

BACKGROUND

CITY SCHOOL by Mohawk

History

2010 - Community Access Strategy launched - mobilizing resources to increase the post-secondary participation levels of underrepresented and vulnerable people in priority neighbourhoods.

October 2015 - City School by Mohawk launched, an intentional strategy to deliver accessible post-secondary education through a place-based methodology at the neighbourhood level.

Objectives

The goal of City School is to create a welcome, open space for learning, community engagement and partnership, student collaboration and experiential learning. The Community Access Strategy has the following strategic objectives:

- To raise awareness of opportunities for and pathways to learning beyond high school;
- To support greater accessibility to post-secondary through diversified learning opportunities;
- To bring the college to the community through community-based learning hubs;
- To enhance the early college experience through mentorships, reach-ahead activities, and dual credit opportunities.

Locations

The first City School site opened at the Eva Rothwell Resource Centre, located in the Keith neighbourhood, one of 11 priority neighbourhoods in Hamilton. A second classroom was established in the Central branch of Hamilton Public Library and a number of pop-up classrooms have been located in community centres, libraries and healthcare facilities at various times.

City School Impact

- 347 unique students have completed credit courses
- 83 students have transitioned to Mohawk College
- 68% of students who reach Mohawk for their 3rd class successfully complete the course

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Mobile Classrooms

First mobile classroom was operational in fall 2017 to deliver free trades training in neighbourhoods throughout and around Hamilton. This transport truck expands to 1000 square feet of learning space, equipped to provide training in welding, HVAC, and general construction.

On May 17, 2019, funding was announced for the construction of a second mobile unit.

Mobile Classroom Impact

- over 177 students pass through its doors
- trained 75 newcomers in welding and construction skills, with most finding jobs immediately