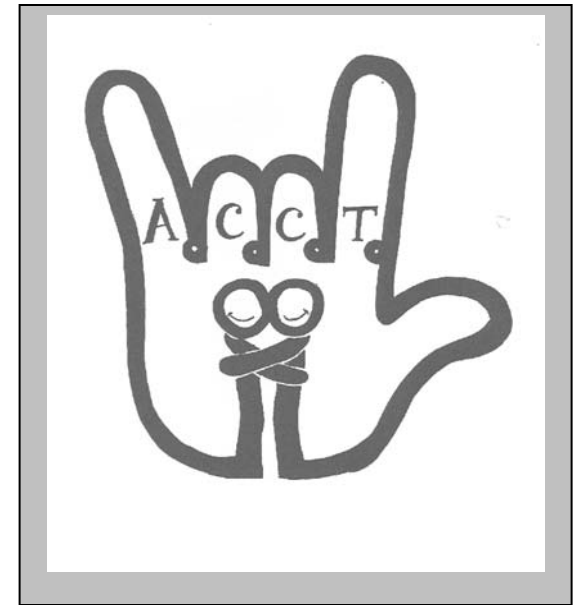


Student Voice

ACCT Club: Acknowledge, Challenge, Change, Teach ...

About the program ...

The Acknowledge, Challenge, Change, Teach (ACCT) Club at Grand River Collegiate Institute developed a one-day experiential ACCT OUT workshop that brings students, staff and other community members together to deal with issues that young people struggle with such as cliques, social isolation, bullying, drug and alcohol abuse, academic stress and violence. The workshop brings awareness to the issues and promotes change, both individually and collectively. The goals of the ACCT Club are to teach empathy and to create a culture of inclusion, acceptance and support. Student leaders from the ACCT Club develop and lead all sessions. They have also created a website located at www.acctout.ca with information about how to volunteer for the workshop and how students from outside of their school can participate in the workshop.



Impact on student learning and school culture ...

- Students learn about social justice issues and are challenged to think critically, solve problems and make wise decisions for both themselves and their communities.
- The workshop provides many opportunities for students to connect with one another and experience the ways in which their similarities are greater than their differences. The workshop is also designed to allow the adults in the room to learn about youth struggles and to share their own experiences with the students, building connections and a better sense of what older and younger people have in common.
- By the end of the workshop, the students feel committed to make a change in their communities. Both those who have bullied others and those who have been bullied depart feeling like allies who are now able to create a culture of change in their schools together. Equity and social justice are a shared agenda.

ACCT Club ...

Acknowledge the issues: bullying, teen suicide, depression, isolation, rumours, etc.

Challenge yourself and others to get involved and make a difference.

Change people's perspectives and behaviour.

Teach others what you have learned and lead by example.

To find out more, contact ...

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