

Beneficial aspects of the program make it less likely that students will become frustrated and withdraw from school activities while at the same time making it more likely that they will participate more fully in social and academic activities.

RECOMMENDATION:

Boards of Education should introduce a home-school liaison officers program to assist the integration of students and parents into Canadian society.

DEVELOP MULTICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

The leadership required to produce a school system that reflects the multicultural reality of all its members has to be shared by all. Nothing will be accomplished if there is no one to come forward and lead the way. A strong system requires able people.

Skills: The Committee feels that it is necessary for teachers to take the initiative in developing leadership programs among the student population. Before this can happen, they too must develop leadership skills.

East York: To facilitate this process, the East York Multicultural Leadership Program has made it mandatory for teachers wishing to develop Student Leadership Programs to become involved in sessions that promote communications skills, self-awareness and sensitivity to group dynamics. They are encouraged to stimulate discussion, devise strategies for participation and assess group activity for signs of problems.

Realities: Once this training program is complete, faculty are prepared to assist students in the development of skills that will make them more aware of the realities of multicultural schools and society. As well, students will come to realize the leadership role that they can perform.

Objectives: A composite list of objectives from many school boards includes:

- To have students become more aware of the realities of multicultural schools and society.
- To develop skills in communication and problem-solving which may lead to building of self-confidence and group co-operation.
- To develop trust and empathy of students.
- To achieve a sense of multicultural harmony and understanding through a positive emphasis on similarities in belief systems, customs, and personal experiences.
- To introduce self-insight through moral awareness development and through appeals to empathy gained by role reversal and personal experience sharing.
- To learn problem-identification and problem-solving skills which can be utilized in the student's school and community environment.

RECOMMENDATION

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