

## **Warren Collegiate Report to the Community June 2019**

Over the course of the last year, our divisional and school focus was on Wellness.

Wellness was defined as: A conscious, self-directed and evolving process of achieving full potential. Wellness is a positive sense of self, spirit and belonging that we feel when our cognitive, emotional, social and physical needs are being met. (Ontario Ministry of Education)

We then broke Wellness into 3 targeted areas:

1. Student Belonging
2. Anxiety/Depression
3. Bullying

On our April 22<sup>nd</sup> school planning day, we as a staff reviewed our goals, celebrating our successes and identifying some next steps. Please see below for a summary of our reflection.

### **Priority Area 1**

To improve student belonging, we chose to implement T.A.G groups or Teacher Advisor Groups consisting of teacher leaders, and students in all grade levels. Using this strategy, we felt it would be a great opportunity for our teachers to make better connections with students and for students to have an adult in the building they could go to.

Some of our highlights this year in the area of belonging were that we had more classrooms open during lunch hours for students to meet in and more groups/clubs were running. This in turn had a positive affect on students, as they were able to associate with peers and staff with like interests. We had an improved canteen this year and MPR. Our canteen was open all day, and the MPR was outfitted with new seating and a TV. This allowed for a more inviting opportunity for students to connect. In October, we took the entire school to see a movie which allowed us to help build a stronger sense of community.

### **Priority Area 2**

In our focus area of Anxiety and Depression our goal was to help reduce the number of students who have indicated high levels of anxiety and depression. We focused this goal around PD for our teachers and the introduction of TAG groups and our Wellness support workers. We also had lessons on study skills and our Nurse Practitioner and Public Health Nurse were here on Wednesday afternoons. We went with a school change in regards to proگرامing where we switched from a termed (all year long) system to a semester system for 2019/2020 to help alleviate stress. We also had a presentation/play on anxiety.

### Priority Area 3

To reduce bullying in Warren Collegiate we tried to be more aware. We spoke about the issue more often through our TAG groups. We had speakers and experts speak with staff and students. We taught more about empathy toward others and this seemed to have a great effect on our school community. We had a goal of creating a reporting platform on line however, that did not happen this year and it is still a goal for the 2019/2020 school year. We also made a conscientious decision to be more visible in the high traffic areas where bullying is reported to be happening. Staff are to be in the hallways before 8:55am and they are to use incident forms for better tracking of students that tend to either get bullied or that are in fact the bullies.

At WCI we always try to add interest based activities for our students. Some of our newer activities are:

- Games Club featuring Dungeons and Dragons.
- Our Volcano Club gained major interest (Rock Band)
- New clubs included; Lego Mindstorm and Spaghetti Bridge building
- Pep rallies
- Celebrations of success for students at assemblies and over the announcements

PATH: Our school PATH is posted by the front door and continues to be our vision for where we are headed. Our mission statement continues to be "To enable students to discover and develop their varied potentials and empower them to meet a multitude of diverse experiences, by providing a safe, healthy, respectful and engaging environment."