

OSSTF Educational Team: Working together to support all students

OSSTF believes in a full service school that provides real opportunities for students.

“It is our mission to provide a full educational team in every school and education facility. To achieve the best results possible, we need to convince decision—makers at the provincial and school board level, parents groups and other education partners that by working as a team we can achieve the results that we want for Ontario’s students.”

Students have the right to services provided by the educational team

District school boards in Ontario hire employees and receive funding through the Ministry of Education. There are many cited advantages for this practice and evidence has shown that students, parents and schools are best served when services are provided by employees of local school boards.

Professionals help keep students in school and on the right track

PSSP workers are vital members of the educational team and help students with learning, education, social, emotional and communication needs. They provide a critical link between students, parents and teachers to best serve the needs of the most vulnerable, challenged and at risk students.

Educational Employees:

Share in the vision, goals and initiatives for student success;

Have a thorough knowledge of and understand the complex organizational structure of the education system;

Are members of an educational school team providing support and expertise to school staff on a daily basis;

Support administrators and teachers in addressing problems which interfere with students’ achievement;

Have access to student information and records to plan appropriate intervention;

Are cost effective and efficient;

Keep our schools and workplaces healthy and safe;

Promote parent and student participation in the education process;

Ensure that educational goals and academic success are priorities;

Provide professional development for all staff that is relevant and linked to the curriculum and the educational needs of students;

For more information visit our website or contact us at:

Ken Jeffers - President
kjeffers@osstfd12.com

OSSTF District 12 Toronto
1482 Bathurst Street
Toronto, Ontario M5P 3H1
Phone 416-393-8900 ext. 228

www.pssp.on.ca

OSSTF Toronto Professional Student Services Personnel



The Multidisciplinary Educational Team

Now more than ever, in our highly complex, highly diverse society with its demands for international competitiveness, equity and personal fulfillment, we must create the conditions for every single student to reach their full potential.

To achieve this goal we need a full educational team working to support our students. Many types of educational workers are needed for a full service school model to work. At the center of the team is the student - the reason the team exists.

Education is more than curriculum.
It is a life changing experience.

WHO WE ARE

Over the decades we have been assisting students, parents and schools address a very wide range of psycho-social problems, disabilities and other roadblocks to success for thousands of students.

A partial list of the problems we help students cope with and overcome include:

Bullying; learning disabilities; communication disorders; developmental impairments; physical handicaps; depression; anxiety; suicidal ideation; oppositional behaviour; poverty and homelessness; physical and sexual abuse; racial, sexual and gender based harassment; school phobia and other attendance problems; sex and pregnancy; drug and alcohol abuse; and school and individual crisis intervention and grief counselling.

Our services have been provided through the base funding in school board budgets, allowing for the establishment of on-going and fully integrated services. This model of fully integrated, multi-disciplinary teams which pair the pedagogical expertise of teachers with a full range of experts in psycho-social, physical and emotional problems have allowed countless students to continue to attend and succeed in our schools.

ATTENDANCE COUNSELLORS

We are centralized staff and provide services to Secondary Schools. There are two Attendance Counsellors assigned per quadrant. We are mandated by the Education Act to serve students of compulsory school age who have exhibited pronounced attendance problems. Our work is fully integrated with other student support services and we are key members of school's interdisciplinary teams.

CHILD AND YOUTH COUNSELLORS

We hold a degree in Child and Youth Care or Bachelor's of Social Work or a Bachelor of Education and CYW diploma. We work as members of an interdisciplinary team comprised of the Principal, Teacher(s), the regional Chief of Social Work, Safe Schools, Guidance, Student Success, Community Support Workers and others. We have dual reporting responsibility to both the Chief of Social Work and on site Administrator.

CHILD AND YOUTH WORKERS

We are accredited with a diploma from a Community College or hold a BA in Child and Youth Care. We belong to the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors. We are members of the multi-disciplinary team comprised of the Principal, and /or Vice-Principal, teacher, the Special Education Consultant, Psychoeducational Consultant and other support staff.

EDUCATIONAL AUDIOLOGISTS

There is one Audiologist working at the TDSB. The TDSB Audiologist is a member of the school teams and is registered in CASLPO (College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario).

MULTILINGUAL TEAM LEADERS

First language assessment service has been offered since 1977 in the legacy board of North York. Multilingual Team Leaders are members of the central ESL/ELD resource in the Instruction Department who assist schools in the provision of appropriate instructional programs for ESL/ELD learners. Education and qualifications of the Multilingual Team Leaders include a PH.D, M.S.W., M.E.D. in Psychology, ESL diploma, teacher certification

OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

We are all registered members of the Ontario College of Occupational Therapists or the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario. We provide services to students in the Low Incidence Programs, as well central services including the ASD/PDD Team, Work and Employability Skills Education Resource Team, and SEA Claims Assessment Resource Team. We hold a Masters Degree and/or equivalent in our respective fields.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Our staff includes both Psychologists and Psychological Associates who are registered with the College of Psychologists of Ontario. In addition, staff with the necessary academic qualifications that are working toward registration with the College work under supervision as Psychoeducational Consultants. We all have specialized training in psychology as it applies to educational settings.

SPEECH & LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

We are professionals with training at the Masters Degree level in prevention, assessment, identification, counselling, and intervention of human communication disorders, and are registered by the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO).

SOCIAL WORKERS

We are part of the multidisciplinary educational team of the Board. The academic qualifications for School Social Workers range from a Masters Degree (MSW) to a Doctorate in Social Work (Ph.D. or D.S.W.). We are certified members of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW).

STUDENT EQUITY PROGRAM ADVISORS

Historically we have had a diversity of backgrounds. We have had teaching, community development or youth worker backgrounds. Our training incorporates a range of methodologies from popular education, community outreach, youth leadership, mediation and advocacy to a detailed understanding of human rights, equity issues, laws, and policies. We hold either Masters or Bachelors Degrees in Education and Child and Youth Work Diplomas. We are members of both the College of Teachers and the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors. We have board wide responsibilities and report to the Executive Officer of Student and Community Equity.