



ONTARIO PUBLIC
SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

(For the purposes of this survey alternative education is defined as any program/approach that supports students who are not successfully engaged in school and require an alternate delivery model)

School Board: Limestone DSB

Name of Program/Initiative/Strategy: Katarokwi Learning Centre

The focus is on programs/initiatives/strategies that increase student engagement, confidence, achievement and well-being. In the brief description please provide answers to the following questions: Where the program/initiative/strategy is delivered (school/board locations)? Who is responsible for delivering and monitoring the program/initiative/strategy? Who is the target audience? Are there any community partnerships involved? Are there any staffing or budget implications? Are there any special resources required? What are your indicators of success, etc.?

Katarokwi Learning Centre (KLC) is an alternative education centre within LDSB. The centre houses The River Program (indigenous), and KLC also supports students from grade 9 to 12+, who benefit from an alternative setting to a traditional high school. KLC is housed in a former elementary school. KLC is supervised by the Principal of Alt/Con Ed, and supported with a VP.

The success of KLC is in large part because of the community partnerships that it has nurtured. These include:

Kingston Community Health Centres/Ontario Works/Literacy Basic Skills

- Child minding for parents
- Good Food Box Packing each month
- Bridges Out of Poverty Getting Ahead course

Loving Spoonful

KEYS

Youth Diversion

Pathways to Education

Queen's Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre/Right to Play

One Roof Youth Community Hub - access services and supports for our students – we outreach and provide an educator there once/week

Metis Nation of Ontario (MNO)

Special resources have also been used, including

- Transportation funding from MNO.
- PRO Grant
- Indigenous Elders
- Authors and artists
- Construction equipment and materials

Indicators of Success include total credits attained, school attendance rates, tracking engagement in programs offered, and outings/field trips, student survey and focus groups to get student voice.

What has been the impact on Student Learning?

Student engagement has increased with the addition of partnerships and a focus on providing students with multiple services through the site. A focus on engagement has meant a change in programming to offer programs and events that students are interested in and see as relevant to their futures. This change has resulted in improved attendance and engagement by students, which translates to greater attainment of credits. KLC obtains student voice from students, and uses that to plan forward and determine their next steps.