



Lester B. Pearson
School Board

Commission scolaire
Lester-B.-Pearson

PEARSON NEWS

LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD

Volume XI, No 9

FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL & THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

April 27, 2009

RAPPORT DU DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL

Conférence *French for the Future*

J'ai le plaisir de vous informer qu'un certain nombre de nos élèves, de notre personnel et de nos gestionnaires ont participé à la conférence régionale de l'organisme *Français pour l'avenir* qui a eu lieu à la Bibliothèque nationale le 21 avril. Cette initiative réunit des jeunes afin qu'ils s'expriment sur l'enseignement du français langue seconde et les besoins importants qu'il implique. *Français pour l'avenir* est un organisme national dynamique, en pleine croissance qui réunit depuis dix ans des chefs de file parmi les élèves, des enseignants et des gestionnaires pour faire entendre l'importance cruciale du bilinguisme.

L'un des parrains de l'organisme, John Ralston Saul, affirme : « J'ai un profond respect pour chaque élève qui maîtrise le français. C'est l'une des choses les plus difficiles et les plus courageuses qu'un jeune puisse faire. Dans un pays où plusieurs trouvent plus facile d'élever des barrières, je vois les participants de *Français pour l'avenir* comme des gens dynamiques qui n'ont pas peur de prendre des risques, poussés par l'appui et le dévouement de leurs enseignants, leurs directeurs et leurs parents, dont la passion pour le français est absolue.

Série de conférences de l'ESTEF (FSSTT)

Chaque année, l'Équipe de soutien et de traitement à l'école et à la famille des Services aux élèves présente une série de conférences très instructives conçues pour les parents des jeunes de nos écoles. Le sujet de ce mois-ci, *The Development of Children and the*

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

***French for the Future* Conference**

I am pleased to report that a number of our students, staff and administrators took part in the regional French for the Future Conference held at the *Bibliothèque nationale* on April 21. This initiative brings together youth to voice their impressions of French Second Language learning and the important needs involved. "French for the Future" is a dynamic, ever-growing national organization that has brought together for the past ten years student leaders, teachers and professionals to make heard the critical importance of bilingualism.

In the words of one of the organization's sponsors, John Ralston Saul, "I have a profound respect for each student who masters French. It is one of the hardest and most courageous things that any young person can do. In a country where many find it much easier to build barriers, I see *French for the Future* participants as dynamic risk-takers propelled by the tremendous support and dedication from their teachers, principals and parents, whose passion for French is uncompromising."

FSSTT Lecture Series

Each year, the Family and School Support and Treatment Team (FSSTT) of the Student Services Division presents a series of highly informative lectures designed for parents of young people in our schools. This month's topic, *The Development of Children and the Health of Societies*, presented by Dr. Nicholas Steinmetz, proved most stimulating and thought-provoking. Our thanks are extended to the

...FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Health of Societies, présenté par le docteur Nicholas Steinmetz, s'est avéré très stimulant et porteur de réflexion. Nous remercions l'ESTEF d'avoir si bien choisi les sujets de la série de cette année.

TOPS

Le spectacle de variétés TOPS, un événement annuel organisé par le comité central des élèves, a mis en valeur les talents artistiques éblouissants des élèves de la Commission scolaire, et la qualité du spectacle honore les élèves organisateurs et les enseignants qui les soutiennent. L'événement a commencé par un gala sur le tapis rouge le vendredi soir où les élèves du programme d'art culinaire du PAVC ont servi des rafraîchissements extraordinaires. Les représentations du vendredi et du samedi ont prouvé, encore une fois, que les talents et les capacités des élèves de Lester-B.-Pearson sont hors pair. Félicitations à tous ceux qui y ont participé !

Dotation en personnel administratif

Des changements à l'effectif administratif des établissements seront présentés au Conseil ce soir. Il s'agit d'une démarche complexe où nous prenons en considération les suggestions des conseils d'établissement, les demandes du personnel et les besoins de chaque école et de la commission dans son ensemble. Bien que la perte des gestionnaires qui partent à la retraite nous affectera sans aucun doute, j'ai confiance que les affectations accordées ce soir garantissent un leadership exceptionnel pour les prochaines années.

Dotation en personnel enseignant

Le processus de dotation en personnel enseignant pour l'année scolaire 2009-2010 est en cours. Une formule de financement très compliquée qui détermine le nombre de postes d'enseignement doit être appariée avec le nombre de classes par discipline, combinée à la capacité d'accueil optimale, pour arriver à une allocation d'enseignants pour chaque école. Une phrase complexe pour décrire une tâche complexe !

FSSTT for presenting this year's series of most valuable topics.

TOPS

The TOPS Student Variety Show, an annual event organized by the Central Students' Committee, showcased the dazzling artistic talents of students from across the Board, a very real tribute to the student organizers and their teacher supporters. The event began with a red carpet Gala on Friday evening with outstanding refreshments served by students in the Culinary Arts program of the Pearson Adult & Vocational Centre. The Friday and Saturday performances proved, once again, that the talents and abilities of Pearson students are without peer. Congratulations to all involved!

Administrative Staffing

Changes in administrative staffing of our schools and centres will be presented to Council this evening. This is an intricate challenge in which we take into consideration input received from the Governing Board, the requests of our personnel and the needs of the individual schools and the system as a whole. Although we will most certainly feel the loss of our retiring administrators, I am confident that the appointments made this evening will ensure exceptional administrative leadership in the years to come.

Teacher Staffing

The teacher staffing process for the 2009-2010 school year is well underway once again. A very complicated financing formula that determines the number of teaching posts must be matched with the in-school patterns of classes, combined with optimal class sizes to produce a staffing allocation for each school. That is a complex sentence that reflects a very complex task!

Des allocations de personnel provisoires ont été signifiées aux écoles sur la base des prévisions d'effectif scolaire qui seront suivies de près chaque semaine d'ici la mi-octobre. Lorsque les chiffres de l'effectif seront définitifs, des ajustements seront apportés à la dotation.

Processus budgétaire

Nous avons maintenant reçu les paramètres budgétaires préliminaires et le Service des ressources financières les a étudiés soigneusement. Notre réponse a été envoyée et nous attendons la documentation définitive du MELS dans un avenir prochain. Il appert que, avec une réduction de l'effectif d'environ 600 à 700 élèves, le financement sera globalement réduit. Lorsque nous aurons des chiffres plus définitifs, une étude plus approfondie des besoins et des réponses à la consultation sera entreprise avant l'élaboration et la présentation du budget définitif.



Preliminary staffing allocations have been made to schools based on enrollment projections that are monitored very carefully on a weekly basis from now until mid-October. As the actual enrollment numbers are clarified, staffing adjustments are made.

Budget Process

Preliminary Budget parameters have now been received and have been studied carefully in Financial Services. Our response to these has been generated and final documentation from the MELS is expected in the near future. It is apparent that, with an anticipated reduction in enrollment of between 600 and 700 students, we will receive an overall reduction. Once more definitive numbers are known, further study of needs and consultation responses will be undertaken prior to the development and presentation of a final budget.



Beurling Academy's School-Wide Stuffed Animal and Toy Drive

The students and staff at Beurling Academy recently received a request to help collect stuffed animals, board games and children's books for students at two of their feeder schools. Without hesitation, a school-wide drive was quickly initiated and in just three weeks donations poured in from students, staff and members of the community. We filled many boxes of beautiful stuffed animals, attractive frisbees, second-hand board games and children's books. Tracy Bieszez of PCHS will be distributing these donations to Kindergarten students from Verdun Elementary and Riverview Elementary during PCHS's Circus Day.

Due to a collaborative effort, the school-wide drive was a tremendous success! The Beurling Academy "family" would like to express their gratitude to everyone who contributed to this drive.

TEAM - Together Everyone Achieves More!



*Tamara Beach
Cycle 1 ERC Teacher*



Cassianne Darling-De Clou represents Beurling Academy at the *Salon Visez Droit* of the Bar of Montréal

A few months ago, our Secondary I and II students were entered in the “Write for Justice” Contest. The students were asked to write a 500-1000 word essay about Internet Ethics which included discussing the advantages and disadvantages of using the Internet and sharing their ideas about Internet Safety.

Cassianne Darling-De Clou, a Secondary II student in my Ethics and Religious Culture class, was one of the six winners in the “Write for Justice” Contest. Her essay about Internet safety was ranked first in the Cycle 1 Secondary category and she was the only winner at the Secondary level from the Lester B. Pearson School Board.



Cassianne’s prizes included \$200 from The Bar of Montréal, Antidote, a set of software reference tools for writing in French from *Druide Informatique* and two one-day passes to *La Ronde*. In addition to this, Cassianne along with her parents were invited for a guided tour of the Montréal Courthouse and for a meeting with a judge and a crown prosecutor.

The Contest organizers invited Cassianne’s Secondary II Ethics and Religious Culture homeroom to the awards ceremony during the *Salon Visez Droit* of The Bar of Montréal which was held at *Complexe Desjardins* on

Wednesday, April 1st, 2009. We were invited for lunch and stayed for the awards ceremony to support Cassianne. Furthermore, we were given the opportunity to listen to Cassianne read her winning essay.

As our school motto indicates, “*Believe and Succeed*”.
Congratulations Cassianne! We’re extremely proud of you!

Tamara Beach
Cycle 1 ERC Teacher

Joint Workshop With Dawson College

This past March Lester B. Pearson School Board Vocational Training and Dawson College welcomed Spring together! Students from the vocational training PAB program participated in a Health & Social Cultural Interpretation workshop along with other participants from the MUHC. This workshop initiative stemmed from a present need for qualified medical interpreters at the Montreal Children's Hospital (MUHC). A collaborative project proposal between Dawson College and the Lester B. Pearson School Board was forwarded to MELS in June 2008 which led to a grant for the initiation of this project. The project retained was one of eleven proposals, for an initial grant of \$10,000.

MELS Collaborative Project/*Plan de rapprochement* has been designed to support Québec's crisis in the field of trades. Job opportunities are increasing and not enough qualified workers will be available to meet the needs in industry. In 2006, the Minister of Education granted \$26,000,000 over a period of three years towards meeting the challenges of providing access to training and qualification in all regions of Québec. This grant focuses mainly on the collaborative efforts between vocational and technical training and allow DEP graduates to pursue their studies at a collegial level.

A partnership soon emerged joining the MUHC, The Centre for Literacy and our school board. LBPSB's vocational health sector consists of a multicultural student population. The workshop was held on March 20-21, 2009 at Dawson College. A total of 28 participants engaged themselves in a series of interactive and stimulating workshops animated by energized presenters who clearly were passionate about the multicultural health interpretation in health.

This workshop has provided an excellent opportunity for our students to excel and enrich their future career as health care workers. Our next objective is to develop pedagogical material towards implementation of a new AEC (*attestation d'études collégiales*). This year's Spring bloom was about strengthening partnerships and providing opportunities in education and industry for our community.

Maria Caldarella
Educational Consultant – Vocational Sector

You would like to submit an article for the *Pearson News*?

You are requested to send your articles and pictures to your Principal who will forward them to us. Digital pictures must be attached as **separate** jpg or bitmap files. Prints can be sent in to be scanned (c/o Michèle Morin, H.O.) and then returned to their owner.

Les articles en français sont toujours appréciés !

Rick Moffat's Annual Visit to Lindsay Place High School

Rick Moffat's presentation to our Sports, Fitness and Society class was a phenomenal success once again. Rick is presently the sports broadcasting director at the popular A.M. 800 station, C.J.A.D. In addition to his position as director, he also does his regular sports news broadcasts, as well as being the English radio voice for the Montréal Canadiens and the Montréal Alouettes. In Rick's own words, "I have the best job in A.M. English-speaking radio in Canada."

The Sports, Fitness and Society classes are Secondary 5 option courses, and have been growing in popularity since their inception four years ago. Rick Moffat has been one of a large number of interesting guests to talk to these classes.

In this year's presentation, Rick adopted his usual interactive approach. Right from the outset, Rick involved the students in some very interesting discussions. He talked about the topic, "Heroes", and asked students to provide their own definitions as to what it takes to be considered a hero. He also asked the students to give their own choices as to who their hero would be, not necessarily in the sports world. As you may imagine, eighty students forwarding their ideas made an interesting, yet organized, discussion.

Rick concluded his presentation by talking about the way he chooses his highlight topics from amongst the hundreds of sports stories each day. The students were given the choices of possible topics to put on air.

I would like to thank Rick Moffat, in my own name and on behalf of the Sports, Fitness and Society students, for giving some quality time for all concerned.



David Liebman

The Beat Goes On at Riverview School

Thanks to *Supporting Montreal Schools* funding, a diverse group of Grade 6 boys was exposed to the exciting world of percussion. Pascal Gingras, a professional drummer and percussionist, led 5 sessions in Riverview's new Community Learning Centre (CLC Room). This workshop was strategically offered to boys only in order to provide them with a unique alternative learning experience. Along with improving their musical skills, the boys soon realized that creativity, coordination, and cooperation were also key elements to being an accomplished drummer. Using several varieties of djembe drums, the boys were taught drumming techniques from the basic 4/4 Rumba to the more complicated 6/8 African Groove. An added benefit for the boys was the opportunity to work with a professional musician, such as Pascal, who not only shared his musical ability with them, but also his passion for his craft. He showed them how one could turn a love for music into a means of earning a living. But the boys were not the only ones reaping benefits from this workshop. Pascal has said how much he has enjoyed this experience and how he would like to do more such workshops. A true example of reciprocal learning!

In order to showcase the boys' improvement, Pascal recorded one of their sessions. This will be posted on the Riverview School website for all to enjoy. Needless to say, the students are very proud of their achievements.

Jennifer Holmes



Storytelling Delight

Ingredients:

Students, 1 great story, a cup of creativity, a sprinkle of humour, a dash of energy

Instructions

Mix with enthusiasm and confidence.

Bake in gymnasium with parents, honourable judges, staff and fellow classmates for an hour and a half.

Serves a couple of hundred.

Greendale's "Storytelling Delight" took place on Thursday, April 9th. The talented performers of Cycle 1 and 2 impressed the audience by recreating fairy tales and picture books by authors such as Robert Munsch. The actors memorized their entire scripts and acted out the stories using various props. Their hard work and commitment to success was evident in their production.

Each participant was awarded a medal. In addition, Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were also awarded by a celebrity panel of judges, who had great difficulty casting their final votes due to the outstanding performances of all students. The judges included CTV News reporter and former Greendale student, Maya Johnson, Chronicle reporter, Raffy Boudjikianian, Commissioner Rosemary Murphy and Carol Mastantuono, International Studies.

Congratulations to all of our students! We look forward to next year's festival!



*Dona Bianchi
Principal*

Westwood High School, Junior Campus Bell Montreal Regional Science Fair Success

Westwood High School, Junior Campus sent the top 5 science fair entries from its own science fair to the Bell Montreal Regional Science Fair held at Marianapolis College the week of March 23. Each one of the experiments was displayed to a panel of judges who examined the data and listened to the students present the scientific process that they followed. With the support of science teacher, Gail Stanworth, each entry ‘made it to the podium.’

Chelsea Crossley partnered with Gabrielle Lefebvre won a bronze medal for their experiment “Do you see what I see”. Nicolas Pacquette also claimed a bronze for his look at Red Bull and if “it gives you wings”. Riley Simons and Noam Guerrier-Freud examined the different sound insulation products and which one was the most sound effective. Their project titled “Can you hear me now?” won silver.

Holly Marginson won gold with her experiment “Crazy for Caviar” which looked the chemistry of sphereification in food preparation. Julianna Zelt and Justine Bajohr also claimed gold with their exhibit on the process of seed germination to help with the biodegradation of cigarette filters.

Forty-two schools participated in this science fair and at the cycle 1 high school level 73 projects were displayed. Claiming 5 medals in all was a huge accomplishment and our whole school is very proud of these young scientists.



Congratulations to all the students for their outstanding effort. Many thanks to the staff members who helped with this activity, and to all the parents and family who were very supportive.

*Hans Bulow
Principal*

Managing Difficult Situations



Run, Sweep
—or—

GROW

A one-day, interactive workshop offered by the

LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD

in partnership with

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES,

Graduate Program in Human Systems Intervention,

to be held at Concordia University, Loyola Campus

on Saturday, October 17, 2009 — OR — Sunday, October 18, 2009

from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*There is no cost for the workshop, however, we must charge participants \$15.00 to cover administrative expenses.
Please make cheques payable to LBPSB.*



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please email us at workshopinfo@lbsb.qc.ca,
visit the Lester B. Pearson website at
<http://www.lbsb.qc.ca> and follow the links,
or call 514.422.3000 and ask for Workshop Info.



Department of Applied Human Sciences



Commission scolaire
Lester-B-Pearson

The partnership continues...

Daniela's Corner

Welcome to the newest section of Pearson News. I am thrilled to be the new Communications Officer at the Lester B. Pearson School Board. I started just one short month ago and since beginning the new job, I have learned so much about the new field I've entered. I am still getting lost around Head Office but I'm sure my sense of direction will get better and if I've met some of you and can't remember your names, my apologies. I will soon get the names right, I promise.

My background is in Journalism and Communications (I got my BA in both those disciplines in 2007) and I've been in the field for many years, having started when I was in CEGEP. I came to LBPSB from CJAD radio where I was an intern for four years and where I, most recently produced The Tommy Schnurmacher Show for two years. Some of you might already know a little bit about me (or a lot, depending how often you listened) from a popular segment I created on Tommy's show called *Daniela's Dilemma*.

Since starting here at the Board, I've been working on a number of projects dealing with both internal and external communications.

My overall goal is to make the media more aware of the Board and all the terrific events and accomplishments that take place within its schools and centres. I am trying to get as many positive stories out there as possible by constantly sending out press releases about what we're doing and I'm also beginning to forge strong relationships with many media outlets.

Internally, I would like to keep all employees connected to what's happening within LBPSB as well as keeping the employees informed on what's important to them. I am doing this by starting an internal employee newsletter, which I plan to launch in one month. I've also been working with administrators to better promote their schools via the Board's main website and through press releases to the media. I am currently working on three sections of LBPSB's website: Schools and Centres, Press Room and News from Council.

In the future, I have many more projects I plan on getting started to better improve the communications aspect of this Board. I look forward to my new job and I very much look forward to visiting all LBPSB's schools and centres as well as working with my new colleagues. There are so many great things happening within this fantastic Board and I plan on making many, many people aware of each and every one of them. If you'd like to reach me to discuss any ideas you may have regarding communications at the Board or if you'd like to introduce yourself to me, please don't hesitate to contact me at dscoppa@lbpsb.qc.ca or at extension 2666.



Daniela Scoppa

PACC's 5th Annual Spring Health Career Fair

Pearson Adult Career Centre recently hosted its 5th Annual Spring Health Career Fair. Twenty five various Health Care Establishments were on hand to provide information related to their facility in hopes of attracting future PACC health graduate students in the Nursing Assistant, PAB and Home Care Programs.

PACC's Annual Health Career Fair continues to facilitate the connection between the students of LBPSB and future employers in the Health Sector. This event provides an excellent opportunity to discuss career positions within the community.

A special thank you goes out to our planning committee, Rick Oliver (Director of PACC Vocational), Rosie Calabretta, Tassia Korbis, Madeleine Barrette, Mélina Chatel, Lisa Diloia and Catherine Ross for making this year's event such a great success. The students from the Food and Beverage program catered the affair, providing a hot buffet to the industry partners. The Committee would like to share these kind words sent by Marva Whyte, Director of Support Services, Alzheimer Groupe Inc.

Please allow me to express my warmest congratulations on an absolutely fantastic event. It was aesthetically pleasing to walk in; the work that went into the set-up was certainly obvious. Let me also mention that the scope, the number of participants, the wealth of information that was there to be exchanged and accessed was indeed second to none. As a partner in the industry it was certainly beneficial, as governing board member I was truly proud.

I'd also like to comment on this from the students perspective, many of whom I had the opportunity to speak with. What they conveyed to me was a real sense of being valued and taken care of. To be given the opportunity to interact with perspective employers on their turf fuelled their confidence. It also spoke to the level of value and investment that their teachers and their school are willing to place in them.

Indeed, in these times when everything is so disposable, it's gratifying to be part of an event that supports continuity. You and your team should all be very proud.

Keep up the great work and see you next year.

Yours truly,

*Marva Whyte
Director of Support Services
Alzheimer Groupe Inc.*



Milk Bag Sleeping Mats

The **John Rennie Green Team** is collecting milk bags for a great purpose. The milk bags are being recycled into sleeping mats for children and adults in 3rd world countries.

Students and staff are joining forces to collect hundreds of bags. These bags are washed, cut and attached into plastic yarn which is then crocheted into colourful sleeping mats. The sleeping mats are insect repellent, washable and can last up to 40 years. World Vision ships them in food containers to developing countries.

The project has been such a huge success as an environmental and humanitarian project that John Rennie has won the 2009 LBPSB Entrepreneurial Contest. Go Green!



*Nancy Sweer
Principal*

PEC celebrates Adult Learners' Week at the Lachine City Hall



As part of Quebec Adult Learners' Week, some students from the Pearson Electrotechnology Centre were not only honoured at the LBPSB celebration, but also took part in the Borough of Lachine's ceremony.

Adult learners from a variety of organizations in Lachine were recognized for their courage and perseverance in taking up the personal challenge of returning to school or pursuing new life-long-learning opportunities.

Eleven students from both the Electricity and the Installation and Repair of Telecommunications Equipment programs were recipients of these awards. We congratulate them all!

*Paula Pedroso
Centre Director*

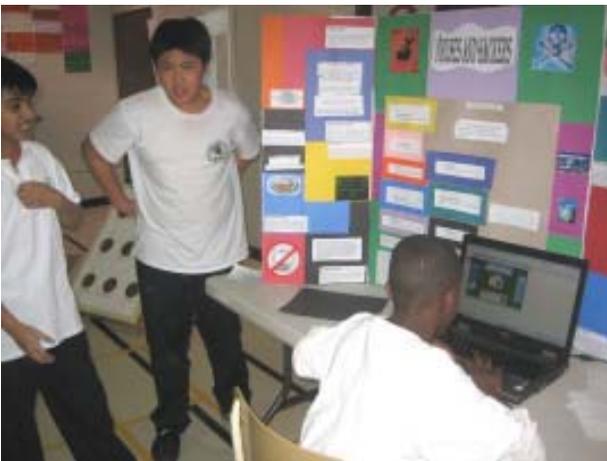
Montreal Alouettes visit Children's World Academy

What a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at Children's World. Six Montreal Alouette players spent the morning with the students and then played basketball against the teachers. The students and teachers really enjoyed their presence and presentations about respect and perseverance. They spoke to students about the importance of staying in school and following their dreams. Students from Kindergarten to grade 6 asked inquisitive questions about their careers. Following their presentations, students watched the teachers play basketball against the Alouettes. It was very interesting since the average height of the players was 6'5 and their weigh combined was 1,150 pounds. You can guess what the score was!



Grade 6 exhibition on technology was a success at Children's World Academy

This year's exhibition was held on February 25th. Students inquired about the developing changes in technology that may impact humans. The various kiosks represented were medical technology, education and technology, robotics, space and technology, aviation, our environment and much more. Many members



of our community attended as well as parents and friends. In addition, CJNT television came to film the students on their great performances. Students and teachers were interviewed about this great event. This exhibition gave students the opportunity to develop their thinking skills, research and communication skills as well as social skills. In addition, students demonstrated that they were inquirers and knowledgeable about technology and how it impacts our world and how it will change our future. We wish to congratulate everyone on a job well done!

*Tania D'Alessandro
IB PYP Coordinator*

PACC Adult Celebrates Adult Learners' Week

PACC Adult is proud to support its students during Adult Learners' Week. This year, Quebec's Adult Learners' Week was held during the week of March 28 to April 3, 2009. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate lifelong learning and recognize adult learners who have demonstrated a curiosity and need for learning.

Here are the many activities that took place:

- The festivities at PACC Adult were kicked off with a pancake lunch for the students.
- Alvin Powell, former NFL player and founder of Saving Station Foundation was invited to give a motivational speech on making the right choices.
- During a Students vs. Teachers/Staff Volleyball Tournament, PACC Adult students delivered an Olympic caliber performance as they beat the teachers and staff in several rounds of volleyball.
- Students participated in the decoration of the PACC Learning Tree, a beautiful visual display of the hopes, dreams, and successes of the student body.
- Almost 50 PACC students were honored at the School Board for their continuous effort and dedication. Chesil Grant gave a moving testimonial about her experience in adult education.
- Several students were congratulated by the Mayor at the Proud to Learn celebration at LaSalle City Hall. This was the first time that the Lester B. Pearson School Board had been invited to such an event.
- Maria Corazon Miralles and Ikram Bashir were awarded \$125 bursaries from the ICEA (*Institut de coopération pour l'éducation des adultes*). These students, who were recognized for their outstanding effort, were invited to sign the Golden Book at Montréal City Hall.



We are proud to learn. Congratulations to all PACC Adult learners!

*Shiela Sachdeva
Educational Consultant*

Greendale School Shows Their Style!

Greendale Elementary School held a Fashion Show on March 26th. It was a lot of fun! The Fashion Show was held to raise money for the grade 6 grad trip. The clothing was supplied by, “La Boutique Trading Post”. A total of 11 grade 6 models walked the runway and 2 teachers! We had Grade 6 student volunteers to help with other very important jobs such as; selling food, doing the lighting and music, etc... Our wonderful parent volunteers organized the fantastic event and did jobs such as; selling jewelry, helping with make-up, selling food, and so on.

It was a great success because we raised a lot of money for the Grad Trip and everyone had tons of fun! Special thank you to Mrs. Hardy for her hard work, and to our teachers and principal who came out to support us!

Riley A. (Model)
& *Jessica M. (Student Volunteer)*



Pancake Breakfasts Raise Big Money To Build School in Kenya

Ethics students at St. Thomas High School are holding a Pancake Breakfast Fiesta between April 15th and 22nd to raise enough money to help build a school in Kenya. So far, \$1220.39 has been contributed to the *Free the Children Brick-by-Brick* campaign. Grade 7, 8 and 10 students in Mrs. Barry's Ethics classes donated all the mix, syrup and juice boxes and hope to raise about \$1500 before the end of next week by cooking and serving breakfast to students and staff. St. Thomas joined Free the Children in September and are close to raising \$5500 for the cause in various events this year. A complete school costs \$8500 to build.



Grade 7 and 8 students stocking the pantry and enjoying breakfast.

Debra Barry

Comedy Contest was filled with great punch lines

The second annual student comedy contest was a great hit with students and staff. Over sixty students were courageous enough to share their joke on stage during the April 1st lunch hour comedy contest. The jokes ranged from the classic "Why did the chicken cross the road..." jokes to the subtle inferences. This event was interactive with the crowd as they actively participated in the delivery of the knock-knock jokes. Three winners were selected from each grade level for best joke in English, best joke in French, and most creative delivery.



David Meloche, Principal
Children's World Academy

A WORD FROM YOUR COMMISSIONERS

UN MOT DE VOS COMMISSAIRES

SERGIO BORJA – Ward 2 LaSalle South

Email: sborja@lbpsb.qc.ca



Greetings from LaSalle

In my first term as a school Commissioner, I went through an elementary school closing as well as the opening of both an elementary and secondary school. This time around we need to ensure that the community gets more involved, in order to get the right information and how these changes if any will affect our schools. The tools available are the board's website; also, the monthly meetings are now webcasted as well as the different public consultations around the board that are posted on the website.

Having a child still in the system, I am proud of the administrators and my fellow colleagues of the work and efforts we have put in for the good and well-being of our children.

Together we must ensure the continued education of our children in a good and safe environment. The children of the world are the future!

Ensemble nous devons nous assurer que nos enfants évoluent dans un milieu favorable et sécuritaire. Les enfants sont notre avenir!

Sergio Borja

DANNY OLIVENSTEIN – Ward 21 Hudson/Saint-Lazare

Email: anolet@lbpsb.qc.ca



April Anecdotes

There is no doubt that the topic of central concern in the off-island region is the question of the new school and where and when it will be built. The overcrowding of our elementary schools, especially at the kindergarten level, has tested the resolve and patience of parents, teachers, administrators, and yes, even Commissioners. I have witnessed the hard work and dedication of our staff as they have helped our communities cope with this difficult situation. The warmth with which Mount Pleasant has embraced the needs of both Forest Hills and PETES is extraordinary and greatly appreciated. Continuing the dialogue with local municipal representatives is essential, however, until the land for the new school has been found.

The Major School Change is the next central focus of governing boards, sectors, and interested parents. Now is the time to begin the process of forming committees to debate and process the ideas which will assist the Council in making the decisions that will affect your children's education for the foreseeable future. I am open and available to listen to your concerns and proposals. Let's work together for our kids.

Danny Olivenstein

May 8th 2009

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



CFER RIVERDALE OPEN HOUSE

Currently in its third year of operation, the Riverdale CFER program offers a complete work-study program for students aged 15 years and up. The program is MELS accredited and affiliated with the *Réseau des CFERS*, the coordinating body for the province's twenty-four CFER programs. CFER Riverdale is the only English Language CFER in the Province of Québec.

Join us on Friday, May 8th as we open our doors to the public and the Lester B. Pearson Community. Visit our site, meet our students and learn the ins and outs of the CFER model.



CFER Riverdale
5060 des Sources
Pierrefonds, QC
H8Y 3E4



REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

NEW COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Continuing with the LBPSB's commitment to improve communications, the Board has hired a new, full-time, Communications Officer. Daniela Scoppa started working at our Board at the end of March following several years as the producer of CJAD's Tommy Schnurmacher show. Even at her young age, Daniela brings a wealth of experience and contacts to her new position.

Daniela's role will be to ensure the accurate and timely dissemination of information from the Board and the schools and centres both internally and externally. The result of her work was evident at the MSC community meeting where media coverage was more evident than at any previous MSC meeting, except for the decision meeting nights.

Daniela will be writing a monthly article in the Pearson News titled *Daniela's Corner*. In it she will be highlighting some of her activities on behalf of the Board and providing information about projects she is working on. Council welcomes Daniela aboard.

COMMISSIONERS' MONTHLY MESSAGES

April marks the second month that Commissioners are posting monthly messages on the Board's website. Check out your local Commissioner's page or check them all. Click on the hot-link to "Commissioners" on the left hand side of the Board's landing page (www.lbpsb.qc.ca) and then click on any of the photos to get to that Commissioner's personal page. Each Commissioner's page includes a backgrounder, a list of committees and affiliations each is involved with, contact information, and the new monthly message.

MAJOR SCHOOL CHANGE – ENHANCING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

On April 16th the first community meeting for Major School Change 2010 – 2011 (MSC) was held at Lindsay Place High School. Over 250 people were in attendance with another 150, or so, watching the live-streamed webcast on the Board's website. A PowerPoint presentation was made of MSC "basics". These included definitions of some MSC terminology, timelines for the community, the process for the Commissioners, a description of reconsideration, and a reminder of the role of elected Commissioners in this process. A question & answer period followed at which a number of points and concerns were raised. The Board members present took note of these and will be discussing these issues at future Council committee meetings.

The MSC process started March 30th. Given the discussions at the meeting on the 16th there will likely be many meetings, local, group, and community, over the next 8 months. It is important to remember that written briefs are due in to the Board by October 31, 2009. The Public Hearings will be held at LaSalle Community Comp. High School on November 17th; at Westwood High School (Jr. Campus) on November 18th; and at John Rennie High School on November 19th. All meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. If you or your group wishes to be heard at the Public Hearings you must note it on the cover sheet provided in the Consultation document. It may not be possible to hear every group requesting to be heard, but we will endeavour to hear as many as possible representing the widest range of opinions. The Council is scheduled to consider any MSC proposals for change at the regular meeting of the Commissioners on December 21, 2009. If any changes are adopted by the Council, they will take effect on July 1, 2010 for implementation in the 2010 / 2011 school year.



MAJOR SCHOOL CHANGE – SUBSCRIBE FOR UPDATE NOTIFICATIONS

In response to a request from several groups and individuals the Board has added a subscription-based MSC notification service for MSC updates. You just have to enter and send your name and email address to the subscription service on the appropriate page of the MSC website. Upon receipt of your contact information, you will be added to our notification list. Then when changes are made, documents are added, or other information is posted to the MSC site you will receive a notification via your email. You may also unsubscribe at any time by simply clicking on the link provided in the notification message.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR COMMISSIONERS

The best possible education. New technology. A passion for life-long learning. Safe environment. Clean, modern, healthy buildings. These are what all parents want for their children. These are also what everyone in the community, including Commissioners, wants for all students.

Commissioners have the responsibility to ensure that these and so many more things are actually happening in our schools. One of the best ways we can make that happen is by ongoing professional development and education. At conferences and workshops Commissioners have the opportunity to learn valuable information, share best practices, improve their skills, and bring back ideas that help to strengthen our Board.

These learning opportunities for the elected Commissioners are a good investment. Over the years our representatives have found and incorporated many suggestions and made many contacts. Our first Future Search came as a result of contact at a conference. Changes to Board operations and structures, communications tools, consultation practices, policies and policy development, safety, arts and music program information, and so many more ideas have been brought back, refined to align with our particular situation and incorporated into the LBPSB.

People expect their doctors, lawyers, and teachers to consistently upgrade their knowledge and keep current with the latest innovations, solutions, and research in their fields. We entrust politicians, in our case Commissioners, to collect our taxes and then to spend those dollars in the most effective and efficient ways. It is therefore critical that all public servants are in learning mode at all times. Sharing with others in the same field, from as broad a range of experiences, is the best way for us to teach and learn, and then to be in a position to make the changes that lead to constant improvement. We have been elected by our communities to do just that. Why wouldn't we all want our politicians to be equipped to carry out this important trust? Professional development and conferences are an effective way to furnish us with the best tools of the trade.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM UPDATE

As a follow up to last month's report regarding the contract with the Tianma School in China we can report that the entente has been signed. The agreement sees two of the LBP schools, Riverdale High School and Greendale Elementary School, being twinned with the respective levels in China. Through emails, blogs, and video-conferencing students will collaborate on projects. Some 2009/2010 Riverdale Secondary I students will be working on a project with an environmental theme. The Greendale students will be working on a literacy program. The Principal of each school will be visiting their counterparts in China in May or June. This will be followed by a visit to each school by the Chinese Administrators. In the fall, teachers from each school will spend a couple of weeks visiting and teaching in China and the Chinese teachers will visit and teach in the LBP

schools later in the fall. In addition, teachers from the LBPSB will be in China for three weeks in July to teach in the Tianma/Lester B. Pearson English Summer School. The partner school is also recruiting students for short and long-term stays in our schools and the International Learning Centre (ILC). This is a very exciting addition to the programs currently offered by the ILC. We are hoping to have more announcements concerning several new projects that are currently being negotiated.

The program has recently welcomed 11 students from Colombia. This is a new arrangement and this group of elementary school students will be spending a month at Beacon Hill School while residing at the International Learning Centre.

This has been the most successful year for the International program. We will welcome over 550 students from around the world into our schools. We have had groups of teachers and administrators. We have had agents and agencies from around the world visit our center to formalize agreements, get information, and see the site they have heard so much about for themselves.

TOPS IS TOPS

I usually used this space for current or future announcements and events. I would be remiss, though, if I did not acknowledge the great TOPS student talent show. I must confess that this was my first time at a TOPS show and after what I was fortunate to see and enjoy on Friday evening, April 24th, it certainly won't be the last!

Under the leadership of our CSC Chair, David D'Arienzo, former CSC Chair and LBPSB graduate Robert Lynch, and with guidance from Carol Gray and Nancy Hain, the LBPSB students put on an amazing, professional-quality, musical show. Superb voices, great dancers, and showy bands highlighted an almost too quick 3-hour extravaganza. This year's gala evening performance celebrated the 10th anniversary of the LBPSB.

A special thanks for their attendance goes to Dorval Mayor Edgar Rouleau and City Councillor Michel Hebert; Lachine Borough Councillor Jane Poitras-Cowell; Jacques cartier MNA Geoff Kelley; QESBA Executive Director David Birnbaum; West Island Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Elizabeth Trapeo-McGowan; and Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Chairman Steve Bletas and Vice-Chairman Carolyn Curiale. Lakeside Principal Michelle Harper, her staff and students deserve special praise for being so helpful and accommodating and for allowing TOPS to take over the school lobby and auditorium. They all joined the several hundred guests who enjoyed (alcohol-free) cocktails and hors-d'oeuvres provided by staff and students of the Pearson Culinary School before the show started. Many thanks also to the staff and students of the Gordon Robertson Career Centre who did hair and makeup for the performers.

Anyone who doubts the opportunities that the public school system offers and the advantages of an organized grouping of schools and centres should make it a point to see one of these sensational collaborations. TOPS is but one example of how schools being grouped together under one umbrella works to the advantage of all students.

Hats off to our students! *Chapeau* to our staff!

Commissioners' Phone Numbers

Below is a list of Commissioners along with their home telephone numbers and school board locals.

Ward	Communities	Commissioner	Home Phone #	422-3000 Local
1	Verdun/Nuns' Island	Douglas Flook	514-293-2417	4001
2	LaSalle South	Sergio Borja	514-368-1001	4002
3	LaSalle Northeast	Ruben Fazio	514-365-1638	4003
4	LaSalle West/Ville St-Pierre	Frank di Bello	514-951-5834	4004
5	Lachine	Patrick Whitham	514-637-5209	4005
6	Dorval	Barbara Freeston	514-636-9315	4006
7	Dollard-des-Ormeaux East	Rosemary Murphy	514-620-8012	4007
8	Roxboro/Pierrefonds East	Craig Berger	514-421-6570	4008
9	Pointe-Claire East	Allan Levine	514-683-6671	4009
10	Pointe-Claire West	John Killingbeck	514-695-3787	4010
11	Dollard-des-Ormeaux Center	Marcus Tabachnick	514-684-6429	2322
12	Pierrefonds/Île Bizard	Susan Williams	514-620-4745	4012
13	Dollard-des-Ormeaux Center/West	Martin Sherman	514-684-2742	4013
14	Dollard-des-Ormeaux W./Kirkland E.	Joe Zemanovich	514-624-2376	4014
15	Beaconsfield North	Don Rae	514-697-9878	4015
16	Kirkland West	Suanne Stein Day	514-630-9824	4016
17	Pierrefonds West	Luisa Bulgarelli-Vero	514-694-0475	4017
18	Ste-Anne/Baie d'Urfé/Beaconsfld S./Senneville	Judy Kelley	514-697-7619	4018
19	Île Perrot	Susan Bartlett-Lewis	514-453-6650	4019
20	Les Cèdres/Vaudreuil-Dorion	Angela Nolet	514-453-5462	2229
21	Hudson/St-Lazare	Daniel Olivenstein	450-458-1413	4021
CPC	Elementary Representative	Conny Held	514-909-6306	4026
CPC	Secondary Representative	Craig Buchanan	514-697-4057	4027

DATES TO NOTE

PUBLIC MEETINGS – MAY 2009

The following meetings will take place at 1925 Brookdale, Dorval (**unless otherwise indicated**)

Central Parents' Committee	May 7, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Room
Executive Committee	May 19, 2009	7:30 p.m.	Board Room
Special Needs Advisory Committee	May 27, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Room 219/221
Council of Commissioners	May 25, 2009	7:30 p.m.	Board Room

Webcast begins at 7:30 p.m. on www.lbpsb.qc.ca

Check out your Commissioner's Monthly Newsletter

www.lbpsb.qc.ca

Click on link for **Commissioners** (left side of LBPSB website landing page)
then click on the individual Commissioner's photo

Marcus Tabachnick

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...FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD