

Discovering Opportunities embodies these beliefs:

- Most students have more potential than they use.
- Students succeed if they believe they can succeed.
- Students who fall behind can catch up.
- Personal and academic success begins with hope.
- Expectations need to be clear and realistic.
- Instruction needs to be persistent, personal, and respectful.
- Powerful learning occurs when there are strong relationships with the teacher and with other students.
- The most effective learning occurs in authentic contexts and settings.
- Families and communities must be included in a meaningful way.
- Students need to have ownership of and responsibility for their learning.

Team Teaching

Three teachers will be working together to create a supportive learning environment.

Skills for the Workplace

Emphasis will be placed on identifying and strengthening skills necessary to succeed in the 21st Century.

Flexible Curriculum & Instructional Design

Innovative teaching practices will be employed to achieve the curriculum outcomes. The student will be engaged in authentic, non-traditional teaching methods.

Connecting with Families

Family support and understanding of this program is fundamental to its success. Students need to be surrounded with encouragement on all levels.



Phone: 902-564-5411

E-mail: hannaj2@staff.ednet.ns.ca

barbryba@staff.ednet.ns.ca



DISCOVERING OPPORTUNITIES

"Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid."
- Albert Einstein



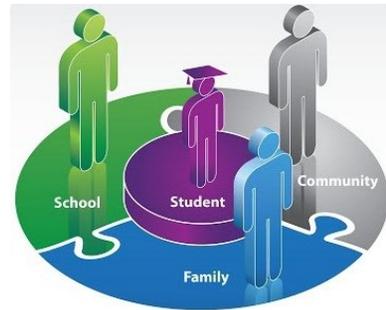
Who is a Discovering Opportunities Candidate?

Students most likely to benefit from the Discovering Opportunities program require all or most of the following:

- Re-engagement with their learning and with school.
- Direction and support in developing a career/life pathway.
- Learning experiences that make the connections between school, community, and workplace.
- Confidence in their skills, abilities, and learning preferences.
- Competence in the skills that will be needed in the workplace.
- Opportunities for empowerment.
- A close-knit positive learning environment.
- Achievement of their academic potential.



WHAT IS DISCOVERING OPPORTUNITIES?



Discovering Opportunities (DO) is a program designed for grade 9 students who may not be successful in high school without additional academic and motivational support now.

Students attend the core courses as a cohort in an integrated project-based environment. Students participate in activities to enhance personal growth, academic skills, and personal and career goal setting.

The program will be built on strong partnerships with workplaces, community organizations, and families. Selected students must be prepared to commit to this alternative approach to learning and to all of the components of Discovering Opportunities.

Common Misconceptions of the Discovering Opportunities Program

#1: It is a dumping ground for behavior issues.

Research shows that poor behavior can be linked to student disengagement. However, we are looking for students who can interact and contribute positively in a close-knit classroom community.



#2: This is a program for students who are failing or on IPP's.

The DO program is NOT only for kids failing to meet their curriculum outcomes. A student can be academically successful but do not enjoy coming to school. A student may also lack the connection between school, community, and self.