

WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

S-M####:2011-2012

October 27, 2011

TO: Secondary Administrators

FROM: Gwennyth Le-Phuong, Equity and Inclusion Officer,
Peter Rubenschuh, Assistant (to) Superintendent, Learning Services – Equity
and Inclusion

RE: **Annual Youth Equity Leadership Camp**

The purpose of this memo is to provide information about the annual Youth Equity Leadership Camp opportunities for the 2011-12 school year.

This learning opportunity described in this memo supports the achievement of the goal identified in system memo ES:M001:2011-2012 (Working in Collaboration to Optimize Learning and Achievement of All Students) that specific groups of students will improve their ability to communicate their thinking in writing.

This learning opportunity focuses on the belief that learning is optimized in a safe, care and inclusive environment where each teacher and student can articulate the goal of instruction, why they are using a specific instructional tool and technique, and how this meets the student learning need. The Leadership Camp will utilize open ended, critical questions that will have a significant impact on increasing student engagement, motivation and learning.

The purpose of this Youth Equity Leadership Camp is to:

Provide an opportunity for students to contribute and offer insight to inclusive learning environments that support student learning;

Encourage student dialogue to facilitate discussion around equity related issues in a safe and supportive environment;

Build leadership capacity for students to initiate and become involved in the promotion of equity and inclusion in order to contribute to a safe and caring environment that supports student learning.

Participants

Secondary schools are invited to identify three student representatives to attend the Youth Equity Camp on December 8 to December 9, 2011. This is an overnight camp experience. In order to foster and build leadership capacity in younger students, schools are asked to identify one student from each grade 9, 10 and 11. Opportunities should be considered for students in a non-dominant group, including but not limited to their

cultural or ethnic identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, physical ability or learning ability.

A small number of students whom attended last year will be invited back to the camp to act as facilitators and group leaders.

Transportation

A bus will be provided to transport students to and from the camp. Students are to meet at the Education Centre at 7:30am on Thursday December 8th, 2011. Schools are asked to ensure that students are at the pick-up location on time. A bus will return students to the Education Centre at the conclusion of the camp for pick-up on Friday December 9th, 2011 at 3:45pm. Schools are also asked to ensure that arrangements are in place for students to be picked up at this time.

Student Eligibility, Information and Consent Form

This camp meets the requirements of Administrative Procedure #1580 Off-Campus Excursions Category I, II, III, including appropriate supervision for overnight trips. Attached to this system memo are several documents. These include:

- 1) Purposed and Student Selection Criteria
- 2) Student Information and Consent Form
- 3) Information for Parents/Guardians
- 4) Information for Students Participants
- 5) Release and Consent Form for Parents/Guardians

Registration Process

Administrators are asked to please send by email the names of the (3) student representatives and their completed "Student Information and Consent" forms to Gwennyth Le-Phuong by Friday November 25, 2011. If you have questions regarding this camp, please contact Gwennyth Le-Phuong at ext. 4146