HLF Month 2026 is here!

HLF Month brings schools, organizations, and community members together to eliminate the financial challenges that prevent HDSB students from accessing a complete education. As the only charity solely dedicated to supporting students in the Halton District School Board, the **Halton Learning Foundation (HLF)** is committed to continuing to say "YES" to every request from schools for student support.

The Ask!

1) Help create awareness about HLF Month
2) Help raise funds for HDSB students in need

Why HLF Month Matters

Every day, students in our community face challenges, from food insecurity and inadequate clothing to a lack of school supplies and access to extracurricular opportunities. Throughout HLF Month, we unite to raise funds and awareness to remove these barriers, so every student can learn, participate, and reach their full potential.

> *For a mother of four who has just taken the brave step of leaving an abusive situation, starting over can feel like an uphill battle. Read about A Gift of Hope and New Beginnings: Sheila's Message of Gratitude*

Aligned with the **HDSB Strategic Plan**, HLF Month is a powerful opportunity to model behavior that inspires empathy and respect. By participating, your school community emphasizes **Kindness, Connection & Community**, building positive relationships while ensuring every student has the essentials they need to succeed.

We invite HDSB staff, teachers, and students to join us in April to take action against the financial hurdles faced by many HDSB families.

Key Highlights of HLF Month

- **HLF Month Challenges:**
  Engage your school community in fun, interactive activities while raising funds for a great cause! This year, we've added more exciting challenges to our toolkit to get everyone involved. From creative activities to physical challenges, there's something for everyone!

- **Students in the Spotlight (April 29):**
  "Students in the Spotlight" is an inspiring event that showcases the incredible talents of HDSB students through live performances including music, dance, and more. This April 29th, we'll feature a student-led art exhibition celebrating the creativity and passion of our young people. Not only does this event highlight the talent of HDSB students, but it also serves as a fundraising opportunity to support the HLF's mission.

- **Tour de Halton Challenge:**
  Get moving! Whether you bike, walk, or run, help us clock the kilometers to raise awareness and funds. Tour de Halton is an exciting, high-energy fundraising challenge where participants set their own fun goals to raise funds for students facing financial barriers across Halton Region. Students and school communities can create collective goals to be a part of the action!

How to Get Involved

We encourage all HDSB schools and classrooms to participate in HLF Month 2026! Here are a few fun and engaging activities that you can incorporate into your school's calendar.

1. **Create Your Own HLF Challenge**
   We are inviting your school/classroom/group to take on a fun challenge to raise awareness and funds. Some ideas include:

   - **Skipping Challenge**: How many skips can you do in one minute?
   - **4 Square Challenge**: Host a friendly competition of 4-square between classes or grades.
   - **Book Reading Challenge**: Set a goal for how many books or pages can be read collectively.
   - **Give-Something-Up Challenge**: Challenge participants to give something up for the month in support of students.
   - **Personal Challenge**: Encourage students and staff to set and achieve personal goals.

   We'll provide you with an **HLF Month Donation Page** and an online **peer-to-peer fundraising tool** to create friendly competition between students, classrooms, and schools. It's a great way to make fundraising active, fun, and engaging for all!

2. **HLF Colour Day**
   Show your support by hosting an **HLF Colour Day** at your school! Encourage everyone to wear **HLF's colours** (green, orange, and blue) to raise awareness and celebrate the spirit of giving. You can incorporate fun activities such as art projects, games, or a mini assembly to highlight the cause.

3. **Cute Letters and Art Exhibitions**
   Get creative with your students! Host a **cute letters campaign**, where students write kind notes or letters to HDSB students in need, spreading positivity and showing support.

4. **Fun School Events**
   Add a little extra excitement to your school's HLF Month participation with some of these fun events:
   - **School Sleepover**: Host a fun school sleepover to bring students together while raising funds for HLF.
   - **Crafts Sale**: Organize a crafts sale, where students can sell their handmade creations.

- **Bake Sale**: Set up a bake sale with sweet treats made by students, teachers, and parents.
- **Popcorn Sale**: A popcorn stand is a simple but effective way to raise funds and engage the school community.
- **Pie in the Face Day**: Host a fun **Pie in the Face** event, where students can donate to see teachers or staff members get a pie thrown at them!
- **Karaoke Night**: Bring the school together for a night of music and fun with a **Karaoke Night**, inviting students, staff, and families to sing their hearts out.
- **Car Wash**: Set up a car wash station where students can wash cars in exchange for donations.
- **Ice Cream Social**: Host a delightful **Ice Cream Social**, where students can enjoy a sweet treat while donating to the cause.
- **Scavenger Hunt**: Plan an exciting school-wide **Scavenger Hunt** with clues tied to the mission of HLF, with teams competing to win fun prizes.

5. **Classroom Activities to Support HLF Month**
   Here are some ideas to incorporate **HLF Month** into your classroom activities:
   - **Themed Classroom Decorations**: Decorate your classroom with HLF colours or *HLF Month*-themed art projects.
   - **Guest Speakers**: Invite **HLF Team Members or Student Initiatives supporting HLF** to speak to students about the impact of HLF and how they can help make a difference.
   - **Art Projects**: Have students create banners, posters, or donation trackers to highlight their involvement.
   - **Physical Education**: Set up activities like practice walks or a "Breaking Down Barriers" obstacle course to get active while raising awareness.
   - **Start a School Garden**: Encourage students to participate in planting a garden to nurture growth.

6. **Secondary School Ideas**
   Secondary students can get involved in a variety of ways:
   - **Photography & Journalism**: Document the month through photos, writing, and social media content. Students can highlight the importance of social activism and poverty awareness.
   - **Study of Social Issues**: Use HLF Month as an opportunity to discuss issues like poverty and social justice in subjects like Civics, English, and Social Studies.
   - **Nutrition**: Focus on student wellness by exploring the impact of good nutrition and how HLF supports school breakfast programs and food banks.

7. **Culminating Event**
   At the end of **HLF Month**, celebrate your efforts with a **Culminating Event**. Whether it's a closing ceremony, a performance showcasing class projects, or a visit from the principal to thank participants, it's a great way to recognize all the hard work and raise awareness about the funds raised.

Ready to make an Impact?

Register Your Challenge/Activity

You can register your challenge/activity on the following link and ask your friends and family to sponsor you. Registration link
For further info about creating or joining teams or joining as individuals please check the following link: How to Join Peer to Peer fundraising teams.

Spread the Word

Let your community know about HLF Month! Encourage others to join and help us celebrate your success and promote your activities through our website and social media channels.

- **Tag Us:** Tag HLF on your social media posts, and we will share your events!
- **Email Us:** Let us know what you are planning by dropping an email to **Peace Olawunmi** at: olawunmip@haltonlearningfoundation.ca.

For further information about HLF Month please visit: HLF Month page

Social Media pages:

Get social with us!