

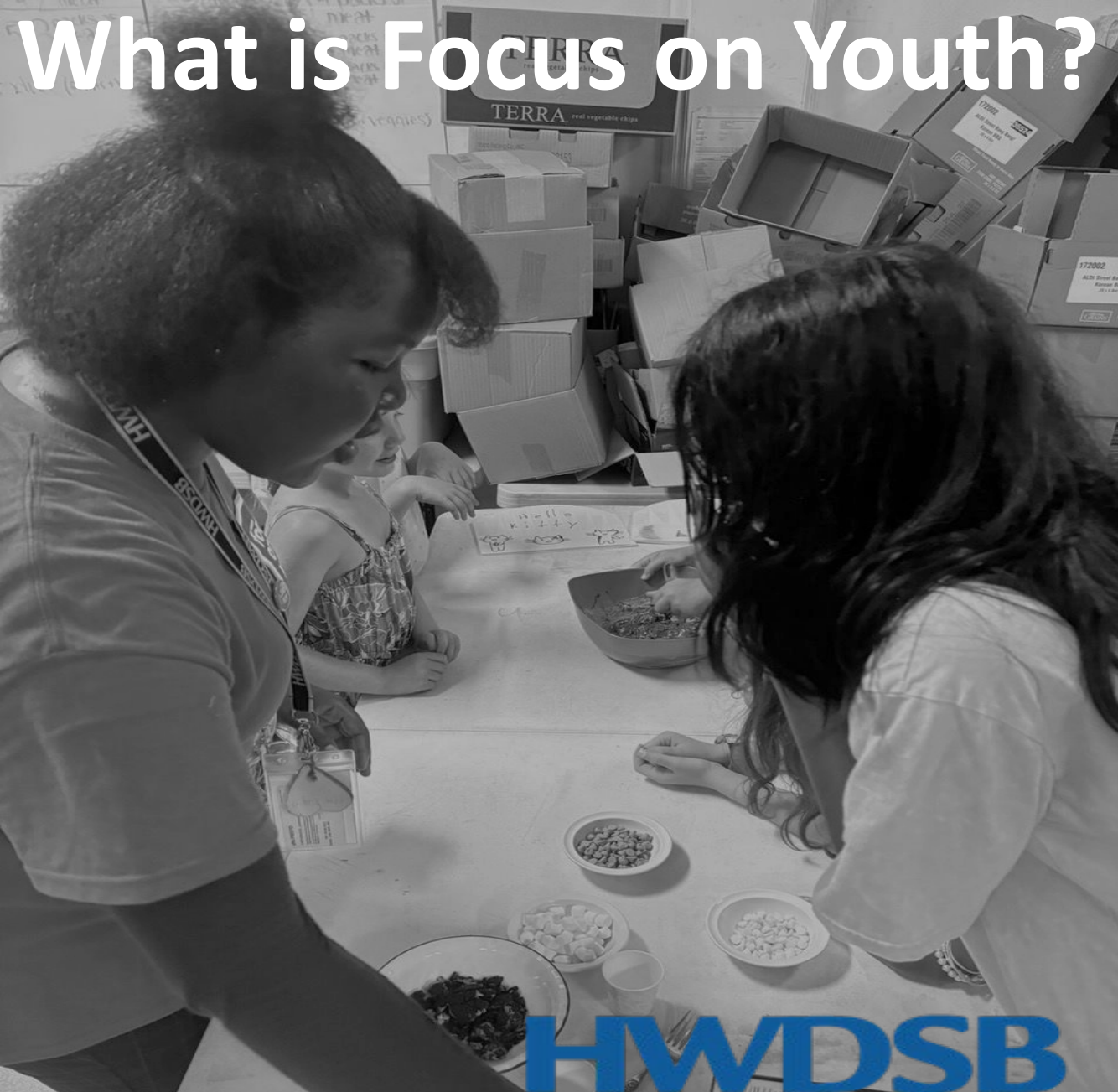
Director's Update

Monday, September 29, 2025

Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini
Director of Education



What is Focus on Youth?



HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.

Connections to the MYSP & BIP

Dignity
Compassion
Trust
Joy

Board Improvement Plan

Improved Literacy, Numeracy, Future Preparedness and Well-Being

Multi-Year Strategic Plan

- Upholding Human Rights, Safety & Well-Being
- Providing Equitable Quality Education
- Collaborating with Students, Families & Communities

Growing Together



HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.

Program Highlights:

- Roughly **500 HWDSB students** applied for a placement position within Focus On Youth.
- **Every applicant** was personally **interviewed** at secondary schools across HWDSB.
- **70** students from **12** secondary schools and **5** alternative education sites received positions.
- HWDSB partnered with **18 community agencies** providing a wide variety of work settings and roles for Focus on Youth student employees.
- Approximately **6581 participants** in Hamilton programs across the city benefited from the work of Focus on Youth student employees.

Collaboration and Improvement in 2025!

- **All applicants were invited to interview preparation seminars and workshops ranging in topics from:** resume/cover letter writing, job searching, and interview skills which were open to any student who applied to the Focus On Youth program, regardless of if they were hired summer.
- **A significantly higher number of Focus on Youth students gained valuable credits:** 37 participated in co-op and cumulatively earned 74 credits (2 per student)
- **New opportunities for growth and future preparedness at Learning Communities & Career Fair:** an in-person event allowing students to meet various community agencies offering employment/volunteer opportunities, as well as professionals sharing their career path journeys.



Thank You

BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.

Great news at Nora Frances Secondary School!

HAMILTON REGION

'Art on their head': Hamilton students learn to cut, colour and style in high school salon

Public board enrolment in hands-on courses has increased 59 per cent since 2020.

© Updated Sept. 23, 2025 at 6:00 a.m. | Sept. 23, 2025 | 3 min read



Cosmetology teacher Carmine Coruzzi instructs his students, including Sienna Morin-Holloway, right, how to apply highlights in class Thursday at Nora Frances Henderson Secondary School.

Cathie Coward/The Hamilton Spectator

HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



Tuesday, September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

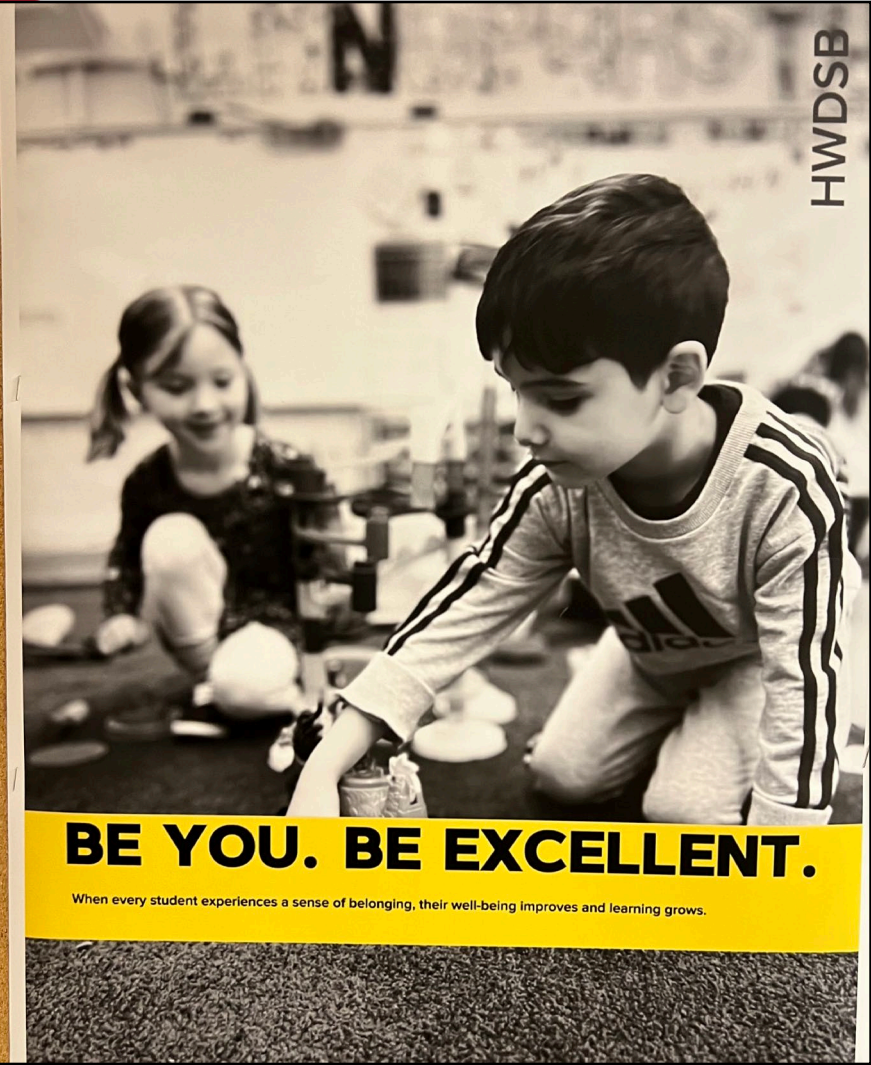
Every Child Matters



Art by Devyn Porter, CC:ROSE member & HWDSB student

HWDSB
Indigenous
Education

HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.

When every student experiences a sense of belonging, their well-being improves and learning grows.

HWDSB



BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.

When every student experiences a sense of belonging, their well-being improves and learning grows.

HWDSB



BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.

When every student experiences a sense of belonging, their well-being improves and learning grows.

HWDSB

HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.