



DESTA – Who Are We?

DESTA is an outreach initiative to young adults (18-25), within the black community. Our mission is to:

- Mentor marginalized youth in the areas of education, employment and personal growth
- Guide each individual in the actualization of positive potential
- Offer intervention and advocacy support
- Empower vision, strengthen authentic identity, and promote excellence

Continued Learning at DESTA – Lion Wolf School

In partnership with The Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB), DESTA has established a distance education and tutorial program which enables youth to complete their high school education. DESTA created Lion Wolf School, which operates out of The Padua Center in Little Burgundy, where students can complete their high school studies via adapted distance education.

What is Distance Education?

Distance education is an expanding field which allows students to learn at their own speed, at a time and place that is convenient to them. In traditional distance education, students receive a course pack and learning material and can complete the course from home without ever having to set foot in an established educational institution. DESTA has adapted this traditional form of distance education to better suit the needs of the inner city youth which it serves:

- ⇒ While our students are enrolled in distance education courses, they must attend regular one-on-one tutoring and teaching sessions at Lion Wolf School.
- ⇒ This is especially important because many of the students who enroll at Lion Wolf School have been out of school for many years and are lacking important independent study and work skills.

We at DESTA believe that the extra tutoring and teaching that our students receive at Lion Wolf School is a fundamental component of their success.



Our Youth

Our mentoring outreach has developed through referrals from community organizations and agencies, through word of mouth and peer influence and through street outreach.

Many of our youth come from an economically marginalized portion of society and have often fallen through the cracks of the education system. Many are unemployed and under-educated. This alone poses various challenges.

⇒ Many of our youth have been out of school for several years:

- Some may lack important independent study habits and skills
- Some may lack motivation and they may lack confidence in their own academic potential.
- Some of our youth may have learning disabilities that have gone unnoticed throughout their lives

⇒ The instability that many students deal with on a daily basis also poses a challenge.

- Financial struggles, dependant family members, illness, loss of shelter and numerous other issues can come up or change at any moment.
- This may mean that without notice, it may suddenly become very difficult for a youth to remain committed to their schooling.

Despite the challenges faced, they are keen to live productive lives.



Student Responsibilities and Expectations

While we recognize that our students may require additional support, such as one-on-one tutoring, we expect no less of them academically than any other educational institution.

Students are expected to:

- Be punctual and attend all scheduled tutoring sessions
- Do supplemental homework at home

Your Role as a Tutor at DESTA

First and foremost, DESTA would like to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for volunteering your time to join our DESTA team of tutors! Here at DESTA we love and appreciate our tutors – without you, our program would not be the success that it is!

Tutors are expected to:

- Be punctual and attend all scheduled tutoring sessions
- Develop a positive atmosphere with the student
- Be familiar with the course curriculum, expectations and homework requirements
- Prepare a lesson plan before each session

Contact

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