

## **Halifax Regional School Board**

### **Focus on Learning: Response to the 2015 Individual Program Plan Review-Update**

#### **Purpose**

To provide the Governing Board with an update on the Halifax Regional School Board's (HRSB) response to the recommendations from the 2015 Individual Program Plan (IPP) Review.

#### **Background**

In the spring of 2015, all schools boards in Nova Scotia participated in a province-wide review of individual program plans. In February 2016, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) released *Individual Program Plan Review – Themes and Recommendations*. The report contained nine recommendations directed to the department and six recommendations for school boards.

At the October 28, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, report number 2015-10-36 *Individual Program Plan Review 2014-2015* was presented. This report outlined the review process and a summary of the findings. Areas of strength, areas requiring attention, and next steps for HRSB were also included in this report. At the May 25, 2016 Regular Board meeting, report number 2016-05-21 *Response to the Individual Program Plan Review* was presented to provide Governing Board members with an update on the progress of specific actions to date in response to the recommendations from the IPP review. Another report, number 2016-11-45 *Plan to Monitor the Progress of Students who Follow an Individual Program Plan* was presented at the November 16, 2016 Committee of the Whole. This report provided the Governing Board with an update on the response to recommendation 2.6 of the Auditor General to the HRSB in his report, November 2015.

At the November 30, 2016 Regular Board Meeting, the Governing Board passed the following motion:

*It was moved and seconded (Yee/Jakeman) that the Governing Board request an Information report to be presented at the future Committee of the Whole meeting in fall 2017 for the following recommendations outlined in Department of Education and Early Childhood report entitled "Individual Program Plan (IPP) Review Themes and Recommendations"*

*"1. Use the revised Program Planning Modules to support professional learning for teachers to ensure that specific strengths, challenges and interests are used to inform programming decisions (Adaptations and/ or IPPs).*

*2. Continue to engage in professional development for teachers regarding TIENET. Ensure that teachers and program planning team members keep up-to-date records in TIENET, including all meeting minutes and a log of correspondence with parents/guardians.*

*3. Support educators to consider equity education issues as a part of the program planning process and to promote culturally responsive instruction for all students, and in particular for students of Aboriginal ancestry and African descent.*

*4. Ensure that there are mechanisms in place to consider input from Student Support Workers and Native Student Advisors in the program planning process.*

*5. Ensure that Transition Planning is included in IPPs where appropriate.*

*6. Do random audits to ensure compliance with the IPP criteria."*

**(CARRIED)**

## **Content**

This report will provide an update to the Governing Board members on the response of the HRSB to the six recommendations from the February 2016 EECD report *Individual Program Plan Review – Themes and Recommendations*.

## **Funding Details**

N/A

## **Timeline**

N/A

## **Appendices**

PowerPoint presentation

## **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee of the Whole accept this report for information.

## **Communications**

<b>AUDIENCE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
<b>Committee of the Whole</b>	<b>Alison King</b>	<b>November 8, 2017</b>

## **Contact**

For further information, please contact Alison King, Director Program at [aking@hrsb.ca](mailto:aking@hrsb.ca) or 902-464-2000 ext. 2567

# Response to the Individual Program Plan Review 2015: Update

Alison King, Director Program & Student Services  
Marlene Broderick, Coordinator, Student Services  
November 8, 2017

# Recommendation #1: Revised Program Planning Modules

- Strengths, Challenges, & Interests
- Informing Programming Decisions
  - Adaptations
  - Individual Program Plan

# Recommendation #2: TIENET

- Ongoing Professional Development
- Record-Keeping
  - Minutes of Meetings
  - Communication Logs with Parents & Guardians

# **Recommendation #3: Meeting the Needs of All Students**

- Promoting Culturally Responsive Instruction

# **Recommendation #4: Input from Student Support Workers**

- African Nova Scotian
- Mi'Kmaq & Aboriginal

# Recommendation #5: Transition Planning

- Included in Individual Program Plans where appropriate

# Recommendation #6: Compliance with Provincial IPP Criteria

- Review of last year's/semester's progress
  - Current assessment of individual learning needs considering strengths, challenges, interests, and racial/cultural identity
  - Meeting Minutes reflect program and service options, including Adaptations
  - Program Planning Process: A Guide for Parents & Guardians has been provided to and reviewed with Parents/Guardians
  - Parents/Guardians and students (where appropriate) have actively participated in Program Planning Process
- The above criteria have been met.*
- The above criteria have not been met and require an Administrator Override*

## Reasons for Override:

- Student is transitioning into Grade Primary with identified special needs that will require the development of an IPP
- Student is transitioning from another school or jurisdiction and IPP has been reviewed and criteria has been met
- Parents/Guardians have not participated in Program Planning Team Meetings. Documentation is on file indicating that multiple attempts have been made and are ongoing to invite them to participate.



# Next Steps...Moving Forward

- **Random Audit**
  - **Compliance with Criteria for Development of an IPP**
- **Monitoring Progress of Students who have Individual Program Plans**