

Keelin Mayer
Chair, Parent Committee
Save the Adventure Class

For immediate release

Thousands of parents across Hastings Prince Edward organize to save Adventure Class program

Beloved 37 year old academic program threatened with closure by local school board

Parents and supporters from Belleville, Ameliasburg, Consecon, Quinte West and Trenton have banded together with the express goal of saving the Adventure Class program, now in its 37th year at Queen Victoria Public School, from closure by the Hastings Prince Edward District School Board.

The innovative, provincially-recognized and awarded program, focused on experiential, hands-on learning, is slated for “evaluation” by the school board, with the goal of canceling it in time for the 2023-24 school year, leaving parents, students and teachers without this unique and vital educational option.

The Adventure Class, for the past 37 years, has operated on a self-sufficient, parent involved model, recognized as a best practice by the Ministry of Education, successfully graduating hundreds of students, across the socio-economic spectrum, over its history. This program does not require any additional funds from the school board, or its individual families.

“The Adventure Class provides students with an inclusive and community-based learning environment focused on multi-age learning, collaboration and an experiential approach to achieving Ontario curriculum goals. The core principles of the Adventure Class model align perfectly with the HPEDSB strategic plan, but finds itself under attack and under threat of cancellation by the very school board that used the program as a model of innovative education for decades. Save the Adventure Class is a group of devastated parents, students, teachers and community members dedicated to the preservation of this incredible program for years to come.”

In a time of budget cuts and the homogenization of education across Ontario, Save the Adventure Class is determined to bring visibility to this pressing issue, and are encouraging those who want to see this model remain an educational option to make their voices heard by pressuring the HPEDSB to reverse their course of action for the benefit of children who learn in alternative ways and thrive in a multi-grade adaptive learning environment across the Region.

For further information: contact Keelin Mayer, kfkmayer18@gmail.com or 613-848-4089, alternatively, please visit Save the Adventure Class Program #STAC on Facebook and www.adventureclass.ca

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