



Our Journey to Achieve, Belong, Create

Executive Council | September 8, 2026



District School Board
Ontario North East

Our Vision

**Preparing our
learners for their
future success.**

Our Mission

**Providing
meaningful growth
opportunities.**

Our Strategic Priorities



Achieve

Belong

Create



Achieve

Uphold high expectations in diverse learning and working environments.

Learning Environments

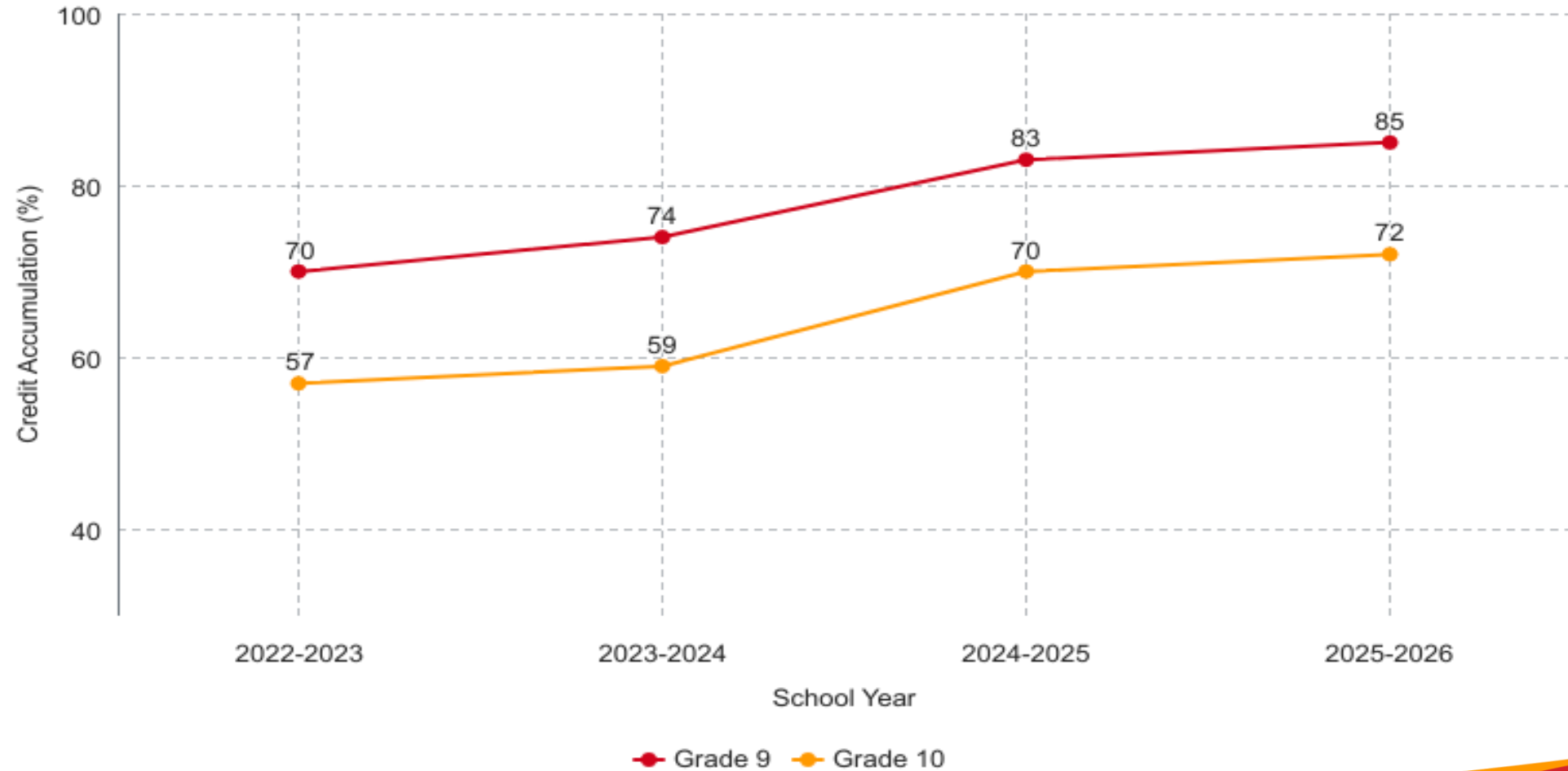
Pathways

Learning Opportunities

Achieve Goal

83% of Grade 9 students and 78% of Grade 10 students who are working towards an OSSD will earn all their credits.

Credit Accumulation Data



What We Have Learned

- Semester 2 midterm progress was significantly below Semester 1
- While our sub-group data is significantly improving, it requires ongoing focus.

Year	Students who identify as Indigenous		Students with an IEP	
	Gr. 9	Gr. 10	Gr. 9	Gr. 10
2025-26	73 %	57 %	77 %	65 %
2024-25	63 %	49 %	62 %	48 %
2023-24	58 %	38 %	52 %	41 %
2022-23	52 %	34 %	43 %	35 %

How We Are Responding

- **Analyzing sub-group data:** School Student Success Teams are reviewing course trends, attendance, and key metrics to build targeted action plans and support credit recovery.
 - **Boosting Semester 2 results:** School teams are brainstorming targeted solutions to improve midterm outcomes.
 - **Staffing expansion:** We are adding an Indigenous support teacher at KDHS.
 - **Supporting students with learning disabilities:** We are ensuring appropriate accommodations are fully implemented and monitored.
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ACHIEVE

Strategic Actions

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Learning Environments

Parameters of This Year's IEP Review

32 Schools



107 SERTS

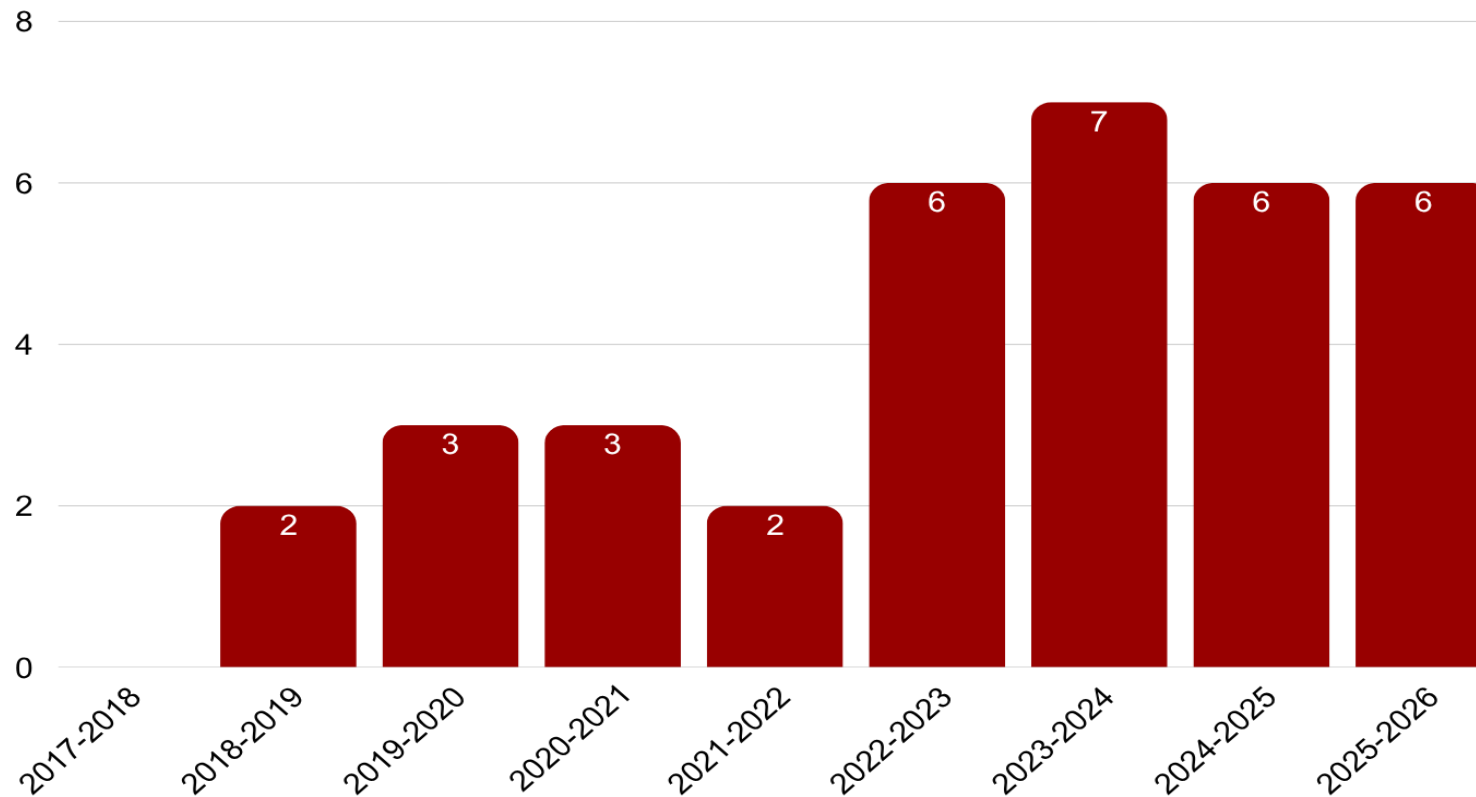


255 IEPs

Findings from Review

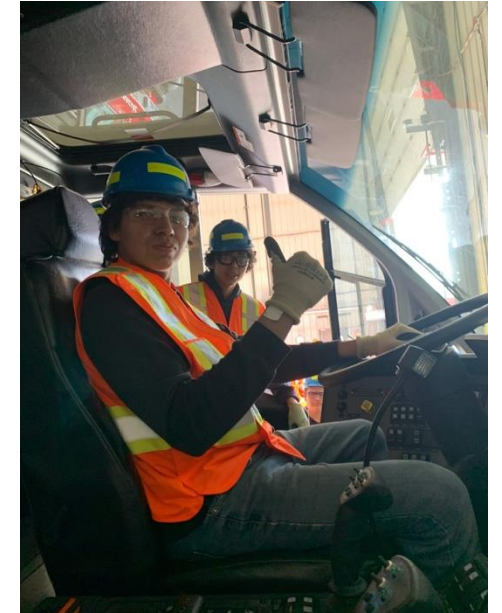
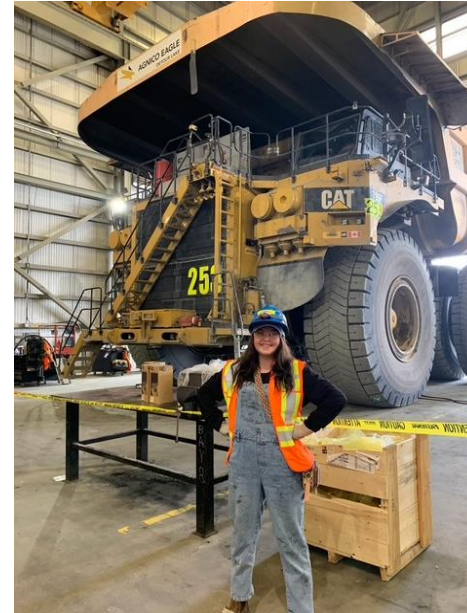
- 1) Achievement data improved by 14%
 - 2) Current level of achievement data decreased by 8%
 - 3) Annual goals improved by 17%
 - 4) Learning Expectations by 35%
 - 5) Transition Plans remained the same
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Pathways – Kiskinohamatowin Graduates



Pathways – Agnico Eagle

- 33 students from ESCHS and KDHS had the opportunity to explore future careers during a site visit on May 26. During the tour, students were exposed to a variety of possible careers in mining, from engineering, to heavy equipment operation, health and safety, and human resources.



Learning Opportunities

- 66 new community partnerships in cooperative education
 - North 18
 - Central 20
 - South 28



Belong

Build inclusive communities where all feel supported and valued.

Well-Being

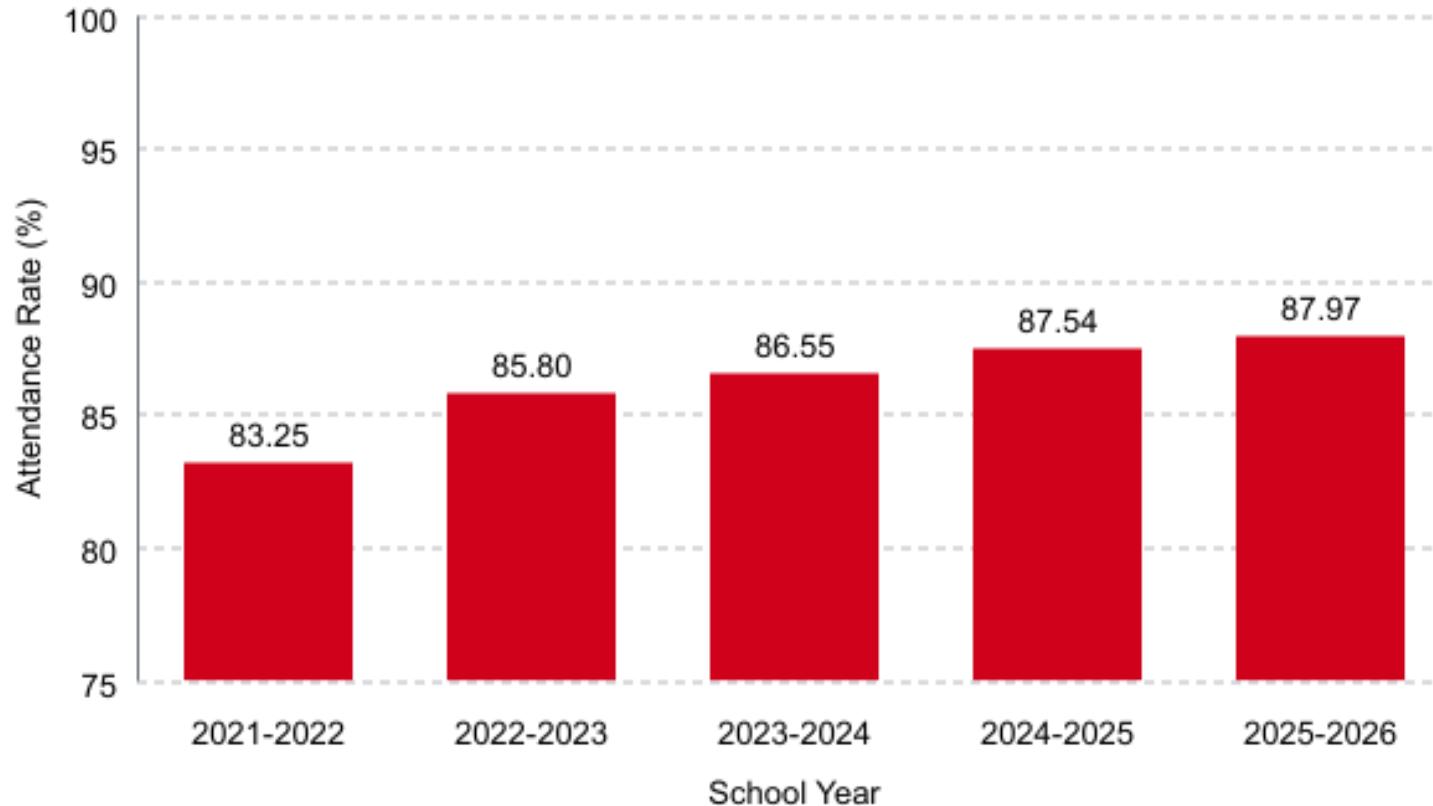
Inclusive Community

Recognition and Voice

Belong Goal

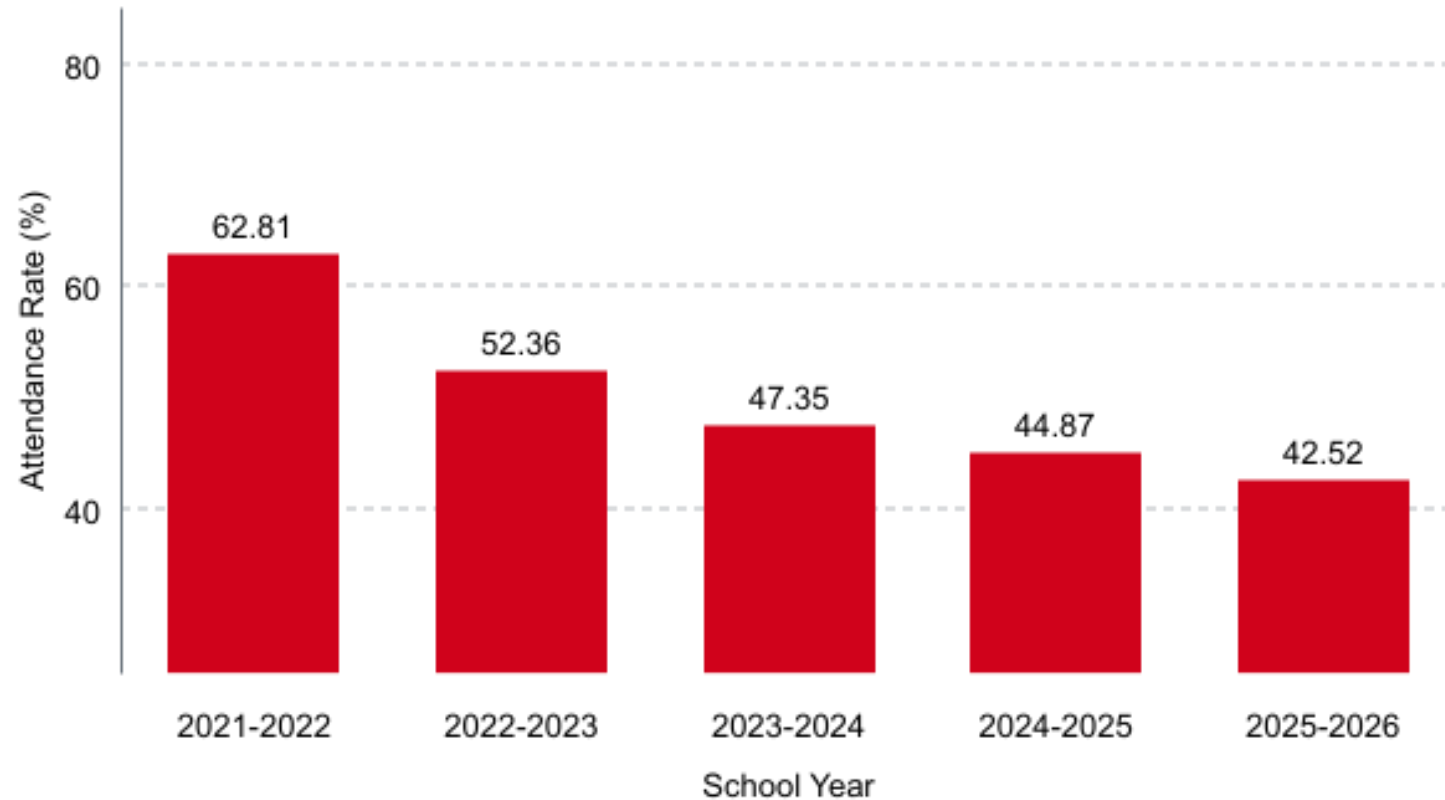
The persistently absent rate will be 42% or lower, and the attendance rate will be 88% or higher for students in K-12.

Attendance Rate: K-12



2025-2026
87.97%

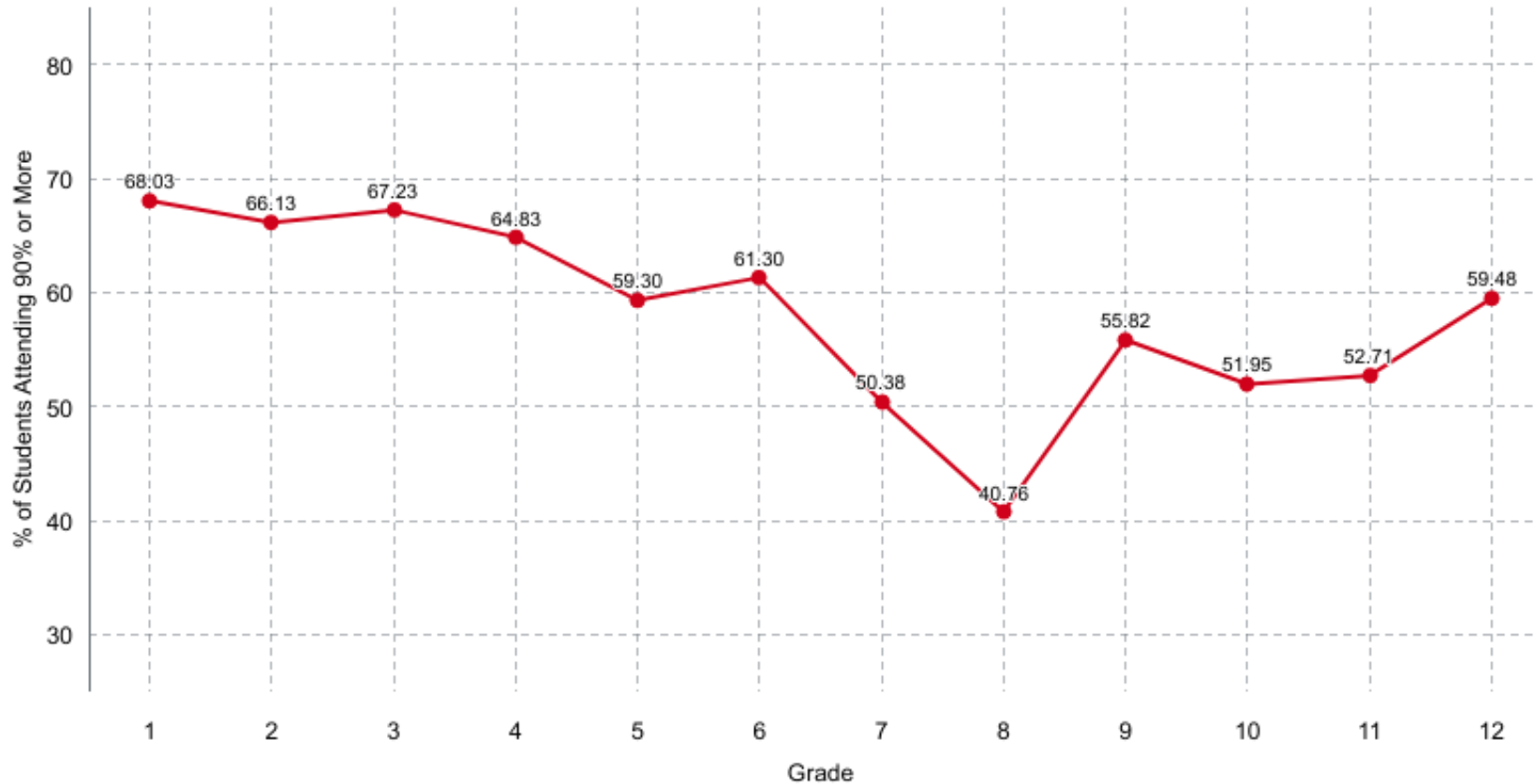
Persistently Absent Rate: K-12



2025-2026

42.52%

Students Attending 90% or More



57.61%

What we have learned

- Monitoring attendance data by day and month
 - Building trusting relationships with families by various staff members
 - Focusing on the cohort data
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How We Are Responding

- **September:** Making attendance a clear focus
 - **Specific Grades:** A specific focus for grades that need support (e.g., Grade 7 and 8)
 - **Attendance Pyramid of Support:** Creating a research informed pyramid which moves beyond the caring adult
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BELONG

Strategic Actions

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Well-Being

- Student Nutrition Programs (SNP) are funded through the Canadian Red Cross, Northern Fruits and Vegetable Program, and donations.
- Approximately half of our schools have volunteers to support the SNPs.



Inclusive Community Through Character Education



Inclusive Community Through Belonging & Student Senate Projects

The High Support Inclusivity Project is a student-led initiative designed to promote **inclusion, equality, and connection** across DSB1 schools. The goal is to create a welcoming environment where all students, including those in high support classes, feel valued, included, and able to participate in school activities.

This project focuses on building relationships, encouraging teamwork, and increasing awareness of inclusion through fun and accessible activities.

Goals

- Promote **inclusion and equality** within school communities
 - Encourage **interaction and relationship building** between students
 - Provide **accessible and enjoyable activities** for all ability levels
 - Amplify **student voice**, especially from high support classes
 - Create a **positive and supportive school culture**
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Inclusive Community Through Belonging & Student Senate Project



Monthly Structure with 2 Activities

First Activity (“Fun Day”)

- A larger event with multiple activity stations
- Designed to maximize participation and engagement
- May include teams or buddy systems

Second Activity

- Smaller, more focused activity
- Continues the monthly theme

Recognition and Voice

- The first year of the ABC Ambassador Program was a resounding success!



Create

Foster collaboration, innovation and skill development in all learners.

Innovative Practices

Critical Thinking

Future-Ready Skills

Create Goal

80% of new DSB1 staff will report their onboarding was beneficial.

What we have learned

- 85% of new employees to DSB1 reported their onboarding was beneficial.
- Participants expressed a need for improvements in the following areas of the onboarding process:
 - refreshing content throughout the year
 - a more standardized onboarding process at the school level
 - general check-ins were recommended to assess how the integration process is going and address any concerns
 - classroom management skills training for new staff is essential
- "One addition to the training would be school-specific training and safe schools training for employees not trained in Ontario."

How We Are Responding

- **Monthly Meetings:** Continuing for new employees and second year employees
- **School Specific Actions:** Establishing actions for new employees (check ins, assist with questions)
- **Mentorship:** Creating opportunities
- **Roles:** Ensuring clear description within the schools



“Thank you so much for reaching out and for providing this opportunity to share feedback. I truly appreciate your efforts in continuously improving the training process for new hires.”

CREATE **Strategic Actions**

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Innovative Practices

- DSB1 Tech Trailer had its full debut visiting every Grade 7 & 8 class twice (Fall/Spring)
- Student enjoyed the hands-on discovery of activities related to the skilled trades



Innovative Practices



Grade 2 and 5 Teachers as Learners

"I would like to extend a sincere thank you for such an engaging and impactful day of learning. As a hands-on learner myself, I greatly value opportunities to actively apply new strategies, [...] I left with a wide range of ideas for incorporating manipulatives, as well as using concrete, pictorial, and abstract approaches to support student understanding in mathematics."
~ Grade 5 Teacher



Bringing the learning back to the students:
Grade 5 students solving problems

Critical Thinking: AI Guidelines

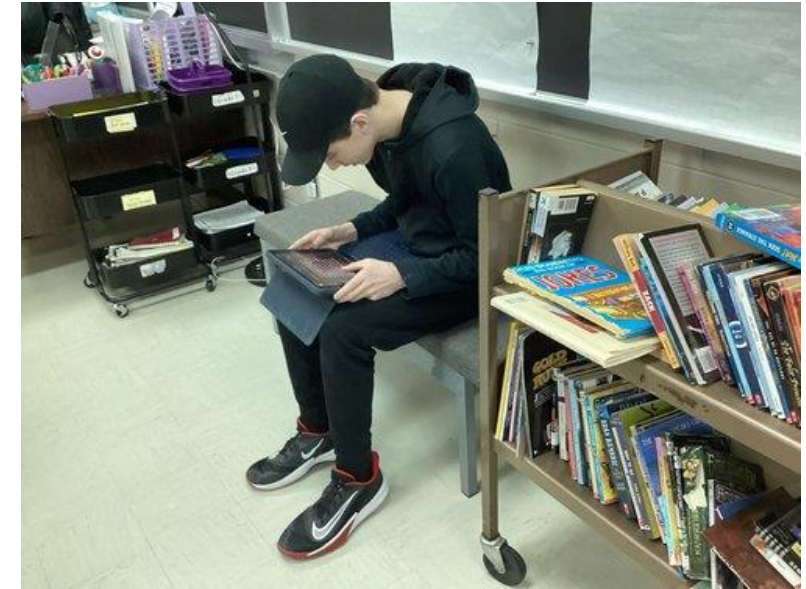
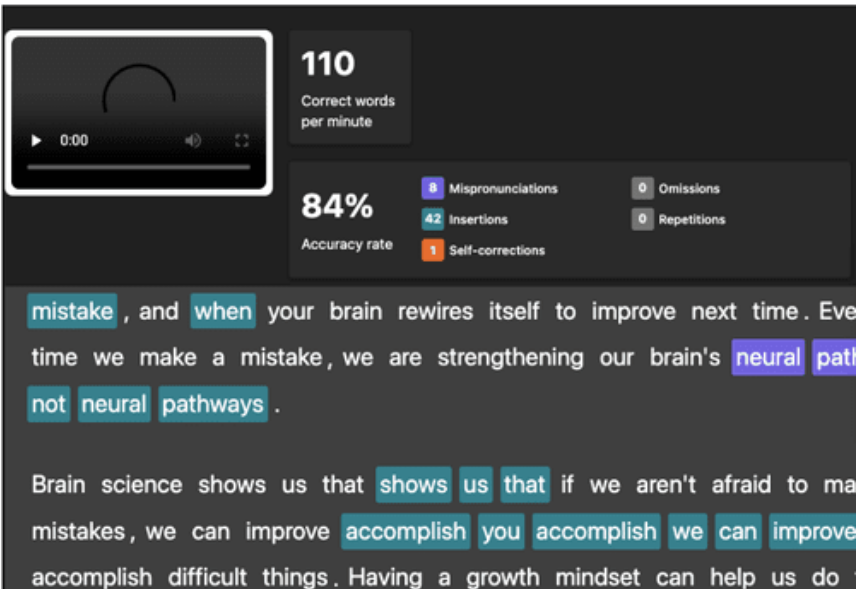
6 AI Guiding Principles

1. **Use Generative AI as a Learning Support.**
2. **Practice Transparency and Academic Honesty.**
3. **Beware of Incorrect Information**
4. **Protect Your Privacy and the Privacy of Others.**
5. **Avoid Any Prohibited Use of AI Tools**
6. **Practice environmentally sustainable use of generative AI**

Critical Thinking: AI Guidelines

- Use AI to strengthen your learning, not replace it.
 - Use Generative AI to build understanding and improve work you have already started.
 - You must create the first draft, solution, or plan yourself. Do not copy and paste AI generated work as your own.
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Critical Thinking: AI Guidelines

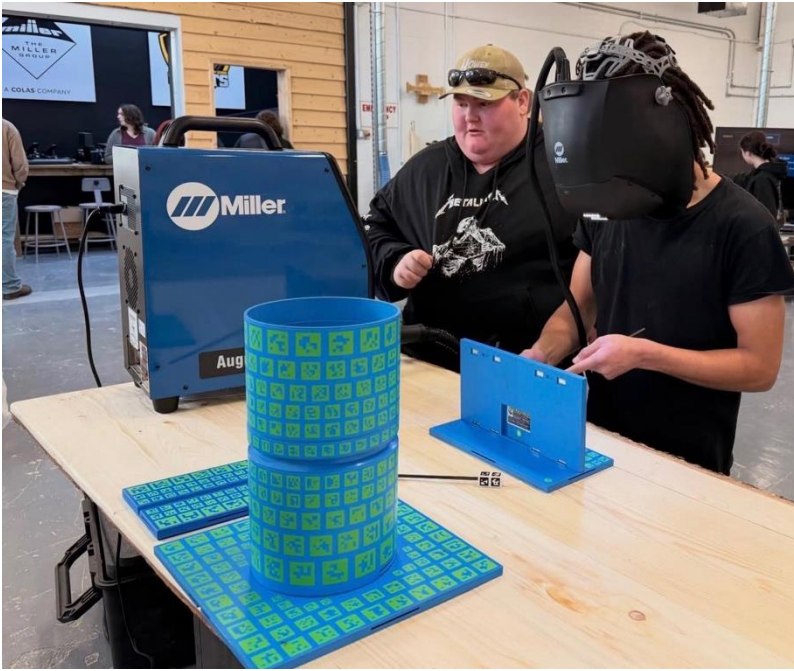


Using AI as Learning: Students at IFSSe using “Reading Progress Learning Accelerator” as an AI tool to provide reading feedback to each student.

Future-Ready Skills



Future Ready Skills



2025-2026 Goals Report

	Goal	Progress
Achieve	83% of Grade 9 students and 78% of Grade 10 students who are working towards an OSSD will earn all their credits.	Gr. 9: 85%  Gr. 10: 72% 
Belong	The persistently absent rate will be 42% or lower, and the attendance rate will be 88% or higher for students in K to 12.	AR: 87.97%  PA: 42.52% 
Create	80% of new DSB1 staff will report their onboarding was beneficial.	85% 

2026-2027 Goals

Achieve

86% of Grade 9 students and 78% of Grade 10 students who are working towards an OSSD will earn all their credits.

Belong

The persistently absent rate will be 40% or lower for all students.

Create

Increase the number of students with learning disabilities who report confidence in understanding, accessing, and utilizing their accommodations.



District School Board
Ontario North East

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Thank You
Merci