



Date: **October 24, 2023**
 Prepared by: **Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education**
 Subject: **St. Clair Elementary Summer Learning Opportunities 2022-2023**

Background

St. Clair offered in person summer learning camp opportunities for elementary students in grades 1 and 2 with a focus on literacy. Camp was a joint endeavour, which included curriculum, special education and student support and wellbeing team staff joining together to plan and implement a supportive, inclusive summer learning experience. Each year, Summer Learning Camp is an opportunity for staff and students to develop new skills and partnerships. Our multidisciplinary teams included 2 teachers, 1 child and youth worker/social worker, and 1 educational assistant in each classroom “cabin”. Funding for the camp was provided through a variety of sources including CODE Summer Learning grant, Special education and Mental Health and Well being funding.

In elementary, we offered opportunities for grades 1 and 2 at the following sites:

Summer Learning Administration: 2 principals				
Camp Sites	St. Angela Merici Chatham	Holy Family Wallaceburg	St. Joseph Corunna	Holy Trinity Sarnia
Number of Students	Cabin 1: 22 students Cabin 2: 21 students	Cabin 1: 21 students	Cabin 1: 13 students	Cabin 1: 17 students Cabin 2: 19 students
Educator Teams	2 teams (4 educators)	1 team (2 educators)	1 team (2 educators)	2 teams (4 educators)
Educational Assistants	4	2	1	3
Child & Youth Worker or Social Workers	2	1	2	2

Students engaged in camp July 10th through 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily. Staff and students came together face to face to support both their well being and learning needs.

The literacy component of the program was designed with a focus on structured literacy. Students engaged in elements of the Ready to Rise literacy program, which focused on the key elements of structure literacy including phonological awareness, orthographic mapping and letter formation and encoding. In addition to this program, camp staff engaged students in rich read alouds and a wide array of engaging activities to connect their learning.

Camp educators engaged in structured literacy training in preparation for the camp. In a supportive camp environment, staff had the opportunity to learn and develop their own structured literacy skills and strategies and further build their instructional capacity, particularly as they return to their home schools to support students with a range of learning needs.

Students engage in a wide variety of experiences, including community excursions and very special guests each afternoon. This is always a highlight for students, who work hard each morning to further develop their literacy skills and then enjoy learning many other important skills in the arts, science and technology, physical literacy and outdoor education.

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *St. Clair Elementary Summer Learning Opportunities 2022-2023*, for information.