



June 10, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Through the Ministry of Education summer funding, the HWCDSB in collaboration with the Learning Disability Association of Hamilton-Halton (LDAHH) will be delivering four different virtual learning programs. Students currently in Grades 3, 4 or 5, who have or are suspected of having a learning disability will be eligible to participate. Registration will be prioritized from a *'first come, first served'* basis.

A descriptor of each program is found below. Program facilitators belong to the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) and are in good standing. Programs run from Monday - Friday in August 2021. With parent/guardian consent, progress reports will be sent by the LDAHH to each student's Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) to support his/her transition programming for the 2021-2022 school year.

Virtual Literacy Tutoring Program Eligibility and Description (Total 10 students):

- A total of 15 sessions, one hour in duration per session, will occur between August 9 - 27, 2021.
- This program will focus on phonics, sight words, decoding, fluency, reading comprehension, writing, and spelling while building student motivation towards reading and writing through goal setting.

Virtual Mathematics Tutoring Program Eligibility and Description (Total of 10 students, 2 cohorts):

- Each cohort will receive 15 sessions, one hour in duration per session, between August 9 - 27, 2021.
- This program will use multi-sensory teaching with virtual manipulatives, with a focus on number sense, numeracy and gaps in all numerical operations.

Virtual summer Learning Program (Combined Focus) Eligibility and Description (Total of 5 students)

- This small group intensive remedial program provides a virtual summer learning program that combines literacy, numeracy and social skill development.
- This program will run for 20 sessions, 2.5 hours in duration per session, between August 2 - 27, 2021.

Virtual Social Skills Program Eligibility and Descriptor (Total of 10 students)

- This program is not designed for students solely diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder or, for students presenting with behavioural difficulties that interfere with their ability to learn in a (virtual) group setting.
- Involves 10 sessions, 1.5 hours in duration per session, between August 16 - 27, 2021.
- This program encourages friendships, positive social/emotional behaviours, active listening, effective communication, and understanding of social norms.
- Involves group discussions, play-based activities, team building games, and role-playing, where students benefit from working with others similar to them

Parents/guardians are asked to contact Ms. Alison Brindle at 905 333 1977, Executive Director of LDAHH, to enquire about and/or register for the particular program of interest.

Kind regards,

Lauren Stanton (Board Psychologist and Manager of Psychological Services)