

Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board

Ken Manderville, System Principal

#### Welcome

It is indeed a pleasure to welcome you to the winter edition of the Student Success newsletter! This is year 7 of the Student Success Initiative and it is my pleasure to lead Student Success for the Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board. Mandy Savery-Whiteway has led Student Success for the last two years and we wish her well in her new role at the Ministry of Education. My goal is to build on the excellent work that Mandy and her two predecessors, Trish FitzGibbon and Christine Walker-Bird, have done in helping schools to raise levels of student achievement, close the achievement gap, and increase confidence in public education. We also wish Julia Lukiew well in her new role as Head Secretary at Harry J. Clarke School P.S. Pam McCann has moved into the Student Success Secretary role and is doing an excellent job learning the intricacies of the role and keeping the system principal in line!

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## Differentiated Instruction Project



Susanna Moodie Elementary School and Centennial Secondary School are piloting a Regional Grades 7 -10 Differentiated Instruction Ministry of Education Project during the 2009-2010 school year. The project goals are to:

- 1. Develop, implement and monitor differentiated instruction strategies that address the diverse learning needs of the students in our classrooms;
- 2. Improve student engagement and achievement by identifying and then responding to readiness for learning, learning preferences and/or interests through Differentiated Instruction; and
- 3. Enhance communication structures between our elementary and secondary schools that facilitate even more successful transitions as our students move from elementary to secondary.

The Ministry, School Board and project participants are committed to using this project as a vehicle to continue on our journey in understanding how to best deliver meaningful and effective job embedded professional learning. Project participants will follow the four phase Plan, Act, Observe and Reflect professional learning cycle. HPEDSB staff involved in this project are Ken Manderville, Gail Brant, Ian Press, Patricia Murrell, Melanie Clare, Mike Burns, Thresa Cowan and Richard Long.

Submitted by: Richard Long, Teacher, CSS

#### **Student Success Lead Teachers 2009/10**

Roger Ramsay - THS, Laura MacLellan - CSS, Lisa Fraser - PECI, Melanie Thompson - QSS, Tara Prance - CHHS, Jessica Francis - BSS, Amanda Allison - MSS, Absent - Kate Cockburn - NHHS.



A Great Place to Learn and A Great Place to Work!





# **QUINTE SECONDARY SCHOOL Celebrates Our Student Successes**

On October 27, 2009, Quinte Secondary School recognized excellence in all subject areas and in student citizenship, with its annual Junior Awards Reception. Over one hundred and thirty students were recognized by the teaching staff. Parents and Honoured Guests were present and it was a true celebration of the many accomplishments of our students.

The **Principal's Award**, recognizing the top five Grade 9 students, was presented to Melissa Bull, Aaron Cain, Christine Cyr, Nic Nunn and Dayna Sutherland. The **Principals' Award**, recognizing the top five Grade 10 students, was presented to Anna Cosh, Jeanette Cyr, Curtis Parker, Robert Tougas and Mitchell Yates.

The **OSSTF Achievement Recognition Award**, honouring a high level of achievement and excellence in citizenship, curricular and extracurricular areas, was presented to the following students:

Grade 9 Heidi Henderson
Grade 10 Sierra Clement
Grade 11 Cory Marvin

#### SAINTS PRIDE CONTINUES TO SHINE AT QUINTE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Submitted by: Melanie Thompson, SSLT, QSS



The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs are specialized career-focused options for students that customize learning opportunities on a career path that matches their skills and interests. SHSMs provide pathways to apprenticeship training, college, university and the work-place while meeting the high standards and requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students usually complete the requirements for an SHSM OSSD in Grades 11 and 12. Each SHSM includes:

- a bundle of 8-10 courses related to the selected field (4 major credits, 2-4 other required credits, 2 cooperative education credits)
- valuable industry certifications and training programs
- career exploration and experiential learning
- reach ahead opportunities where students participate in authentic experiences in their postsecondary option of choice
- use of the Ontario Skills Passport for documentation of the development of Essential Skills and work habits

Provincially, approximately 20,000 students are participating in over 740 SHSM programs in 16 different sectors. 120 HPEDSB students are currently involved in SHSMs in 4 different sectors:

- The Environment North Hastings High School
- Forestry North Hastings High School
- Construction Quinte Secondary School and Centre Hastings Secondary School
- Arts and Culture Centennial Secondary School

These SHSMs are providing sector connected learning experiences to students such as: completing community renovation projects; working with skilled trades persons on house construction; completing a first year Ecology course at Loyalist College; conducting pond studies and monitoring wildlife habits; becoming certified in CPR, First Aid, Fall Arrest ...; performing with professional musicians etc.

SHSMs are also linked to dual credit programs which support the successful transition to college and apprenticeship programs. Students complete college courses or apprenticeship training while still in high school. Centre Hastings students in the Construction SHSM can earn secondary credits and college credits in Construction Techniques at Loyalist College. Up to four, non-compulsory secondary school credits can be earned through dual credit programs. All dual credit programs involve a dual credit secondary teacher who provides direct instruction, support and supervision as required.

Submitted by: Erna Sorensen, Curriculum Coordinator, Education Centre











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### Trenton High School Celebrates Success With The Annual Fall Recognition and Tiger Way Awards Ceremony

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009, Trenton High School celebrated 'Tiger excellence' through recognizing academic success. Over 350 students, parents, teachers and guest speakers, school trustee Sam Clements, and the System Principal of Student Success for HPEDSB, Ken Manderville, attended the event. The Fall Recognition and Tiger Way Awards were created to recognize and promote academic excellence among the THS students. Over 100 students were recognized for achieving top marks in courses from Grade 9 through 11. As well, the 2008/09 Honour Roll recipients were presented their certificates. The night ended with the prestigious Tiger Way awards ceremony which was presented to eight deserving Tigers, who were nominated by their teachers for demonstrating outstanding character, as outlined in the Tiger Way and the HPEDSB Growing With Character attributes. THS proudly



presented these awards to Rebecca Belliveau, Troy Broe, Ashley Davy, Joshua Edwards, Paige Jackman, Ben Potts, Raven Roe, and Amy Sadler. Emily Tetzlaff, Grade 12, stated that "As a student I thought that the night was a huge success. Every student walked away from the event wearing an academic medallion and the feeling that their accomplishments really were important".

In closing, the accomplishments of our students and staff already this school year exemplifies that THS is a school that is achieving and growing with character daily. We look forward with anticipation to many more outstanding successes and accomplishments from our students as the year progresses.

Submitted by: Roger Ramsay, SSLT, THS



### Speak Up

The Ministry of Education has offered Grade 7 to 12 students across Ontario to *speak up* to make a difference at their schools in an effort to increase student engagement across the province. Up to \$2000 is on offer for Student-Led Teacher Facilitated projects. The Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board has submitted 9 proposals from elementary and secondary schools. The Ministry decision will be known soon.

Last year, 2 Hastings and Prince Edward projects were approved: *Real Care Baby Simulator* at Quinte Secondary School and *Promoting Pinecrest Pride* at Pinecrest Memorial



Elementary School. The Quinte Secondary School project was proposed by the Parenting class so that students could get a greater understanding of child-rearing with the baby simulator. The Pinecrest proposal led to students assisting a local graphic designer to create a school logo, paint murals, and develop the design of a student planner.

We look forward to this year's projects and the impact that they will have in helping schools to engage students more effectively.

### **Secondary Learning Teams**

On December 7, 2009, secondary administrators, English and mathematics department heads, and teacher leaders met at the Banquet Centre for a training session on English and Math learning teams. The Ministry has provided additional funding this year for secondary learning teams. The focus for the learning teams will be the Board Improvement Plan SMART Goals and Research-Based Strategies to Raise Student Achievement. English and math departments will focus on students enrolled in Grade 9 Applied courses.

Teachers from other departments will also have the opportunity to collaborate in learning teams focusing on differentiated instruction. This is open to all Intermediate-Senior teachers (Grades 7 to 12) and learning team applications are due to Ken Manderville on January 18, 2010.



### **Student Success at North Hastings High School**

At NHHS we have many spaces and initiatives that we use to provide support for all students. We have a very busy resource room that is packed with students using assistive technology, getting assistance, finishing assignments and working on various tasks with support from resource room staff. This space provides many students with healthy snacks, a positive adult connection and a supportive learning environment. Many days, every seat is full. We also have a Student Success Room that operates during peak times to provide students with the opportunity to finish assignments, rewrite

healthy snacks, a positive adult connection and a supportive learning environment. Many days, every seat is full. We also have a Student Success Room that operates during peak times to provide students with the opportunity to finish assignments, rewrite tests, research, get caught up, and have a quiet space to focus. Credit Recovery is available one period a day and also acts as an additional space for students who need assistance with math, research or correspondence support. The Student Success office is another hub of activity. Students may come there to access one on one assistance, support, or referrals to other services. It is not unusual to have four students huddled around the round table working on different subjects during lunch hour.

On Wednesday mornings the Student Success Team meets to discuss referred students and ongoing interventions. One of the initiatives that we have introduced this year is a Girls Group. This is a group of girls with leadership potential who meet once a month to discuss the challenges they face at school and in their community. Also, our house system and peer to peer program support student success and are considered to be a vital keeping students engaged at school. Student Success at NHHS revolves around communication between teachers, CYCs, administration, parents and other community services as required. Currently we are working to improve our literacy camp which runs approximately six weeks prior to the literacy test. Grade nines and tens are encouraged to attend this camp to hone their skills. Student Success at North Hastings is always growing and adapting to find creative ways to meet student needs. Submitted by: Kate Cockburn, SSLI, NHHS



### **Student Success at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute**

Prince Edward Collegiate Institute (PECI) is located in the town of Picton in beautiful Prince Edward County. The vast majority of our students arrive at school by bus as our school group covers a large rural area. PECI offers a rich variety of courses across all pathways to meet the needs of approximately 830 students. This summer, extensive renovations and updates to the physical plant were undertaken. The school's front foyer was renovated with new display cases, lighting

and a new floor, in which the school's logo is embedded. In addition, a new ventilation system was installed to improve the air quality of the school. The two washrooms that serve the main hall have been modernized with eco-friendly features. Finally, our science labs were completely upgraded two years ago to state of the art levels, to provide students with an optimum learning environment.

PECI offers many specialized programs. Students have the opportunity to apply to our enrichment program, Venture, in Grades 9 and 10. In Grades 11 and 12 they can choose to take Advanced Placement English Literature. Our mathematics department runs a peer tutoring service called Panther Help. Students receive one-on-one tutoring from a senior student. PECI is very fortunate to have three senior level Focus programs. Trading Up (construction trades focus) and Real Life (science/environment focus) will occur in second semester. County Roots (agriculture/tourism/hospitality focus) was run during the last school year. These programs allow students to work with businesses and members of our community to learn valuable skills and create potential career connections. PECI receives outstanding support from our local community partners. Not only do they host our focus program students, but they also provide placements for the large number of students who are in our co-op programs as well as those students who are on SALEP placements.

Our students also have the opportunity to attend our off campus location - Prince Edward Alternative School (PEAS). This year the school moved into a new location not far from main campus. PEAS is staffed by two teachers and an Educational Assistant. The students who attend PEAS enjoy a small and personalized learning environment. Many students take advantage of the individualized programs to catch up on credits missed in their junior years.

PECI offers a variety of extra-curricular activities for students including a large number of academic teams, clubs, band/strings, plays/musicals, sports teams, as well as numerous opportunities to raise funds for charities (locally, nationally and internationally). Over the years our school has raised large sums of money for our local Salvation Army, the food bank, CAS Christmas Angels, the Hospital Auxiliary, Cancer Society, MS, and Heart & Stroke. Our chapter of Make Poverty History provides financial support to the Enelarai Primary School in Kiprigis Kenya. Through numerous fundraising events they supply the teacher and educational supplies for the students.

PECI is a school that celebrates and supports all learners. The teaching staff provides wonderful learning opportunities keeping in mind Universal Design and Learning For All. We are a true community school: many of our parents attended PECI when they were in high school, and many of our graduates have returned to teach at PECI. This strong, vibrant connection to "The County" contributes to PECI's very special feeling of community, inclusivity and respect for all its members.

Submitted by: Lisa Fraser, SSLT, PECI

