting mental wellness, positive self-esteem, healthy relationships and good decision making among our youth.

The increase in trained personnel has increased the capacity for all students throughout the region to access programs that promote good mental health.

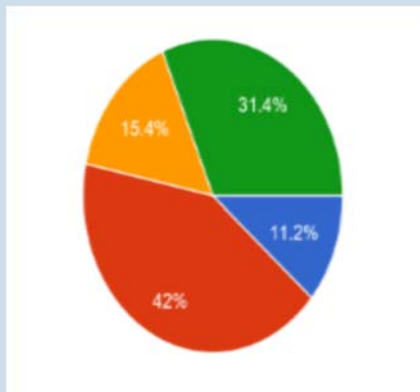
Created by Teenmentalhealth.org in collaboration with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and a partnership between St. F.X. University, EECD and the Strait Regional Centre for Education, **Know Before You Go** will be made available to all Grade 12 students in the SRCE to support them as they transition from high school. Topics addressed are mental health, personal development, self-care, stress reduction and help seeking.

Through a partnership with the Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, St. F.X. and the New Brunswick Community College, and two successful pilots in the SRCE, **Together We Can**, is now available to all girls in Grades 7 and 8. This evidenced-based, social emotional program helps empower girls and build positive identities. The focus next year will be on adapting this program and establishing additional groups for boys in the region.

Self-identified, School-based Professional Learning Series

220 Teachers Responded to the Professional Learning Survey... Including 53 Teachers Who Responded to the Math 5-8 Survey

Here Are Your Number One Choices!



-  Culturally Responsive Practices: The Next Steps
-  Mental Health 101
-  Oral Language & Play Based Learning
-  High Impact Instructional Strategies

Teachers will be contacted directly to schedule your workshop in your school or in a school near you!

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View the three-minute video linked below, highlighting what EECD has accomplished so far and what is yet to come .

CRP Update 2019 (without voice-over)

https://youtu.be/WPcXRNf_lao

CRP Update 2019 (with voice-over)

https://youtu.be/blav_SSGBN4

Currently Under Development:

- ⇒ CRP website to house CRP videos, future online resources and learning tools, teaching tips, etc.
- ⇒ Video clips of an interview with Dr. Hollie, which address key CRP principles and questions will also be posted to the website.
- ⇒ A common definition and vision statement for CRP.
- ⇒ Planning for professional learning opportunities for teachers and administrators.
- ⇒ Resources for all schools.

SRCE Culturally Responsive Practices Strategy

Current Priorities

- ⇒ Cultural Workshops have currently been offered in 10/21 schools throughout the SRCE. Under the leadership of Miranda Gould, Coordinator of Mi'kmaq Education Services, this continues to be available to all schools and all grades.
- ⇒ Provide opportunities for educational leaders to participate in the Kairos Blanket Exercise. (Principals and Coordinators completed, Guidance and Vice Principals scheduled)
- ⇒ East Antigonish Education Centre/Academy and SRCE Programs Staff in partnership with the Paq'ntkek Education Committee, have established an Alternate Education Program within the community, incorporating cultural teachings, land-based learning and academic programming.
- ⇒ Analysis of assessment results with school administrators and strategic planning to address the achievement gap.
- ⇒ School-based CRP workshops, as selected by teachers.

<https://dbdli.ca/eventshttps://tinyurl.com/yay6vxav>

African Heritage Month Music and Dancing



Students from Dr. JH Gillis, AEC and SAJS, under the leadership of Morgan Gero, Teacher at SAJS, demonstrate their talents in African music and dance for SRCE Principals.

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