

Psychology Month, Dufferin-Peel C.D.S.B.

Psychology staff are part of a multi-disciplinary team, and work collaboratively with educators, students, families, and other support services to develop a sense of well being for everyone and excellence in student achievement. We can help to achieve this goal by helping learners feel encouraged and empowered to reach academic success by providing interventions at all levels or TIERS.

Targeted or Selected Intervention

Psychology Staff provide consultation and/or direct supports for targeted or selected students who are not making the expected progress in the regular program. In general 5 to 10 percent of students may require Tier 2 interventions. Typically, these students participate in small-group settings for extra support or intervention. Those who do not respond to Tier 2 approaches require more intensive interventions at Tier 3.

Psychology Staff provide the following types of Tier 2 services:

Academic:

Review and evaluate available programs and research to facilitate the selection of the most effective use of intensive interventions aimed at improving students' decoding, reading comprehension, and language skills e.g., Empower Reading Program, Corrective Reading, and Language for Learning. Participate on teams to review and monitor student progress and recommend specific services and programs.

Learning Skills:

Class wide groups for identified secondary students on study skills, and specific groups for students to foster the development of executive functioning, study skills, work habits, or strategies to deal with test anxiety.

Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Skills:

Class-wide groups for targeted students enrolled in special education settings, such as groups for ASD students, students enrolled in alternative education, to provide help with executive skills, social skills, stress management, or peer relationships. There are also groups to help students with Developmental Disabilities develop social skills. In selected schools, Young Minds at Play, a prevention program for students in the primary grades, is available.



Mental Health Support: Groups for students who have experienced bereavement, family breakdown, stress, and anxiety have been offered, as well as referrals and liaison with relevant community resources.

For further information contact the psychology staff member at your school or Dr. Debra Lean, Chief Psychologist. You can access this or other interesting articles at: www.dpccsb.org/psychology