

**Director of Education Innovation Funding Plan
Waterloo Region District School Board**

Project name and date:

Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) - High Tech High Residency Site Visit,
San Diego California
September/October, 2016

WRDSB Senior Staff is currently working with the Board of Trustees and the broader educational community on the development of a Strategic Plan. It is anticipated that the plan will be finalized and approved by Trustees by June 30, 2016 lending support to senior staff investigating highly innovative approaches to pedagogy, technology embedded learning, and capital planning.

Who will participate:

Director of Education - John Bryant
Senior Superintendent, Student Achievement and Well-Being - Lila Read
Superintendent, Business Services and Treasurer of the Board - Matthew Gerard
Controller, Facilities Services - Ian Gaudet

Where the program or project investigated is located:

The WRDSB Team is planning to participate as part of a site residency at High Tech High in San Diego, California. This innovative school community provides a unique opportunity to explore technology embedded learning in an inquiry-based, authentic learning environment.

What we hope to learn:

The WRDSB hopes to learn more about High Tech High School's approach to:

- Personalization
- Adult World Connection
- Common Intellectual Mission
- Teacher as Designer
- Capital Planning
- Financial Sustainability of the Facility

Specifically, we are interested in how these pedagogical approaches relate to technology embedded learning, inquiry-based learning, authentic learning, student engagement, parent and community engagement, and assessment.

We are also interested in learning about the capital and facilities' requirements to support this pedagogical approach and what the change leadership process entailed.

Application in your district school board (what use will you be making of what was learned, value for students or staff or parents):

Our newly developed Strategic Plan has identified "innovation that promotes student confidence and success" as a strategic priority. There is an appetite within the broader leadership of the Board (Trustees, Superintendents and Senior Staff, Principals, Community) to pursue the possibility of a differentiated approach to learning in an environment that embodies that differentiated approach.

Waterloo Region is a major technology hub in the Province of Ontario and there is a strategic fit and advantage to developing a variety of partnerships that could support and realize this kind of learning community.

Funding Required to Support this Plan

Air travel - 4 people @ \$1,000	\$4,000
HTH Residency Fee - 4 people @\$300 x 3 days	\$3,600
Hotel - 4 people @ \$150/night x 4 nights	\$2,400
Meals - 4 people @ \$80/day x 4 days	\$1,280
Car Rental & Gasoline - SUV x 4 days	\$2,500
Total Cost	\$13,780