

WELCOME TO

KiHS



**TEACH
FOR
CANADA**

Welcome to KiHS

A winter scene with people in a snowy field. In the foreground, a person in dark winter gear is bent over, adjusting their equipment. In the background, two other people are visible. A large, semi-transparent graphic of a hand is overlaid on the scene, with the fingers pointing towards the top right. The background shows a line of evergreen trees under a clear sky.

School History



Keewaytinook Internet High School was created in 2000 at the request of the chiefs of Keewaytinook Okimakanak (Northern Chiefs Tribal Council). The chiefs saw that there were many issues with the practice, at the time, of sending youth out of their communities to attend high school in Thunder Bay, Sioux Lookout, or Dryden. Many felt these students were too young to be away from their families and communities. Thus, KiHS began as a grade 9 program. In the years since, it has evolved into a full grade 9 to 12 program for on reserve youth and mature students. Since 2006 there have been many graduates of KiHS, both young and mature, and the range of choices offered to students has grown to surpass the choices they have in most urban schools.



How it works

KiHS students attend their community classrooms and work on a variety of courses using the online platform Moodle.

Their community teacher is responsible for supporting students in their courses, and also for developing and delivering courses online in their subject area. Thus, a teacher in North Spirit Lake might be working with her local students in a variety of courses, while at the same time delivering English courses to all KiHS students in all communities. This is possible because the instruction is asynchronous, meaning the lessons are not delivered live. Students have access to the entire week's work starting on Monday and work at their own pace to complete the work.



A Day in the Life of a Teacher

KiHS school day runs from 9 am until 4:30 pm, with one hour off for lunch from 12 – 1 pm.

Typically, teachers and students all go home for lunch. It is expected that KiHS teachers will arrive at school by 8:30am. Additional hours are often required in the classroom, to provide extra homework help and to manage course writing and marking and administrative duties. KiHS classrooms span two different time zones (eastern and central).





Courses offered by KiHS



KiHS by the number

Classes offered

KiHS offers over 75 courses in most subject areas, from grades 9 to 12, in all three academic streams.

- 15 English courses
- 12 Mathematics courses
- 14 Science courses
- 5 Business courses
- 3 Native language courses
- 1 Native studies course
- 4 Health and physical education courses
- 7 Humanities courses
- 9 Canadian studies courses
- 7 Art, music, technology, guidance and career studies courses
- Co-operative education and special education services



KiHS school population

240, with classrooms ranging from 12 to 30+ active students

Number of Partner Communities

13 full partner communities as well as several credit purchase partnerships, in which KiHS offers certain classes to students in those communities.

KiHS staff

- 14 community teachers
- Special education resource teacher
- Co-op and PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment Recognition) coordinator
- First Nations Student Success Program Literacy Lead
- FNSSP Numeracy Lead
- 2 administrative assistants
- Student services coordinator
- ICT co-ordinator
- 4 classroom assistants
- Principal and vice-principal
- Land based education lead
- Native language lead
- Graduation coach
- 2 student wellness workers



Important Dates

**August orientation
(Thunder Bay)**

August 26 - 29

Travel to community

August 30

Term 1

Sept 3 - Oct 25

Term 2

Oct 28 - Dec 20

Christmas holidays

Dec 21 - Jan 5

Term 3

Jan 6 - March 6

PD Week

Feb 10 - Feb 14

March Break

March 9 - March 13

Term 4

March 16 - May 15

Graduation

May 20

Summer Vacation

begins May 23

KiHS Directory



All staff numbers
can be dialed from
the IP phone in
the classroom, or
using the toll free
number:
1-800-387-3740

Principal

Kevin Dempsey
– 1394

Vice-Principal

Angela Batsford-
Mermans
-3005

Secretary

Erin Litwin
– 1298

Special Education

Melissa Black
– 1357

ICT Co-ordinator

Jason Clement
-1353

Student Services

Lynda Mamakeesic
– 1313

Comparing

Services and Programming at KiHS, Community High Schools, and Urban High Schools

	KiHS	Community High School	Urban High School
Community-based Including support from family and friends	x	x	
Ministry inspected	x	x	x
Land-based activities	x	x	Limited
Cultural activities	x	x	Limited
Access to courses at all levels (locally developed, applied, academic, college prep, university prep, workplace)	x		If provincial schools, yes
Elective courses, such as art and music	x	Limited	Sometimes
Course content tailored to community	x	x	
Intramural sports		Very Limited	x
Extracurricular activities	x	x	x
Elder support	x	x	Limited

	KiHS	Community High School	Urban High School
Native language program	x	x	Limited
Field trips	x	x	x
Graduation ceremony and celebrations	x	x	x
Access to student support services (e.g., guidance, student wellness workers, speech language pathologists)	x	x	x
Special education program	x	x	x
PLAR program	x	Sometimes	x
Breakfast program	x	x	x

KiHS is a Ministry inspected school that uses a blended-learning model to delivery over 75 courses to students in 13 partner community. Similar to an urban high school, the secondary school offers locally developed, applied, and academic courses in grades 9 and 10, as well as compulsory and elective courses in grades 11 and 12, including university preparation courses. As a community-based program, it has the ability to offer students land-based and cultural activities, as well as support from local elders.



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