

Healthy School Communities Certification

2020-2021 Pilot Summary

Overview:

The Healthy School Communities Certification (HSCC) is part of a pan-Canadian initiative that was developed and ran in partnership with the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA).

The certification process was designed and is guided by the internationally recognized comprehensive school health approach, which supports improvements in educational outcomes while addressing health in a planned, intentional, and holistic way.

Schools earn points throughout the year by working through a 6-step process. In the spring, schools who completed the process received gold, silver or bronze certification based on the number of points that they accumulated

The certification has been shown to:

- ↑ Increase student leadership and engagement
- ↑ Increase the capacity of schools to address a priority health need
- ↑ Increase in knowledge to implement a 'healthy schools' framework
- ↑ Build upon existing school initiatives

DASH Support:

DASH's Comprehensive School Health Facilitators provided ongoing support by:

- Providing resources and expertise
- Sharing lessons learned from other school health initiatives
- Connecting schools to relevant grants
- Providing workshops for professional development

Impact:

During the 2020-2021 school year:

10 Schools Certified:  **6 Gold**  **2 Silver**  **1 Bronze**  **1 Participating**

Across all 5 Health Authority Regions