

LIVING SCHOOL CHARTER

Today, the community partners who make up our school community and care about its children and youth have come together and pledged our commitment to becoming a Living School: an environment that will increase access to and opportunities for active, healthy living for all children and youth.

Our Living School believes that the responsibility for providing opportunities for active, healthy living belongs to the entire school community: parents, children and youth, school administration and personnel, recreation organizations, public health, the board of education, and all stakeholders who make up our school community.

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living school
Building Healthier Communities

To bring our Living School to life, our school community will plan and strive to implement activities in these key areas:

We will establish **Health Policies and Guidelines** that will reflect the values of our school community and support its activities.

We will implement the Ontario **Health and Physical Education Curriculum** that will provide students with the skills they need to develop and enjoy healthy lifestyles, and help them make personal commitments to daily physical activity and positive health behaviours.

We will ensure a **Healthy and Supportive School Community Environment** that supports the physical, emotional and social well-being of children and youth. We will examine the barriers to physical activity and healthy eating, and reduce the factors that contribute to behaviours that put health at risk.

We will engage all our community partners to deliver **School Community Programs and Services** in our classrooms, our school and our broader community.

To guide us, all of our activities will abide by these Principles:

Equity: We will strive for equality in access and opportunity for all members of our school community, so that every member may participate in Living School activities.

Inclusion: All members of our school community, including children, youth and parents, will have a meaningful say in the decisions we make.

Democracy: All community stakeholders and partners will be engaged in a participatory approach to planning, developing working agreements and clarifying roles and responsibilities, so that we may achieve a fully-shared vision for our school community.

Over time, our Living School will strive to become a culture that:

- Shares responsibility for the health and well-being of children and youth.
- Values physical activity and healthy nutrition.
- Believes that health supports positive growth, development, and achievement.
- Supports professional development related to health.
- Evaluates and celebrates our progress and makes decisions based on the best available evidence.

This charter was signed on _____ by these Living School Community Partners.

Name

Organization