

Q2 SPECIAL EDUCATION

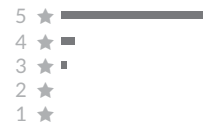
Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
Building Brighter Futures Together @OCDSB

Q2 What are some ways that the OCDSB could improve how we support learning and well-being?

More special education support is needed in all classrooms (regular and immersion) on a consistent daily basis. One teacher alone is no longer able to meet the needs of all the children in a class when there are so many needs, both academic and behavioural.

Elementary Staff

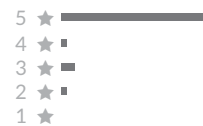
4.5 ★★★★★ (23)



We NEED a better special education system. We need more specialised classes and EA support right accross the system. Our students are in crisis.

Elementary Staff

4.4 ★★★★★ (24)



The OCDSB needs to seriously reevaluate it's approach to spec. ed. As it stands, no ones needs are being met. We need more specialized classes and a return to self contained spec. ed rooms. This is a crisis...

Elementary Staff

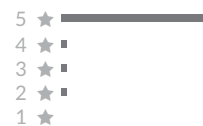
4.4 ★★★★★ (23)



Bring back more spec ed classes. Inclusion is great, but the regular classroom is no longer working. The teacher CANNOT meet all needs! It's impossible for one teacher to meet all students' needs when we put everyone together. It's time to face that and let go of some ideals.

Elementary Staff

4.4 ★★★★★ (22)



You need more specialized classrooms, the needs are higher then you have the spaces for!

Elementary Staff

4.3 ★★★★★ (31)



More one-to-one support for special needs students Student can succeed, go on walks/take breaks with an educator, less violent outbursts, safety for all students

Elementary Staff

4.2 ★★★★★ (31)



Return to the model of self contained special education classes. Increase the number of these dramatically. The inclusion model is a failed experimen. all children in one class, gifted, LD, behaviour, autistic, esl, and a desperately low number of support teachers the needs of no one are being met

Elementary Staff

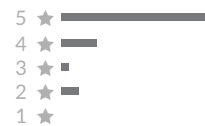
4.2 ★★★★★ (24)



Provide adequate supports for students with special needs and ESL rather than placing them all in one class and hoping for the best. There is not nearly enough supports for our students needs. The other children in the class feel the effects.

Elementary Staff

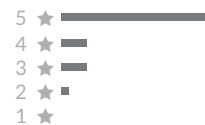
4.2 ★★★★★ (23)



There needs to be more support for children with special needs. There needs to be better system for assigning EAs. Teachers and staff are getting hit, ECEs have little or no training

Elementary Staff

4.2 ★★★★★ (23)



Treat spec ed students respectfully. They deserve to feel supported by their board.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

4.2 ★★★★★ (18)



There needs to be more specialized classes for students in need. IEP's are a joke and are not worth the paper they are printed on. No teacher can meet the needs of 10 or 11 IEP'd kids in one class.

Elementary Staff

4.1 ★★★★★ (25)



Increase intensive low ratio support for students on the autism spectrum. Presently, autistic students are in regular classrooms with little or no support.

Elementary Staff

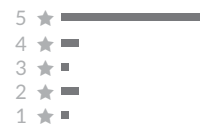
4.1 ★★★★★ (23)



More supports in place. More specialized classes and placements to meet the needs of students where a traditional classroom doesn't meet their needs. We are not able to meet behavioural needs of many students in a regular class and both these students and the others in the class suffer.

Elementary Staff

4.1 ★★★★★ (21)



ensure all students get equal access to special ed programs, regardless of their income

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

4.1 ★★★★★ (9)



Mental health in students needs to be recognized more. Even our students in Spec Ed (autism, DD...)

Elementary Staff

4.0 ★★★★★ (31)



need more Special Educators in schools to provide extra support out of the classroom in small congregated groups

Elementary Staff

4.0 ★★★★★ (24)



More direct supports in the classroom for children with learning disabilities or other special needs. More children than we realize have LD or ADHD and other challenges that impact learning and behaviour. This impacts the whole classroom.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4

4.0 ★★★★★ (23)



A more differentiated approach to exceptional learners, which takes into account their exceptionalities, is needed.

Treating all Spec Ed learners the same way does not work. The tiered approach which may help others actually acts as a hindrance to Gifted Learners.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

4.0 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



Be more open to people with mental disabilities It's important that these students don't feel left out or forgotten

Students Grades 9 to 12

4.0 ★★★★★ (17 👤)



Provide greater support for students with exceptionalities, all of them, not just gifted as it will help teachers and all other students in class Last 4 years, SpecEd committee focus entirely on gifted needs, Need next 4 years focused on other 98% of students. Gifted will never be satisfied

Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4

4.0 ★★★★★ (14 👤)



More special Ed teachers. Not enough resources. Only seems to be enough resources for kids who are extreme. Kids who need some help are not a priority

Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3

4.0 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



Ensure special needs continue to receive support Vulnerable populations that develop skills early and as young adults allow them to contribute to their communities in a positive way

Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4

3.9 ★★★★★ (27 👤)



Admit that some accommodations made for special needs students are not working, and go back to the drawing board. I believe strongly in the power of diversity & inclusion. That said, one student's behaviour / needs should not "lock down" learning for a classroom.

Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4

3.9 ★★★★★ (26 👤)



Accessibility Make the schools more accessible for special needs kids

Students Grades 9 to 12

3.9 ★★★★★ (25)



The OCDSB should have more accessible schools. (Wheelchair, translators, etc...) I find this important because we should be inclusive and it seems discriminatory not to be accessible to people of all walks of life.

Students Grades 9 to 12

3.9 ★★★★★ (24)



We need to rethink and reframe how we support our students labeled as 'behaviour' kids. Many of our BIPs are filled with students who have ASD or anxiety disorders. We need to educate our staff to understand stress behaviour. We need staff to understand that challenging students are just as

Elementary Staff

3.9 ★★★★★ (22)



More support for special education students. Allows these students to be successful in school and in life.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.9 ★★★★★ (20)



Improve access to gifted education program; all students should be tested and the board should stop trying to deny students access to the program Board policy of making access to gifted increasingly difficult has led to reduction of numbers and closure of programs. This is discrimination.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4

3.9 ★★★★★ (17)



Special Needs Love inclusive education. BUT clearly some Special needs require specialised classes with trained teachers in that specialty so their needs are met.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3

3.9 ★★★★★ (17)



Gifted children in regular classes are not being challenged. Limited access to gifts programming. Not fair for these children not to work to their potential

3.9 ★★★★★ (16)

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2



Keep the comprehensive gifted program for good. End speculation about eliminating it.

The program is critical to the wellbeing of children who cannot manage in the mainstream. It is the correct environment w properly-trained teachers.

3.9 ★★★★★ (15)

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3



Having more specialized programs or schools that can handle and deal with children with learning needs or behavior issues

3.9 ★★★★★ (12)

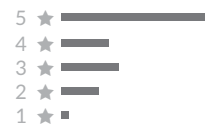
Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1



Forms being insanely difficult to fill out for Special Needs request

3.8 ★★★★★ (31)

Elementary Staff



Gifted programs= they WORK. Stop pretending you're doing things for the kids when it's all about finances. Stop asking for feedback when you already know what you're going to do and have no intention of changing (non-semestered-Merivale plus lots examples

3.8 ★★★★★ (25)

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2



Teachers need better training for kids with special needs There is ministry mandated training that teachers are supposed to take but it is not enforced. These kids are being ignored and that is not OK.

3.8 ★★★★★ (23)

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4



Stop treating Gifted learners like an unwanted nuisance. All exceptionalities should be treated with respect and given the support they need to thrive.

3.8 ★★★★★ (19)

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1



Better support for all exceptional learners, including a review of the tiered approach.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.8 ★★★★★ (18)



Gifted and Advance Learners Very often are left languish in the class room. Allow them more entry to Congregated programs they need. Many are lost in the OCDSB.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3

3.8 ★★★★★ (18)



If tiered intervention is as useful as the Board believes, how would its removal give Gifted students an advantage, as the Board claims?

We must consider the possibility that different exceptionalities may benefit from different approaches. Tiered intervention does not work for all.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.8 ★★★★★ (18)



Teens with physical handicaps should be more integrated. They are a valuable part of society and should not be excluded.

Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2

3.8 ★★★★★ (16)



Provide better therapy support in schools for children with disabilities. The consultative model is helpful in some ways, but could and should offer so much more to some of our most vulnerable students.

Community Members

3.8 ★★★★★ (15)



We need more skill based separate learning environments for special needs students Inclusions of students with special needs with EA is not working! Does not serve the needs of anyone.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.8 ★★★★★ (11)



-the "average" child has fewer rights than the spec.ed / behaviour students

Elementary Staff

3.8 ★★★★★ (10)



More support for our most vulnerable students is needed - including more specialized programs. We need more autism programs, and support for those who are not in those programs.

Elementary Staff

3.8 ★★★★★ (9)



We need to give special ed support to our EFI students. Most students now end up in immersion and we are not providing them with the support they need Students who struggle in EFI in their kindergarten and primary years are at risk of low self-esteem, higher behavioural issues.

Elementary Staff

3.8 ★★★★★ (8)



Focus more on ALL students Specialized programming and bussing for gifted, IB alternative programs is hurting bottom line for students who need supports.

Community Members

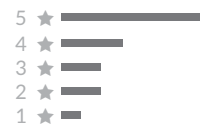
3.7 ★★★★★ (30)



Increased support to students with learning disabilities. Workshops for students with LD's to increase their knowledge and understanding of their learning profiles.

Community Members

3.7 ★★★★★ (30)



Better training for Teachers and Principals about Learning Disabilities Self explanatory

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2

3.7 ★★★★★ (28)



Resources not only for learning disabilities but also for students who are excelling Encourage learning and to keep them motivated

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4

3.7 ★★★★★ (24)



Inclusion needs support There needs to be more support for kids with special needs in the classroom to support the inclusion initiative.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4

3.7 ★★★★★ (23)



wonderful support to children with unique / special needs would love to see these resources shared with ALL children not just the students who are acting out
Elementary Staff

3.7 ★★★★★ (22 👤)



Get rid of the tiered intervention approach for Gifted learners, and any other spec ed group for whom it is a hindrance. Contrary to its stated goals, tiered intervention prevents gifted students from accessing necessary supports. Its elimination would help them succeed

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.7 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



More needs to be done to support neurodiverse children to access curriculum and do well in classroom. This means more supports for teachers in the for

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.7 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



More support for special needs It will improve learning for all kids

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4

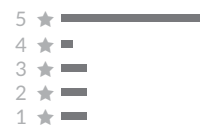
3.7 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



Parents w/ Special Needs students need to work collaborativel w/ their child's teacher.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2

3.7 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



Special Needs and Autism Support is practically non-existent Trying to get support or understanding from the board or school staff is like pulling teeth. My child is not getting the help she needs.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.7 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



Special educational needs to be provided to the students who require it, but should not have negative affect all the other students. (behaviours, ... The "Melting pot" idea of education has been tried and is not working for all students. We need some specialized classes that allow for integration.

Secondary Staff

3.7 ★★★★★ (15)



More support for children with special needs Children who need extra help or children who work well above the norm equally need support

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2

3.7 ★★★★★ (14)



Offer extra assistance for children in need. In my experience the teacher is mostly left on their own to try to address any special needs.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2

3.7 ★★★★★ (13)



Acurate placements for students with special needs Too many students are getting placed in the wrong systems classes and not given extra support, which puts everyone at risk.

Elementary Staff

3.7 ★★★★★ (12)



More support for students with special needs in kindergarten. All children with special needs start in the kindergarten program and require supports that are not currently available.

Elementary Staff

3.7 ★★★★★ (10)



as a student, i think we need to continue the gifted program, i know some people believe this program is a resource drain, but at least make it more challenging, also please tell more people about it at an early age

Students Grades 9 to 12

3.6 ★★★★★ (24)



Support people with gifted iep's by giving them chances to move along faster through the curriculum. It's important because school is incredibly boring for me and other students, and even though we ask for new challenges, they are not provided.

Students Grades 9 to 12

3.6 ★★★★★ (23)



Provide kids with all challenges the support they need to succeed. Need to revisit educational model. Need financial resources to help our kids now. To not provide kids with the help they need is not being accountable and every kid has the right to a education. Kids need a voice to get educated.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3

3.6 ★★★★★ (22)



Offer an English program that is not a dumping ground for ESL and spec ed students. Parents are forced to put their kids in French Immersion as English program has too many needs - behavioural, spec ed and ESL.

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.6 ★★★★★ (19)



I believe that children with learning disabilities, autism and other issues need more support. This area has been cut and needs to be re-funded.

Secondary Parents and Guardians - 1

3.6 ★★★★★ (18)



Way too few specialized classes. Small supportive atmosphere for special learning needs. . Kinder students are identified early! We know their needs. They need to be placed way sooner

Elementary Staff

3.6 ★★★★★ (9)



Bring back Special Education. Only through one-on-one instruction can students with learning disabilities really be supported and be able to achieve success.

Community Members

3.6 ★★★★★ (7)



**Esnure when kids with special needs enroll
thier children at a school they recieve full
knowledge on Supports available by the
board and School**

Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4

3.6  (6 )

