



2014 *Annual Report* 2015



Montreal
Hooked on School

MISSION

Montreal Hooked on School's mission is to mobilize all partners in Montreal and become a focal point for initiatives that have a positive impact on young people, parents, and other concerned parties, with the objective of increasing school perseverance and success, and reconnecting with school.

3 TARGETS

- > **Achieve and surpass** Montreal's ministerial high school graduation-rate target of 77 percent by 2020.
- > **Support** school boards and targeted schools in reaching their graduation-rate targets and in implementing their success plans.
- > **Contribute** to reducing the vulnerability rate among preschoolers entering school by 5 percent over 5 years, as defined by Horizon 0-5.

4 PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

- > **Support** action in the Island of Montreal's most sensitive areas, focusing on specific territories.
- > **Foster** connections among all partners and the community, as well as the cohesion of actions to promote school perseverance and success.
- > **Document**, promote and disseminate information relevant to actions that encourage school perseverance and success.
- > **Improve** evaluation strategies.

2 AREAS OF ACTION

Local > Provide support and guidance in developing and implementing action plans to improve school perseverance and success in targeted areas, and in developing and implementing strategic actions among populations with a high dropout risk.

Regional > Provide facilitation, awareness-raising, mobilization, coordination, monitoring, and knowledge transfer throughout the Island of Montreal on issues related to school perseverance and success.

5 ORIENTATIONS

- > Strengthen prevention strategies for 0-12-year-olds.
- > Help 13-20-year-olds stay in, or return to, school.
- > Mobilize local, regional and interregional actors.
- > Document the Montreal reality and support knowledge transfer.
- > Promote the value of education.

2014 2015 Highlights

In 2014-2015, MHS demonstrated its ability to act and assemble the key players working with young Montrealers. It supported 11 neighbourhoods in implementing joint-action plans to promote school perseverance, turned HSD into a key event for all stakeholders, and launched an innovative project as part of *Je vois mtl.*

MHS is thus an important agent of change, one that contributes tangibly to putting practices into place that promote the success of our young people.



SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE FOR LOCAL ACTION

- > Support for the implementation of **165** initiatives led by **200** organizations, in partnership with **140** schools, reaching **49,184** children, students, and parents in **63.7%** of Montreal's disadvantaged areas.
- > Investment of **\$2,451,532** for youth and their families.



HOOKED ON SCHOOL DAYS 2015 (HSD)

- > **Over 1,600** activities and **440** participating partners; continued growth over the past 5 years.
- > **21** inspiring accounts from **10** youth who have reconnected with school, presented to **750** students, adult learners, university students, volunteers, youth workers, and school staff.



WORK/SCHOOL BALANCE

- > Over **850** businesses certified and **3,197** students under **20** reached, thanks to the **Équi T-É** program, in partnership with 9 youth employment centres (carrefours jeunesse-emploi).
- > Design and distribution of a **best practices guide** for employers.



ADOPT A SCHOOL

- > As part of *Je vois mtl.* and in front of a full house, the Adopt a School movement was launched, in partnership with **Fusion Jeunesse** and with the participation of Montreal's school boards and higher learning establishments.
- > **850** youth reached by **11** projects, with contributions from **36** partners from the education, institutional, business, and university sectors.



EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

- > **70** interviews and reports, primarily as part of HSD.
- > Appearance on the TV shows *Ménage à trois* (Vtélé, November 2014) and *Salut Bonjour!* (TVA, February 2015).

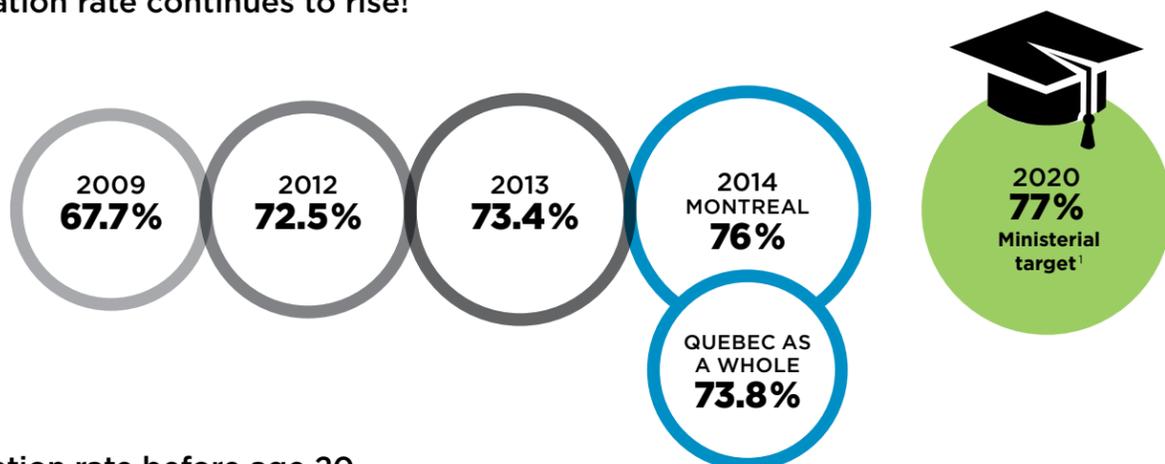


SEMINARS, INFORMATION SESSIONS, TRAINING COURSES

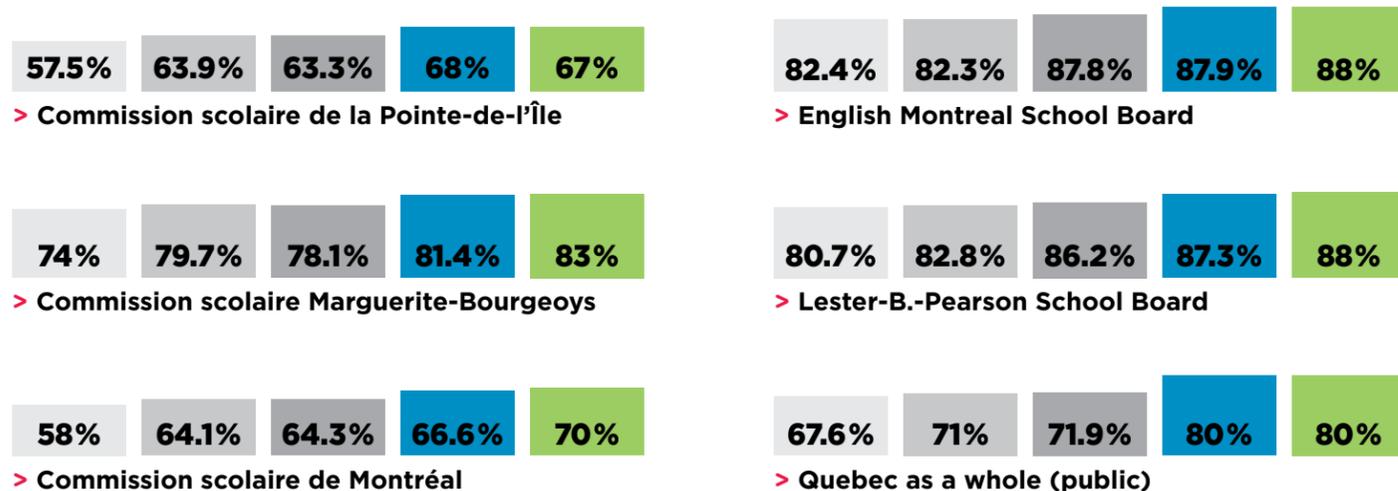
- > Annual MHS seminar on parental engagement, attended by over **120** participants.
- > Information sessions on the **CartoJeunes** tool by Michel Perron.
- > Training course on **action planning** by Michel Janosz.
- > 3rd third annual **Rencontres ÉLÉ.**

SCHOOL PERSEVERANCE IN MONTREAL

Graduation rate continues to rise!



Graduation rate before age 20 and ministerial targets for the five montreal school boards³.



Graduation rate ● 2009 ● 2012 ● 2013 ● 2014 ● Ministerial target ● 2020

Dropout rate is decreasing



¹ Target for the Montreal region before the age of 20.
² Most recent data available at date of publication.
³ i.e., students who graduated in 2009, 2012, and 2013.
 Sources: Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, *Portraits des statistiques ministérielles*, 2010; ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, *Diplomation et qualification par commission scolaire au secondaire*, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 editions; ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, province-wide indicators, Charlemagne system, special compilations, November 2012 and November 2014.

Priority action 1

SUPPORT ACTION IN THE ISLAND OF MONTREAL'S MOST VULNERABLE AREAS, FOCUSING ON SPECIFIC TERRITORIES.

SUPPORT AND GUIDE LOCAL ACTION

Providing support for joint action in the most vulnerable areas on the Island of Montreal is one of Montreal Hooked on School's primary focuses. In 2009, Montreal Hooked on School was charged with implementing the 10th path to success of the MELS / *care about school!* plan. As part of this strategy, Montreal Hooked on School supports the development of community projects aimed at improving school perseverance and success among youth who are at risk or who have dropped out in targeted areas on the Island of Montreal.

The model of action established in targeted areas is unique in that it is closely tied to local realities and to priorities set by schools to meet the needs of at-risk youth. This process ensures the community and its schools coordinate their action through partnership projects based on the needs of youth. Through such associations, efforts can be deployed, continued and combined to foster consistency of actions aimed at school perseverance locally.

In order to adapt to the existing dynamic, the joint action process for each territory added to MHS's local action strategy begins by acknowledging the existing dynamic and by taking into account previous school perseverance actions.



The 11 targeted areas, along with the 5 associated Island of Montreal school boards, are as follows:

- 1 Centre-Sud**
Commission scolaire de Montréal
- 2 Hochelaga-Maisonneuve**
Commission scolaire de Montréal
- 3 LaSalle**
Lester B. Pearson School Board
Commission scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys
- 4 Montréal-Nord**
Commission scolaire de la Pointe-de-l'Île
English Montreal School Board
- 5 Pierrefonds**
Lester B. Pearson School Board
Commission scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys
- 6 Pointe-aux-Trembles**
Commission scolaire de la Pointe-de-l'Île
- 7 Rivière-des-Prairies**
Commission scolaire de la Pointe-de-l'Île
- 8 Saint-Laurent**
Commission scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys
- 9 Saint-Léonard**
Commission scolaire de la Pointe-de-l'Île
- 10 Saint-Michel**
Commission scolaire de Montréal
English Montreal School Board
- 11 Sud-Ouest**
Commission scolaire de Montréal
English Montreal School Board

¹ To view the *Terms of Reference*, visit the "Targeted Areas" section of our website at: www.reseaurussitemontreal.ca.

HIGHLIGHTS

To encourage school-focused community mobilization, and to support the implementation of joint-action plans, Montreal Hooked on School documents and distributes information pertaining to the reality of each targeted area, promotes coordination between schools and the community, facilitates the sharing of expertise and practices from different sectors, takes part in implementing activities set out in the action plans, participates in meetings related to local efforts, and supports partnership initiatives that further priority issues.

- > Support for the implementation of **165** initiatives reaching **49,184** children, students, and parents in **63.7%** of Montreal's disadvantaged areas.
- > Support and guidance provided to **11** areas.
- > Investment of **\$2 479 253**.
- > Participation in the development and implementation of **16** action plans.
- > Production of **5** situational reports.

All available information about the targeted areas can be found at www.researeussitemontreal.ca

Investing in prevention

An analysis of the funding granted shows that intervention in the targeted areas tends to focus on prevention. More specifically, most of the projects supported fall into the categories of universal prevention and targeted prevention, which aim to bring about long-lasting change among targeted clientele. In addition, there is an increase in initiatives designed for students who present one or more risk factors for dropping out.

Funding intensity by intervention type¹

	Awareness	Universal prevention	Targeted prevention	Re-connection with school
2012 2013	11%	45%	43%	2%
2013 2014	11%	41%	44%	4%
2014 2015	10%	35%	50%	4%

The action plans of targeted areas involve a wide range of local organizations who mobilize around schools to undertake actions in partnership with the education sector. This process requires ongoing coordination, steered by the different school boards, with the support of Montreal Hooked on School. To do so, the school boards act as trustees for the funds allocated to implement action plans. A rigorous monitoring structure has been developed to ensure that funding is distributed equitably.

¹ For a description of the various types of intervention, see www.researeussitemontreal.ca.

² Areas that, according to the 2013 *Poverty Map* of the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal, have a significant concentration of underprivilege.

In 2014–2015, action plans of targeted areas affected:

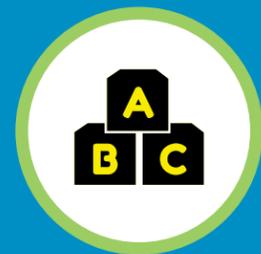
140 schools in five Island of Montreal school boards



109 elementary schools

23 high schools

8 adult education centres



16,446 children aged 0 to 5 years

- Early stimulation
- preparation for kindergarten
- Early childhood literacy



22,994 students

- Grades
- Engagement
- Motivation
- Belonging
- Self-esteem
- School-family-community



9,744 parents

- Parenting skills and practices

63,7% of Montreal's disadvantaged areas²

2014–2015 OVERVIEW OF TARGETED AREAS

Centre-Sud

—
5 projects
7 schools
1,319 children, students, and parents
21 partners
\$91,336



Overview

The Centre-Sud area faces a number of challenges, including poverty levels above the Montreal average and sectors with high rates of child vulnerability. Add to this the fact that most students in the area leave high school without earning a diploma or qualification.

In the Centre-Sud, 2014–2015 was a implementation year for projects that mobilized the entire community around giving young people the best chances to succeed. The projects focused on issues such as preparation for school, school transitions, supporting troubled students, and guiding parents.

Highlights

- > Mobilisation and participation by numerous community partners.
- > Increase in activities that promote the smooth entry of preschoolers into school.
- > Continuation of projects designed to ease the transition from elementary to high school.

Hochelaga-Maisonneuve

—
6 projects
10 schools
1,756 students and parents
19 partners
\$105,637



Overview

A number of risk factors are present in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, including a significant level of poverty, a high percentage of vulnerability among children, and a dropout rate of over two students in five.

After working at the process together since 2012, partners in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve began to implement their new school perseverance action plan for the area for the first time in 2014–2015.

Highlights

- > Launch of the local project to smooth the transition from early childhood to school.
- > Intervention with high school dropouts to encourage their reengagement with school.
- > Transition from elementary to high school project to explore new information technologies.

LaSalle

—
17 projects
23 schools
6,669 students and parents
23 partners
\$324,608



Overview

LaSalle is affected by a number of issues, such as a high rate of vulnerability among pre-schoolers and a school population made up primarily of students with immigrant backgrounds, who need support integrating into the school system.

In 2014–2015, a number of supported projects that reach a large pool of young people and their families were renewed. The ongoing implementation of action plans reached many LaSalle residents in both the English- and French-speaking sectors. In particular, efforts to improve school perseverance are focusing on school transitions, parental supervision, tutoring, and work/school balance. The issue of school perseverance has become central to various community planning processes in LaSalle.

Highlights

- > Continuation of the liaison officer project for high school students in reception classes and their families. (CSMB).
- > Involvement of high school students in transition activities for grade 6 elementary students. (CSMB).
- > High participation rate in seminars for parents in the English-speaking sector (LBPSB).
- > Beneficial partnerships between English-language schools and McGill University (LBPSB).

Montréal-Nord

—
16 projects
15 schools
6,877 children, students, and parents
20 partners
\$351,431



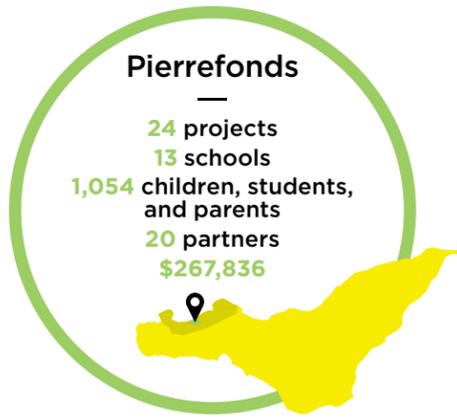
Overview

Among the challenges in Montréal-Nord are a high poverty rate and a significant proportion of mothers lacking a diploma and single-parent families. In addition, the area is highly multi-ethnic.

In 2014–2015, Montréal-Nord partners focused on implementing and enriching projects aimed at preschool and high school students, in particular through initiatives involving individualized guidance, peer support, community activities, and skills acquisition workshops.

Highlights

- > Enrichment of a weekly extracurricular activity project affecting over 700 elementary and high school students in the area (CSPI).
- > Partnership with the Regroupement Écoles et milieux en santé de Montréal-Nord to monitor a number of projects (CSPI).
- > Success of a musical expression project at Lester B. Pearson High School, resulting in the production of a CD and a performance (EMSB).
- > Beneficial school-community partnership in implementing a parent/child program for 0–3-year-olds. (EMSB).



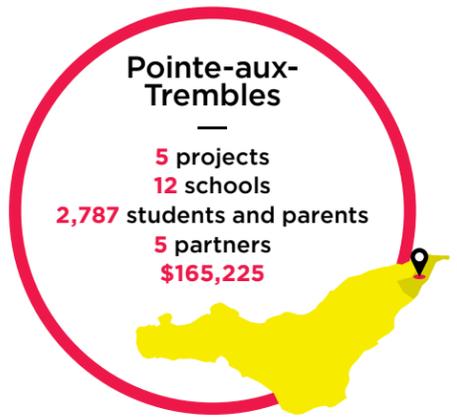
Overview

In addition to considerable poverty in some sectors, Pierrefonds has a high rate of vulnerability among children. The area also has one of the highest number of families on the entire island.

In 2014–2015, local action supported by MHS in Pierrefonds focused largely on the educational success of preschoolers and elementary school students and on helping parents become more involved in their children’s schooling. Relationships between the education sector and local partners were strengthened through ongoing projects.

Highlights

- > Ongoing improvements to projects and school/community partnerships (CSMB).
- > Launch of projects aimed at youth engagement in school through tangible and motivational experiences related to educational subject matter (LBPSB).



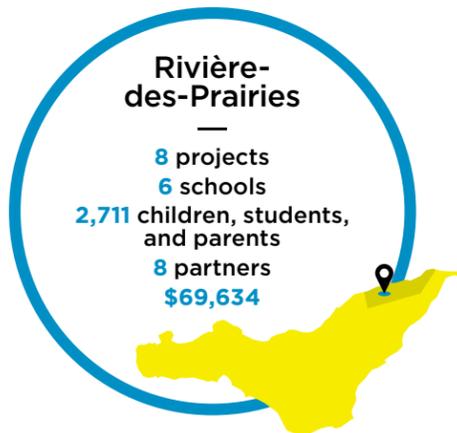
Overview

The value placed on education is an issue of concern in Pointe-aux-Trembles. In addition, one in five high school students in the area drops out of school, and one in seven mothers lacks a diploma. This reality is compounded by a high rate of vulnerability among kindergarten students and of single-parent families.

In 2014–2015, students in Pointe-aux-Trembles took part in a number of large-scale projects that sparked their interest in the arts, fashion, science and technology, and that nurtured their creativity. Other projects fostered a sense of belonging at school and the transition from elementary to high school.

Highlights

- > First prize (Collection par excellence) won by participating students at Pointe-aux-Trembles high school at the Gala Relève-Mode.
- > Participation of over 700 students at the Festival de robotique, including the appearance of students from Pointe-aux-Trembles high school in the FRC final.
- > Extraordinary involvement by two joint action coordinators with elementary and high school students, in particular to ensure student retention and integration during the transition from elementary to high school.



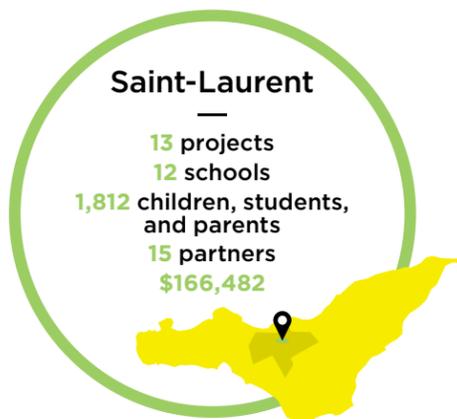
Overview

Data from Rivière-des-Prairies reveal that the area possesses several pockets of poverty, a high percentage of children vulnerable in at least one developmental domain, and a significant majority of students from immigrant backgrounds who face challenges related to integration.

An area targeted last year, local partners used 2014–2015 to launch several community projects based on the action plan developed the previous year. Local youths and their families benefited from a number of activities aimed at promoting school preparation, improving prosocial behaviour, building ties between schools and families, and supporting troubled students.

Highlights

- > Initiation of a joint project on the transition from early childhood to school.
- > Continued mobilization of community stakeholders working together with schools.



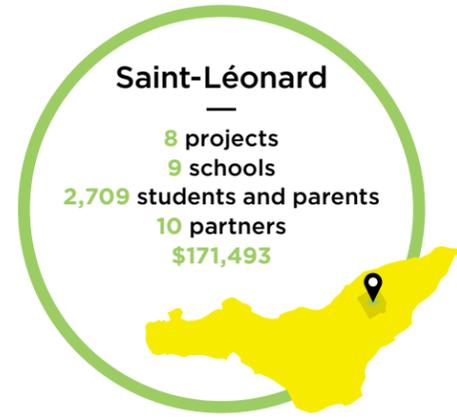
Overview

Saint-Laurent faces a number of issues, including a high rate of vulnerability among children and a large majority of students with immigrant backgrounds who need integration support. Nearly one in three students in Saint-Laurent drops out of school.

In 2014–2015, many of the projects undertaken in Saint-Laurent achieved their desired effects, illustrating the relevance of these programs. Such success is due in particular to the ongoing adaptation of projects to local realities and by partners’ excellent teamworking skills.

Highlights

- > Ongoing improvement of partnership projects (CSMB).
- > Community and school outreach worker more strongly rooted in the education sector (ICS) (CSMB).
- > Fruitful collaboration among partners of homework assistance and sports project (CSMB).



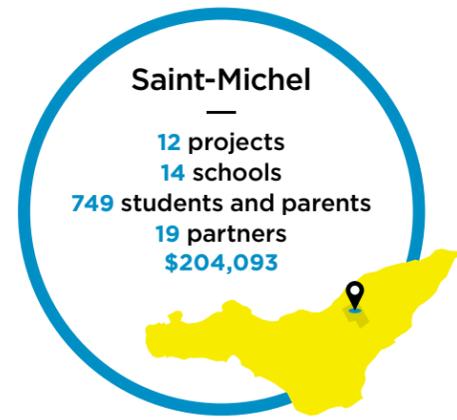
Overview

The past 10 years have brought numerous changes to Saint-Léonard. On one hand, the targeted area is comprised mostly of students with immigrant backgrounds, and on the other, a rapid increase in the number of children in the area have caused some schools to double in size.

In Saint-Léonard, 2014–2015 was a year in which many actions were intensified and new projects were launched. Thanks to significant mobilization, projects were able to begin as school started in order to meet the needs of the children.

Highlights

- > Continued partner mobilization with Collectif Jeunesse de Saint-Léonard.
- > Enhanced development of school-family-community approach.
- > Pilot project for the “La force d’une équipe” project in high school.



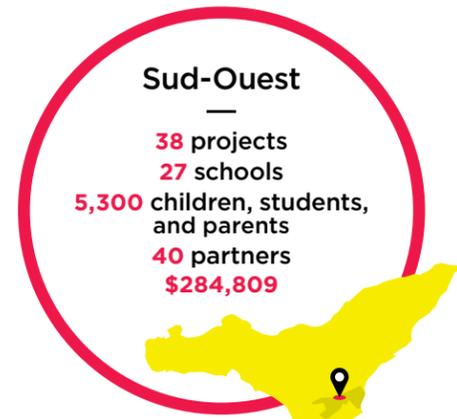
Overview

Saint-Michel is a highly multi-ethnic neighbourhood and has a considerable level of poverty. It should also be mentioned that at the area’s English language high school, the dropout rate for girls is slightly higher than that for boys.

In 2014–2015, Saint-Michel focused on projects aimed at easing school transitions, supporting parents, and encouraging targeted students to take part in extracurricular activities.

Highlights

- > Implementation and continuation of four joint projects aimed at establishing an intervention continuum for 0–20-year-olds in the area (CSDM).
- > Initiation of an assessment approach for results of the action plan (CSDM).
- > Success of projects aimed at youth engagement and motivation through artistic expression (EMSB).



Overview

The Sud-Ouest has a number of risk factors. Most schools in the area are located in deprived neighbourhoods; there is a low rate of high school graduation, both among mothers and youth; and the dropout rate at the area’s English high school is higher than among girls than boys.

2014–2015 featured the continuation of school-community partnerships and other collaborative methods set out in the local action plan. New activities were launched that, among other things, stimulated students’ creativity.

Highlights

- > Continuation of a capacity-building project aimed at bringing schools, families and the community closer together (CSDM).
- > Implementation of 14 projects in the area, including Laboratoire créatif and El sistema (CSDM).
- > An exterior mural produced as part of the “History of the South West” project (EMSB).
- > Notable participation of renowned chefs in cooking activities offered to students at James Lyng High School (EMSB).

Montreal Hooked on School receives support from the following partners to implement local action strategies:



STRATEGIC ACTIONS AMONG THOSE MOST AT RISK OF DROPPING OUT



SCHOOL INTEGRATION LIAISON OFFICER

For a second year, strategic action was taken to meet the needs of English-speakers, who are often scattered throughout the Montreal region and who experience significant problems, but who are not always visible or have their needs met by the territorial approach.

Thanks to cooperation between the English Montreal and Lester B. Pearson school boards, Batshaw Youth and Family Centres, and the YMCAs of Québec, many youth got the support and guidance they needed to re-engage with school.

Highlights

- > Adapted support provided to **356** high school students and **64** elementary students between October 2014 and June 2015.
- > Rapid integration of **90%** of youth into a school.
- > Inclusion of **22** families into a process of guiding their child.
- > Exploration of a **new program** component aimed at youth aged 18 to 21.

Montreal Hooked on School's assistance in implementing the school integration liaison officer program is made possible through support from the following primary partners:



PATHWAYS TO EDUCATION - LACHINE

The Pathways to Education project (Passeport pour ma réussite) in Lachine, run by the Carrefour jeunesse emploi Marquette, aims to eliminate systematic dropout on a micro-territory scale. The project was implemented in the Duff-Court sector of Lachine, where the dropout rate is as high as 50 percent, for the 2014-2015 school year. The program reaches youth living in the sector who present various risk factors for dropping out. Youth registered in the program receive multifaceted guidance (educational, social, individualized, and financial), and are supported throughout their high school studies in order to help them graduate.

Highlights

- > **35** youth from Dalbé-Viau high school registered for the program. They are all returning in 2015-2016.
- > **91%** of these youth have exceeded the program's minimum rate of participation.
- > The overall rate of participation of the students in the individualized support component exceeded program requirements.
- > **29** volunteers were involved in the project, accumulating **415** hours of work with the students.

Montreal Hooked on School's assistance in implementing the Pathways to Education program is made possible through support from the following primary partners:



And the following strategic partner:



ADOPT A SCHOOL

To ensure that education takes its rightful place in the movement to rejuvenate Montreal initiated by *Je vois mtl*, Montreal Hooked on School joined forces with Youth Fusion, in close partnership with Montreal's five school boards, seven universities and 11 CEGEPS, to create Adopt a School. This movement hopes to act as a catalyst for school perseverance by giving schools the opportunity to build ties with CEGEPS, universities, businesses, and institutions in their community and to draw on their expertise and their material, human, and financial resources in order to carry out large-scale projects that will help their students succeed.

Highlights

- > Over **120** people in attendance at the Adopt a School workshop during the *Je vois mtl* event in November.
- > **11** projects supported by the Adopt a School team.
- > **850** youth reached by these projects.
- > **36** partners involved (educational, institutional, business, university).

Montreal Hooked on School receives support from the following partner to implement this action:



GUIDANCE FOR EMERGENT LITERACY COMMITTEES

Under an agreement signed with the ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche (MEESR), Montreal Hooked on School guides local stakeholders in launching or continuing activities under the government's emergent literacy assistance program (*Programme d'aide à l'éveil à la lecture et à l'écriture—PAÉLÉ*).

The program supports the integration of emergent literacy activities into family practices and in various locations and services frequented by children under 5 years old, their parents, and their grandparents in underprivileged areas.

Highlights

- > Support for the implementation and planning work of committees in **Saint-Léonard** and **Bordeaux-Cartierville**.
- > Increased guidance among the **21** local emergent literacy committees.
- > Continued coordination with **Avenir d'enfants** to foster consistency of emergent literacy measures in early childhood education.
- > Organization of the third annual Rencontres ÉLÉ, which assembled some **200** Montreal partners.
- > **6** meetings of the regional committee to manage projects aimed at supporting local committees, including resource development.

For more information about emergent literacy and on emergent literacy committees, visit www.leszeles.ca.

Montreal Hooked on School receives support from the following partner to implement this action:



Priority action 2

FOSTER CONNECTIONS AMONG ALL PARTNERS AND THE COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS THE COHESION OF ACTIONS TO PROMOTE SCHOOL PERSEVERANCE AND SUCCESS.



HOOKED ON SCHOOL DAYS

Since 2011, Montreal Hooked on School has coordinated Montreal's participation in Hooked on School Days (HSD), which highlights the importance of being there to support youth and congratulate their efforts. Over the years, Montrealers have adopted and appropriated this movement to an ever-increasing degree. HSD 2015 produced many touching moments, with thousands of people marking the week by sending messages of encouragement and support to young people, along with notes of gratitude for the people who work to help youth persevere at school.

Highlights

- > 1 launch event, attended by the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sport, **Yves Bolduc** and over 200 partners from all sectors.
- > 1 great chain of encouragement, started by Montreal mayor **Denis Coderre**, along with 2 members of the HSD Squad.
- > **1,600** activities registered.
- > **440** participating organizations.
- > **48,000** people wearing the school perseverance ribbon.
- > **21** inspiring accounts from **10** youth who have reconnected with school, presented to **750** students, adult learners, university students, volunteers, youth workers, and school staff.
- > **10,600** ribbons handed out at Berri-UQAM and Honoré-Beaugrand metro stations and at Central Station by members of the HSD squad, partner organizations, and the MHS team.
- > 1 Québec-wide **public campaign**.
- > Thousands of **youth** encouraged.

Montreal Hooked on School receives support from the following partners to implement this action:



Photo: Ky Vy Le Duc



Photo: Sylvain Légaré



Photos: Sylvain Légaré



ÉQUI T-É PROGRAM

Montreal Hooked on School is the regional coordinator of the Équi T-É Program's employer component, which promotes work/school balance by encouraging businesses and professionals to adopt practices that contribute to school perseverance and success among young people. An evaluation of the employer component highlighted the strengths and limitations of interventions and financial support by Carrefours jeunesse-emploi in carrying out Équi T-É workshops with youth.

Highlights

- > Coordination of the employer component for the eastern sector of the Island of Montreal taken over by **Carrefour jeunesse-emploi Viger/Jeanne-Mance**.
- > Development and launch of the French-language best practices guide **Embaucher des jeunes: guide de bonnes pratiques à l'intention des employeurs**.
- > **Evaluation** of the implementation and effects of the Équi T-É program employer component by ÉvalÉcole, inc.¹.
- > **3,197** youth made aware of the importance of school/work balance thanks to **157** workshops².
- > Registration of **141** new businesses in the Équi T-É program³.
- > Over **850** Équi T-É businesses in Montreal.

Faced with the financial insecurity of the Équi T-É program, MHS announced to its partners in May 2015 that it would be ending its involvement in the employer component for the year 2015-2016.

Montreal Hooked on School receives support from the following partners to implement this action:



NETWORK OF REGIONAL CONSULTING AUTHORITIES ON STUDENT RETENTION AND EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS

Many regions of Québec have a regional joint action organization (instance régionale de concertation—IRC) that, like Montreal Hooked on School, supports stakeholder mobilization and partnerships aimed at encouraging school perseverance. Montreal Hooked on School plays an active role on the IRC planning and coordination committee, which is a forum for discussing priorities for action related to school perseverance and for working on collective issues, including work/school balance and Hooked on School Days.

Highlights

- > Participation on the network's **coordination** and planning committee.
- > Participation in the province-wide "**encourageonsles.com**" encouragement campaign, as part of Hooked on School Days.
- > Contribution to validation of the self-assessment resource "**jeconcilie.com**" and its companion guide for youth workers.

¹ The guide *Embaucher des jeunes* and the evaluation report are available at <http://equitemontreal.ca/fr/equi-t-e-montreal/publications/>.

² These workshops were carried out by 9 Carrefours jeunesse-emploi on the Island of Montreal.

³ These activities were carried out by the Carrefours jeunesse-emploi Marquette, Sud-Ouest, and Viger/Jeanne-Mance.



JOINT PROJECT ON SCHOOL PERSEVERANCE: INTERVENTION ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES FOR GIRLS AND BOYS

Funded by the Secrétariat à la condition féminine du Québec and overseen by Montreal Hooked on School and Complice Persévérance scolaire Gaspésie-Les Îles, in partnership with the Table de concertation des groupes de femmes Gaspésie Îles-de-la-Madeleine (TCGF – GIM), this project (*Projet concerté sur la persévérance scolaire: enjeux et perspectives d'intervention chez les filles et les garçons*) aims to document the effects of sexual stereotypes on school progress and to offer approaches that encourage more egalitarian planning, intervention practices, and activities. This joint, transferrable project will take the form of a guide for project planners, community workers, regional and local school perseverance partners, and school workers.

Highlights

- > **Spring 2015**: project launch.
- > **May 2015**: working committees formed.
- > **Summer 2015**: preliminary version of the guide developed.
- > **Fall 2015**: testing period (introduction of guide at workshops and to various partners).

This action was implemented in partnership with the following organizations:



Et avec l'appui du:



COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The success of actions aimed at increasing graduation rates depends on the participation and contribution of all levels of society, and joint action is an important aspect of this process. To promote cohesive strategies and information sharing among the various entities working toward school perseverance, Montreal Hooked on School sits on a number of committees and working groups.

Regional or interregional committees

- > Advisory committee for the Joint Project on School Perseverance: Intervention Issues and Perspectives for Girls and Boys
- > Development committee for the self-assessment work/school balance kit *Trousse d'autodiagnostic en conciliation études-travail*—CÉT
- > Regional emergent literacy committee (*Programme d'aide à l'éveil à la lecture et à l'écriture*—PAÉLÉ)
- > Board of directors of the Fondation de lutte au décrochage scolaire de Montréal
- > Groupe d'action sur la persévérance et la réussite scolaires au Québec
- > Horizon 0-5 (and its strategic planning committee)
- > Forum montréalais sur la métropole (Vice-chair, childhood development, elementary and high school education)
- > Network of regional consulting authorities on student retention and educational success (coordination committee)
- > Table de la Saison de la lecture de Montréal (communications committee)

Priority action 3

DOCUMENT, PROMOTE AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION RELEVANT TO ACTIONS THAT ENCOURAGE SCHOOL PERSEVERANCE AND SUCCESS.

DOCUMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL REALITY

In order to better understand school perseverance and success from a Montreal perspective and support actions adapted to the unique realities in each Montreal neighbourhood, MHS documents the situation in Montreal related to the main school perseverance issues.

Portraits of targeted areas

Documentation of data related to the determinants of school perseverance in order to foster a shared vision of the issues in each neighbourhood.

- > Production of 5 situational reports.
- > Production of 2 fact sheets.

These documents can be viewed at the Montreal Hooked on School website at www.researeussitemontreal.ca

Study of the work habits and lifestyles of young Montrealers

Study conducted among 2,000 Secondary 4 and 5 students to understand the reality of working students. Project in partnership with the Centre ÉCOBES and an advisory committee made up of school perseverance partners.

- > Collection and analysis of data.
- > Results expected for the fall of 2015.

Promotion and dissemination of information

Montreal Hooked on School adopts ever more diverse dissemination strategies to foster a better understanding of school perseverance and success from a Montreal-specific perspective and to call attention to Montreal-based actions that support the success of youth. In 2014-2015, guided by the strategy set out in its new communication plan, MHS intensified its efforts in this direction to further highlight the expertise of Montreal stakeholders. Increasingly, journalists are turning to

Montreal Hooked on School for information about school perseverance, not only in Montreal, but sometimes even in Québec as a whole.

- > 7 press releases.
- > 70 interviews and media reports, primarily during HSD.
- > 5 issues of the TIES newsletter, distributed to over 750 subscribers, with a 45% reading rate.
- > Interviews on the TV programs *Ménage à trois* (Vtélé, Novembre 2014) and *Salut Bonjour!* (TVQ, February 2015).

SEMINARS, LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Montreal Hooked on School's actions include information-sharing and networking activities that shed light on various issues related to school perseverance, that discuss possible solutions, and that support collective efforts among different sectors.

Parental engagement: roles, expectations, and issues

The annual MHS seminar dealt with findings of research into parental engagement in their children's education, in order to reveal the various perspectives of parents, the education sector, and the community. This was followed by a panel made up of local initiative coordinators, who highlighted the conditions favourable to parental engagement along with traps to avoid.

- > 200 participants.
- > Speakers: **Research findings:** erge J. Larivée, Ph.D; **Projet Sault-au-Récollet:** Anne-Geneviève Lalongo, Christian Lacombe, Brigitte Robert; **Spaghetti Nights Family Workshops:** Matthew Albert, Anurag Dhir.

Third annual emergent literacy conference: "ÉLÉ... partout, par tous!"

The third emergent literacy conference was a chance for Montreal's emergent literacy

partners to gather and learn about existing emergent literacy resources, discuss best practices, and forge ties aimed at future partnerships. Over a dozen subjects were covered, from early childhood reading to phonological awareness to working with multilingual parents.

- > 200 participants.
- > The **third emergent literacy conference** (Rencontres ÉLÉ) was presented by the various emergent literacy committees, with support from MEESR and MHS.

Training sessions on the use and integration of the CartoJeunes tool

Two workshops were held to help Montreal stakeholders master CartoJeunes and get more out of the many possibilities offered by this new interactive cartography platform. CartoJeunes affords access to up-to-date data on the realities and school experiences of students aged 0 to 20.

- > 70 participants.
- > Trainers: **M. Michel Perron** and the team of the UQAC-Cégep de Jonquière Chair on the living conditions, health, and aspirations of young people.

Training session on developing a logical framework

The goal of this workshop was to foster a better understanding of the logical framework as a planning and evaluation tool in order to heighten the effect of actions to promote school perseverance. The session was designed to equip participants to develop logical frameworks for their activities.

- > 85 participants.
- > Trainers: **M. Michel Janosz**, and the Évalécole team.
- > Three subsequent workshops were offered to give participants a chance to build on their learning.

Presentations

Montreal Hooked on School is frequently invited to present information about the status or determinants of school perseverance in Montreal. Over the past year, MHS staff members gave a number of presentations.

Priority action 4

IMPROVE EVALUATION STRATEGIES.

EVALUATION OF THE STRATEGY TO SUPPORT AND GUIDE LOCAL ACTION

Since 2012, the Évalécole team, led by professor Michel Janosz of Université de Montréal, has been assisting MHS in measuring the effectiveness of its local action strategy. Divided into three phases, the evaluation aims to analyze regional mobilization, local mobilization, and the impacts of certain initiatives. In 2014-2015, Montreal Hooked on School submitted the report of the second evaluation phase, which presents the status of mobilization in the territories targeted by MHS and identifies the conditions that affect this mobilization. The communication of these results, mostly positive, was also an opportunity to initiate a thought process on MHS's model for action in supporting the development and implementation of local joint-action plans. Data have already been collected to evaluate the impacts of the initiatives selected for the third evaluation phase, and the reports will be available in the fall of 2016.

In addition, a training session and workshops were offered to assist Montreal-based school perseverance organizations to develop assessment capacity.

Highlights

- > Submission of the evaluation report on local **mobilization**.
- > Presentation and workshops on the **logical framework** planning tool.
- > **Collection of analytical data** on the effects of various initiatives.

FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Montreal Hooked on School's 2014-2015 actions were made possible with the help of our financial partners. We thank them for their support.



Membres

With the support of five school boards and its 29 regional members, MHS acts as a mobilizing force and a catalyst for Montreal stakeholders to engage in a joint process. Together, they work to develop partnership projects aimed at increasing the scope and effect of actions that promote school perseverance, educational success, and re-engagement with school.



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EDUCATIONAL SECTOR



Commission
scolaire
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Commission scolaire
English-Montréal
English Montreal
School Board



Commission scolaire
Lester-B.-Pearson



- > Association des enseignantes et enseignants de Montréal (Montreal Teachers Association)
- > Association montréalaise des directions d'établissement scolaire (AMDES)
- > Association of Montreal School Administrators (Association des cadres scolaires de Montréal)
- > Fédération autonome de l'enseignement

MILIEU DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR

- > Regroupement des collèges du Montréal métropolitain (RCMM)
- > Université du Québec à Montréal
- > Université McGill

MILIEU COMMUNAUTAIRE

- > Institut de coopération pour l'éducation des adultes (ICÉA)
- > Regroupement des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte au décrochage (ROCQLD)
- > Table des Carrefours jeunesse-emploi de l'Île-de-Montréal
- > Les YMCA du Québec

INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR

- > Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal
- > Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'Île de Montréal
- > Concertation Montréal
- > Conseil régional des partenaires du marché du travail
- > Emploi-Québec
- > Forum jeunesse de l'Île de Montréal
- > Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche - Une école Montréalaise pour tous
- > Ministère de la Famille
- > Service de police de la Ville de Montréal
- > Ville de Montréal

BUSINESS SECTOR

- > Centraide of Greater Montreal
- > Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal
- > Drakkar Human Resources
- > Fondation de lutte au décrochage scolaire

GUESTS

- > Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes (TCRI)
- > Fonds 1804 pour la persévérance scolaire