



Lester B. Pearson
School Board

Commission scolaire
Lester-B.-Pearson

PEARSON NEWS

LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD

Volume XII, No 4

FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL & THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

November 30, 2009

RAPPORT DU DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL

Grippe A(H1N1)

Bien entendu, nous avons tous été inondés de bulletins de nouvelles sur la situation actuelle, s'agissant de la grippe A(H1N1), et ces nouvelles changent tous les jours. En tant que parents et employés de la commission scolaire, nous avons tous eu à rester aux aguets des signes de maladie et à prendre des mesures préventives. J'aimerais remercier les parents d'avoir bien collaboré en gardant les enfants malades à la maison et en nous informant de la raison de leur absence. Ces renseignements permettent aux autorités sanitaires provinciales et régionales de surveiller la situation quotidiennement. Le ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport et la Santé publique ont joué un rôle important en nous fournissant une information constamment mise à jour et les directives à suivre. J'aimerais aussi remercier tout le personnel en première ligne dans nos écoles et nos centres qui a accepté la pression ces dernières semaines et a encore démontré son dévouement envers nos élèves.

Veillez vérifier notre site Web périodiquement pour obtenir les mises à jour sur le sujet.

National Center for Education Research and Technology (NCERT)

J'ai été très heureux d'être invité à faire partie de ce groupe de leaders et de chercheurs en éducation de toute l'Amérique du Nord et à assister à leur dernier congrès. Ceci m'a permis d'interagir avec d'autres directeurs de districts scolaires et d'examiner les défis et les réussites que nous avons en commun. J'ai pu parler de notre commission scolaire et de l'internationalisation de notre population scolaire. Durant le congrès, on a mis l'accent sur le changement des styles d'apprentissage et sur un nouveau domaine de recherche appelé « technologie sociale ». Celle-ci s'intéresse aux différentes façons qu'ont les enfants de communiquer et d'échanger de l'information. D'autre part, nous avons aussi parlé du fait que la journée d'apprentissage ne se limite plus aux heures

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

H1N1 Influenza Situation

Of course, we have all been inundated by news and bulletins relating to the current influenza situation, one that changes on a daily basis. Each of us as parents and as part of the school board system has had to be ever vigilant for signs of illness and to the preventative measures. I express to parents my appreciation for your cooperation in keeping home students who show symptoms and for informing us of the nature of student absences. Such information enables the provincial and regional health authorities to monitor the situation on a daily basis. The *Ministère de L'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport* and *Santé publique* have been prominent in helping the school board by providing up-to-date information and procedures to be followed. I wish also to extend a most sincere thanks to our front line personnel who work in our schools and centres, who have accepted the pressures of the recent weeks and have again shown their commitment to our students.

Please check our website at regular intervals for the latest information.

National Center for Education Research and Technology (NCERT)

I was very pleased to be invited to become a member of this group of educational leaders and researchers from across North America and to attend their latest conference. This provided me with an opportunity to interact with other school district leaders and to examine our similar challenges and successes. I was able to speak about our board and the increased internationalization of our student body. There was also an emphasis on changing learning styles, as well as looking at a new area of research called "social technology". Here we talked about how differently children communicate with each other and how they exchange information. On another front, we also discussed that no longer is a person's learning day limited to the classroom, but rather the learner has far

de classe, mais que l'apprenant contrôle beaucoup mieux le moment et l'endroit de ses apprentissages.

Salon de l'emploi

Le salon de l'emploi annuel tenu à l'école secondaire polyvalente Pierrefonds a donné l'occasion à tous nos élèves de 4^e et 5^e Secondaire d'explorer une gamme de choix de carrière et de programmes d'études postsecondaires. Cet événement annuel devient de plus en plus important pour nos élèves du dernier cycle et ne serait pas possible sans le travail de nos conseillers en orientation et la collaboration de plusieurs partenaires dans la communauté.

Formation ConnectEd

Notre système de messagerie est maintenant bien connu des membres de la commission scolaire. Il s'est avéré très efficace pour les communications sur la grippe et la réception quotidienne de renseignements de la part des établissements. Nos gestionnaires ont récemment bénéficié d'une formation sur de nouvelles applications du système qu'ils pourront utiliser à l'avenir.

Bulletins de notes de novembre

Novembre est toujours un mois occupé en ce qui concerne la production des bulletins de notes destinés aux parents d'élèves à tous les niveaux. Le bulletin officiel porte à l'attention des parents les réussites et les difficultés à contrer. J'encourage cependant les parents à superviser les travaux de leurs enfants régulièrement et à ne pas hésiter à communiquer avec l'enseignante ou l'enseignant quelle que soit la raison de leurs préoccupations. La coopération entre le foyer et l'école est sans aucun doute essentielle à la réussite des élèves.

Perfectionnement

En plus du congrès des enseignants, le mois de novembre comprend toujours quelques journées de perfectionnement, et cette année ne fait pas exception. Certaines journées sont consacrées à préparer les bulletins et d'autres à des ateliers préparés par le personnel des Services éducatifs et des Services aux élèves. Par exemple, il y a eu des ateliers sur toutes les matières de la 5^e Secondaire et sur les programmes de sciences et technologie et de choix de carrière de la 4^e Secondaire. Les deux services ont également offert des ateliers aux préposés à l'intégration et aux techniciennes et techniciens en éducation spécialisée. Ces journées procurent aussi aux membres du personnel un temps précieux pour discuter des enjeux dans chacune des écoles. Soyez assurés que les journées pédagogiques constituent un élément essentiel de notre engagement envers les élèves.

greater control over the time and the location of his learning.

Career Fair

The Annual Career Fair held at Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School brought Secondary IV and V students from all of our schools to an opportunity to explore a wide variety of career choices and post-secondary educational opportunities. This has become an annual event of increasing importance to our senior students and would not be possible without the dedicated work of our Guidance counselors and the continued cooperation of our many community partners.

ConnectEd Training

Members of our school board community are now quite familiar with our messaging system. It has proven extremely effective in the recent influenza communications and in the receipt of more regular information from the schools and centres. Our administrators recently received updated training on new applications of the system that are available to them and they will be implementing them in the future.

November Student Progress Reporting

November is always a busy month for progress reporting to parents of students at all levels. The formal report always brings to the attention of parents areas of success and difficulty that can be addressed. However, I encourage parents to monitor carefully their children's work on a regular basis and not to hesitate to contact the teacher with any concern. It is, without doubt, the cooperation between home and school that is critical to student success.

Professional Development

In addition to the Teacher's Convention, the month of November always involves a number of professional days and this year proved no exception. There are days devoted to reporting to parents and to intensive workshops prepared by our Educational Services and Student Services Division personnel. A particular sampling shows Educational Services workshops presented in all courses at the Secondary V level as well as in Secondary IV Science, Technology and Pathways programs. The two divisions also offered workshops for our Integration Aides and for Special Education Technicians. These days also provide invaluable time for staff members to gather to discuss issues at the individual school level. Please be assured that professional days constitute an essential component of our commitment to students.

Daniela's Corner



I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about something I've been working on for the past few months. I've been looking at ways to give the Pearson News a new, fresh look. I'm happy to say that the plans have been finalized and you'll get to see a brand new Pearson News in January.

The first major change is Pearson News will now be available in electronic format only. Printing of the monthly publication will be very minimal and limited. This is to continue our efforts of becoming a 'greener' school board and will allow us to cut down on the use of paper and it will mean fewer deliveries, which cuts down on gas emissions.

As of January, Pearson News will be in a newsletter format allowing for more space and more entries. I encourage you to send in articles each month, highlighting all the great events happening in your schools.

The Pearson News link on the board's main website will also undergo some changes and in a few weeks there will be an option where you can send in your email address and all the issues of Pearson News will be sent directly to your inbox each month.

I am very excited about these upcoming changes and look forward to launching a newly formatted Pearson News in January 2010.

Daniela Scoppa

Remembrance Day 2009 at Saint Lawrence Academy

This year's Remembrance Day assembly was a combination of Remembrance Day, World Kindness Day, and a Peace Presentation. The great impact of the day was only possible because of a culmination of hard work, understanding of importance, and heartfelt reaction from many staff and students, as they presented their offerings on the day's focus. The creativity, bravery, and spirit present there was undeniably moving, as was the appreciation and attentiveness by those involved in the event for the nearly hour-and-a-half celebration.

The ceremony began with the piper parading around the school collecting classes as he went by. The students, carrying Peace Placards that were created on World Peace Day, marched in step outside to present to the local residents their commitment to being peaceful participants in our land. Students marched over to join the Junior School students who were also marching to pay tribute to our fallen soldiers. After circling the area, the students marched back to school and into the gym where songs were sung, presentations were given, and honour was given to soldiers from all periods of time.

Many thanks go to our special guests: Lieutenant Navy Robert Taylor of Macdonald High and our piper, Mr. Ron Rice from the Black Watch. From the parade, to the placards, to the speeches and the songs, and the reminder to make the most of our gift of freedom - the celebration was enlightening and inspiring. The test will now be in the follow-up, but after seeing what the school community had to offer, I have no doubts that this will be a galvanizing moment that will reap many benefits for all, for quite some time to come.

Randal Howarth, Spiritual Animator



PJ Story Time at Mount Pleasant School

Fannel PJ's and fuzzy slippers were the order of the evening on Thursday October 29th at Mount Pleasant. Families showed up in droves to participate in our first ever PJ Story Time Evening. **Sandra Bebbington**, our library technician, had the wonderful idea of inviting families to come for a fun-filled literacy night and that's what it turned out to be. Many thanks go out to Sandra for her wonderful storytelling and to the Home and School who served home-baked cookies and milk that was generously donated by IGA Poirier et Fils in Hudson.

Sandra plans to repeat the event several times throughout the year.

*Lorel Crawford
Principal*



A Day in the Life of an Animal Caretaker Apprentice

Students from Verdun Elementary were fortunate to participate in a behind the scenes visit to the Ecomuseum this October. The grade 3 and 4 classmates and their teachers' (Mrs. Villeneuve and Mme Christine) responsibilities were to prepare various meals for the Ecomuseum residents for that day. It was fruit salad for the porcupine, vegetables for the caribous, meaty bones for the carnivores and chopped up smelt for the river otters. The students were not only thrilled to assume the role of animal caretakers that day, but developed a deeper understanding about the animals of the St. Lawrence River Valley. A big thank you to **Dennis Pfeffer** and the team at FEDNAV for sponsoring the class trip.



*David Chisholm
Principal*

A Photographer at Purcell Academy



On October 19, Ms Parker's grade 2 bilingual classes had a special visit from photographer **Peter Martin**. Mr. Martin won the National Newspaper Award for his photograph of Terry Fox running in the rain, which was voted as one of the Top Ten Photos that Changed Canada. The students were shown a diverse range of photos of children and adults taken by Peter Martin in different cultures and settings around the world. A camera was donated to each student by a friend of Ms Parker. The children will now be working on their own project where they will take their own photos. These photographic creations will be posted on the school's website in December. What a unique, exciting experience this was!

Catherine Ann Parker

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.

Les articles en français sont toujours appréciés !

BHS “Shaves to Save”!

On Wednesday, October 28th five hundred BHS students sat in awe in the gym as seven of their peers had their long tresses shaved off all in the name of a great cause! Beaconsfield High School’s Annual “Shave to Save” Campaign for Breast Cancer Research was culminating with the ceremonial head shaving of seven brave BHS students.

On hand to help out were the morning team from radio station Virgin 96 and two hairdressers from La Coupe. The students have raised \$23, 300 for Breast Cancer Research and the pledges are still rolling in! Under the guidance of Community Officer/Spiritual Animator, **Mrs. Nancy Dubuc**, these seven students, who are from four grade levels, and one teacher took on the task of raising money during the month of October while pledging to shave off all their hair. Their goal was to beat last year’s total of \$19,000 which they more than accomplished!

BHS has been taking part in this fundraiser for the past five years and each year the number of participants and the amount of money raised has increased. BHS English teacher, Mrs. Jesse Hayes, who is on preventative pregnancy leave was the eighth BHS “shavee”. She had her head shaved on Friday, October 30th at the Shave to Save Celebration Breakfast at Fairview Pointe-Claire. The BHS community is extremely proud of our students and staff for participating in such a worthy cause!



BHS student “shavees”: Lieska Guzman (Sec 5) Hudson Harris (Sec 2) Amanda Haarer (Sec 4) Lianne Asprey (Sec 3), Hilary Troyer (Sec 3), Victoria Barrett (Sec 3) and Josh Mailman (Sec 2) with the Virgin 96 Morning Team



BHS English Teacher Mrs. Jesse Hayes and BHS students, Lieska Guzman, Hudson Harris, Hilary Troyer, Victoria Barrett and Lianne Asprey at the Virgin 96 Shave to Save Celebration Breakfast at Fairview Pointe-Claire on Friday October 30th, 2009

SSD Psychologist named Young Professional of the Year

The *Fédération des professionnelles et professionnels de l'éducation du Québec* (FPPE), an organization representing of non-teaching professionals who work in education, has announced that **Dr. Elana Bloom** has been named the winner of the 2008 Envol prize, an award given to young professionals. The FPPE recognizes the achievements of professionals as part of "Professionals in Education" week, which this year runs from November 16 to 20.

Dr. Elana Bloom is a psychologist in Student Services who has been with the Lester B. Pearson School Board since 2005. Dr. Bloom was nominated by her local association as a non-teaching professional worthy of recognition for her dedication and commitment to public education. Dr. Bloom holds a Ph. D in Educational Psychology from McGill. Dr. Bloom was presented with her award at a ceremony held on November 15.

*Cindy Finn, Ph.D., OPQ
Director, Student Services*

PCHS' Terry Fox Run



Congratulations to **Melissa Manganaro** for organizing this year's Terry Fox Run! Thanks to Melissa and her crew it was an all time best for Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School: we raised over \$13,000. The organizing committee began meeting last April and spent all their free time collecting and reminding students to bring in their pledges.

To a great success!

*Cristina Prata
Principal*

JUNGLESPORT AT ST. CHARLES SCHOOL

WOW!!!

AMAZING!!!

AWESOME!!!



These were just some of the words used to describe the fun and adventure that was had by all students at St. Charles the week of Nov 2nd.

Thanks to the generosity of our school and Principal Mme Coiteux, the Junglesport program took place in our own school gym and completely transformed our gym welcoming Junglesport Adventure and their rock climbing apparatus.

Stationed for one full week, all our students from grades K to 6 along with qualified instructors experienced a complete adventure program that I'm sure no one will forget.

The students not only had the opportunity to experience the wonders of outdoor adventure in a safe, secure and controlled environment, but also learned how to help one another as a team which in turn helps foster positive relationships at school. It was great seeing the students get excited about physical education while introducing them to new exciting sports that help them discover their own potential.

A truly amazing set up, with its friendly staff provided for an exciting and fun time for all.

On behalf of all the students at St. Charles ~ THANK YOU ~ MERCI Mme Coiteux!!!

*Colomba Monteleone
Parent volunteer*

HALLOWEEN AT ST. EDMUND

On October 30th, the spirit of Halloween could be felt all over St. Edmund Elementary School. The students and staff dressed up and all the students had the chance to participate in many games set up in the school's gym. The many games, which included fortune telling and a bean bag toss game, were all organized and set up by parents. The students had a wonderful time moving from one game to another and once they were finished all the games, they had another surprise waiting for them.

The Montreal Police sent their mascot Flick and a police officer to give students tips on how to have a safe Halloween. The students were thrilled to have the mascot there and were all keen to answer the officer's questions about safety on Halloween.



GOVERNING BOARD RESOURCE & SUPPORT TEAM

Recent changes to the Education Act include a new provision that *the school board shall ensure that an initiation and ongoing training program is offered to the members of the council of commissioners and the members of the governing boards, and that it meets their needs (section 177.3)*. Although we have provided support documentation and activities to governing boards for several years, we are looking forward to fulfilling this obligation now clearly entrenched in the law.

Among our support tools you will find a very informative web page on our school board website. Just click on *Governing Board* under *Main Links*. This page has been available for over a year, and is regularly updated with news and advice for all members of governing boards. We invite you to check it out!

Governing Board

What's New

Local Resources

Training Team

Web Resources

The *What's New* section includes a welcome message, news about new and ongoing support activities, the proposed calendar of governing board activities for the year, and a summary of the operating requirements.

The *Local Resources* tab contains links to a downloadable version of our Governing Board Resource Manual, as well as a reference document which contains all the relevant sections of the Education Act. Please note that these two documents are currently under review.

The *Training Team* section contains links to some of the documents from our training activities.

The *Web Resources* tab contains useful links to pertinent information.

In addition to the above, we have teams that can provide on-site training to your governing board upon request. Please contact *Senior Director Steve Balleine* at sballeine@lbspb.qc.ca to set up a session. We are also planning a January workshop on the changes to the Education Act implemented as a result of Bill 88.

Governing board chairpersons are welcome to join a *Google Group* where they can interact and support each other. This initiative was taken by chairpersons as a result of a training session held last year. You are invited to sign up at <http://groups.google.ca/group/lbspb-gb-chairs>.

Be sure to look for us in future editions of the Pearson News - we will publish information, helpful hints, and answers to your questions. Send your questions to Senior Director Steve Balleine at the email address mentioned above.

Governing Board Resource Team

ST. PAUL JOINS OP SMILE AS A 'PARTNER IN PEACE'

Chief Warrant Officer Joe Nunez, Canadian Bosnian Peacekeeper, visited St. Paul Elementary to talk about **OP SMILE**, a project he initiated in 2006 with Task Force Balkans. He was accompanied by Afghanistan veteran Sergeant Steve Andreino.



CWO Nunez showed a really interesting power point presentation about how a fundraising campaign to buy Christmas gifts for Bosnian children evolved into a plan to donate books to Sarajevo's Isak Samokovlija School, one of Bosnia's few fully integrated multi-ethnic schools, and one that stayed open during the war. Their very sparsely furnished library receives no funding, yet students are required to read a minimum number of books per year.

Following OP SMILE presentation, Principal Coleen Turner looks on as CWO Nunez and Sgt Andreino let students try on military gear!

Every book purchased by St. Paul will have a sticker with the Canadian flag placed inside the front cover and our school's name. CWO Nunez sees this as an "opportunity to lend a hand, and to put Canadian children in touch with a part of the world Canada has done so much to rebuild." Principal Coleen Turner concluded with heartfelt words of thanks to our guests for their service and dedication to peace.

*Linda Choinière
Spiritual Animator*

Riverview School Jazzes it Up!

Jazz trios don't usually perform at 8:30 in the morning! Riverview students, however, were treated to an early morning visit from the Chet Doxas Trio. This jazz group, that performed different styles of jazz, explained the subtle differences between the styles and also their instruments. The students were accompanied by the trio in singing "Feeling Good" and in turn, accompanied the trio in a jazz rendition of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star". The morning sounds of the saxophone, drums and double bass were mellow and entertaining. We would like to send a huge thank you to our music teacher, Kathleen Walshe-Turcotte for organizing this activity for the students.

A WORD FROM YOUR COMMISSIONERS UN MOT DE VOS COMMISSAIRES

ALLAN LEVINE – Ward 9 Pointe-Claire East

Email: alevine@lbpsb.qc.ca



I am pleased to have this opportunity to address the readers of the *Pearson News* at this time, as it gives me the opportunity to extend Seasons greetings and the very best wishes for the New Year to all.

It has been a particularly busy time for me and my fellow Commissioners as we read and analyze all the Major School briefs and also listen to the presenters at the Hearings that took place during the month of November. We may all not agree with the ideas or solutions presented. However one thing we can all agree on is the quality, time and effort that went into developing and presenting all the comments in the Major School briefs.

A message that was repeated in many briefs was that each school has its own particular strengths and quality of program and that we are all proud of our school. I would like to see all of us work together to get the word out about our Schools so that we continue to grow by attracting and retaining students.

In addition I have the pleasure of attending many of our schools and I am always extremely pleased and impressed with the commitment by our administrators teachers and support staff and an army of volunteers that all contribute to the education of our students.

I would personally like to thank all those involved for their tremendous efforts in presenting their ideas, and their continued daily tireless efforts for and on behalf of our students.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent ward 9 in Point Claire and I would like to extend personal thank you to everyone at Lindsay Place , Jubilee Elementary, St. John Fisher Junior, and St. John Fisher Senior for their amazing efforts effort and involvement to insure a quality and rewarding educational experience for our students.

Allan Levine

A WORD FROM YOUR COMMISSIONERS

UN MOT DE VOS COMMISSAIRES

SUANNE STEIN DAY – Ward 16 Kirkland West

Email: sday05@lbsb.qc.ca



Recently, an alumnus of Riverdale High School was awarded a Nobel Prize in Medicine. The news was received in our community with a great deal of pride. It got me thinking. As a commissioner, I am part of a council that is often faced with the difficult decisions related to managing our schools' resources. It is sometimes disheartening knowing that while we strive to make all the right decisions, not everyone will be happy with them.

What keeps me going is that we also get to participate in the successes of the board – the achievements of some amazing students. The spring and fall takes me to many school convocations to represent the board or to present the Pearson Educational Foundation's Margaret Manson Award to a student who has overcome a hardship to graduate with his class. I see pride and success in the faces of each graduate.

I also take enormous pride in many programs unique to our board. Light a Dream provides unmatched learning opportunities for our special needs students. The Intercultural events, the incredibly talented students at the annual TOPS show and most importantly, the successes of my own three children, all LBPSB graduates, all demonstrate our successes. The Central Students' Committee, the Kindergarten for 4-year olds, Space Day, the LBPSB Math Olympics, the International School and their international pre-kindergarten are all shining examples of Education for the Imagination. If I have to choose one word, PRIDE would be the one that keeps me part of our board. Pride to be associated with the Lester B. community.

Sincerely,

Suanne Stein Day

ST. EDMUND ASSEMBLES FOR PEACE and REMEMBRANCE

St. Edmund students gathered in November for a Peace Assembly, the purpose of which was to reinforce what we do to make our school a caring and peaceful place every day. The Courtesy Crew talked about considerate audience behaviours during assemblies and we saw skits on how to resolve conflicts by using 'I messages', leadership skills and the 'Power of One'. Students also spoke about our support for the MCH Circle of Hugs, and *Dans la rue*.

A week later we had a Remembrance Day ceremony during which we welcomed three soldiers. Chief Warrant Officer Joe Nunez, with the aid of a powerful video presentation, outlined the history and mission of our military men and women. Principal Susan Greenberg's closing comments included a personal account about our previous honoured guest and veteran, her mother, Mrs. Jean Brodsky. We were left to reflect that it is thanks to these soldiers and veterans that we were all able today to assemble and live in peace.

*Linda Choinière
Spiritual Animator*



Above, Principal Susan Greenberg discusses her family military history with CWO Nunez, Master Warrant Officer Louise Toussaint-Langlois and Warrant Officer Guy Lavoie.



Students pose with Bunker, our Dans la rue mascot, after Peace assembly

Stop Bullying - The Pledge

Sherwood Forest Elementary joined the tens of thousands of schools across Canada who showed their support for bullying prevention week by taking part in the Family Channel's STAND UP! Wave.

The students took "The Pledge" and "La Promesse" to stand up and stop bullying. This was followed by the whole school doing the Wave out on the soccer field.

This event was organized by Mme Lepage, a Grade 6 French teacher.

THE PLEDGE

This for me...

My friends today..

And my friends tomorrow.

I think being mean is not cool.

I won't watch someone get picked on.

Because I am a Do something person...

Not a Do nothing person.

I care.

I can help change things.

I can be a leader.

In my world there is no bullying allowed.

Bullying is bad.

Bullying bites.

Bullying bothers me.

I know sticking up for someone is the right thing to do.

My name is _____

And I won't stand by....I will Stand UP!



BEACON HILL COLLECTS SOCKS FOR THE 'KIDS'

Beacon Hill students were excited to have a visit from the *Dans la rue* Van in October. Our school, a DLR supporter for 6 years, collected over 300 pairs of white cotton crew socks to help dress the frostbitten feet of the DLR 'kids' during the winter.

Sue Medleg, DLR co-ordinator, gave every class a talk and 'tour' of the Van. Students learned that it goes out five nights a week, distributes hot dogs, canned food and blankets and that it is manned entirely by volunteers. She also spoke about the DLR alternative school and some of the courageous young people who have found their way off the streets to graduate from high school, CEGEP and university. The visit of the Van highlighted the fact that our continued support is a way for our students to say we care about both them and their future.

*Linda Choinière
Spiritual Animator*



After welcoming the Van, Principal Grant Thomas looks on as students enter for a 'tour'.



St. Lawrence Junior & Senior Students Work Together

Friday October 30th the gymnasium at St. Lawrence Junior was filled with children dressed in all kinds of orange and black outfits working very hard and having a *frightfully* good time. The Grade 6 leaders from the Senior building came over to help the little ones as they tried their hand at making spider bracelets, pinning the tail on the black cat, playing ring around the witch's hat, skeleton and bat Tic-Tac-

Toe, and an assortment of other ghostly activities. It was great to see everyone working together as a team. Well done leaders, thanks for helping our little guys.

St. Lawrence Junior Student Life Team

Beaconsfield High School Senior will carry Olympic Torch

Beaconsfield High School recently held an assembly where it was announced that one of their students, **Benjamin Mumme**, has been named Vancouver 2010 community torchbearer for the City of Beaconsfield. In front of all his fellow grade 11 classmates, Benjamin was welcomed on stage in the school's auditorium by Beaconsfield's mayor, David Pollock. Mayor Pollock told the audience Benjamin will be carrying the torch through the city on December 8th and will light a 1.3-metre high ceremonial cauldron at a community celebration at Centennial Park in honour of the arrival of the flame. The 106-day Olympic Torch Relay will visit more than 1,030 communities in every province and territory. Benjamin is one of about 12,000 Canadians to be selected to carry the torch and he says he's honoured to do it.

Benjamin was nominated by BHS administration for his involvement in school activities and sports. He plays soccer, volleyball, coaches a swim team and does track and field for the school. He also plays competitive water polo, has been on the Honour Roll many times, has been involved in student council and was a recipient of the Carolyn Waldo Award at Beacon Hill Pool.



From Bantam to Midget to Juvenile Bobcat Pride!

Beurling Academy is home to many powerful and successful sports teams. Recently, during the Fall season, five of our Juvenile sports teams (two Soccer teams, a Football team, a Softball team and our very own Volleyball team) qualified for the GMAA playoffs. Both the Juvenile Girls' Soccer Team as well as the Juvenile Boys' Touch Football Team won the City Championship.

On Monday, November 2, 2009, our Juvenile Girls' Volleyball Team played their semi-final game against Westmount High School. Despite being defeated 2-1, our Bobcats displayed true sportsmanship throughout their intense matches. Also, our young ladies played exceptionally well, finishing in third place in their division for the season.

We've had the pleasure of coaching these gifted athletes for the past four years at Beurling Academy. Many of the players started on the Volleyball team when they were in Secondary I & II and half of our team will be graduating this year. In the past four years, our Bobcats have brought home silver medals twice for Volleyball and each year have been awarded the GMAA Sportsmanship award. It has truly been a remarkable experience to coach this team. We've been with them every step of the way as they've gone from being Bantam to Midget and now Juvenile.



We hope that their keen interest in the sport of volleyball will continue as they move forward. May they always have “accurate bumps, great sets and strong spikes.” We would like to congratulate our team on another excellent season and wish the athletes who are graduating continued success in all their endeavours.

*Tamara Beach &
Kyle Rougeau
Teachers/ Volleyball Coaches*

FALL COLOURS



To celebrate the coming of fall, **Greendale Daycare** invited **Deirdre Potash** from Art Comes to School to create Québec autumn landscapes using acrylic paint on canvas board. The class began with an introduction to the Group of Seven (famous Canadian artists who went into the woods to paint in the 1920's),

followed by a short lesson on the formal qualities of painting (color, composition, seasons, etc...). Children from 6 to 12 years old experimented with professional art materials. The results were wonderful and the students are very proud of their paintings.

*Elaine Lobaton
Daycare Coordinator*

CROSS COUNTRY RUN AT MORGAN ARBORETUM

On October 20 and 21, 32 of our Elementary Schools participated in the Annual Cross Country Run. 2500 level 4, 5, and 6 students participated in the event. It was a beautiful day at the Arboretum and the students had a great time. It was great to see the number of volunteer parents who came out to help run the event.

This event takes a great deal of organization. I would like to thank everyone who was involved in making the day a successful one. Many thanks to Doug Wilson (a retired Phys. Ed. Teacher) who came out to help with the event.

*Peter Gilson
PEH Consultant*



MAGIC & LAUGHTER'S SECRET MISSION

Beacon Hill School's magic show dazzled goblins and witches on Friday, October 30th. All proceeds went to the Home and School.

We would like to recognize and thank **Michel Deslauriers** for generously sharing his talent, time and passion for Magic with the families of the Beacon Hill community. This year's show "Magic and Laughter's Secret Mission" on October 30th was the fourth in a line of performances that Michel has donated over the years to the Home and School and was a very special performance as it was the last year the Deslauriers family will be at Beacon Hill school.

Michel's passion for magic started at the early age of 6 when he saw a magician at a birthday party. He probably never dreamed that that moment would spark a lifelong passion for magic that he would share with and pass on to his future children. When he saw a set of "TV Magic" cards on TV he ordered them immediately setting him on a course that had him mail ordering and learning more and more tricks from magic catalogues and other sources. When he was 12 he moved to Montreal, one the world's best cities for Magic, where he was able to learn from some great magicians and further develop his talent for magic. By the time he was 17 he had embarked on a professional magic career, performing at the summer campgrounds and day camps with tent, sleeping bag and magic box in hand to earn money during the summers. This proved lucrative enough for Michel to pay his way through school and eventually magic became a sideline business that Michel continues today performing over 70 shows per year in addition to his full time job.



Today Michel's magic has become a family "mission" with both his daughters Émilie and Julie at his side on stage, while his wife Anne works tirelessly backstage to make it all happen. We can only hope that Michel's performance this year inspired another budding magician and that the art and dazzle of magic will live on within the Beacon Hill community because Michel generously shared his gift with us.

Thanks again to a great and generous showman.

*Grant Thomas
Principal*

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

MAJOR SCHOOL CHANGE – DECISIONS DECEMBER 21st

Almost nine months after the Major School Change Consultation was launched, the process will come to an end at the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners on December 21st. It is important to note that the meeting will be held at Lindsay Place High School (LPHS) and will begin at 7:30 pm. This is a change from the usual Brookdale Head Office site for the Council meetings. We are moving to LPHS to ensure that there will be enough room for all who wish to attend the meeting. The meeting will take place in the auditorium. As usual, the meeting will be webcast live and then archived for later viewing. Official notice of the change of venue will be posted in compliance with the law.

Council has received a lot of input through information sessions, a series of Town Hall meetings, local meetings with Board representatives, written brief submissions and public hearings. There are some creative ideas, some advice about future consultations, and a lot of focus on what is happening in our schools. We are grateful to all who participated and assure everyone that all suggestions are looked at seriously.

With over 80 briefs having been deposited and so many hours of discussion, we have been given a lot to think about. Some of the advice is similar, some is contradictory. At the end of the process, though, what we want – what we all want – is a school system that is responsive to the needs of our students, a system that can provide students with the skills, the tools, and the desire for learning and succeeding. We are committed to making the best decisions that we can to ensure that happens.

MAJOR SCHOOL CHANGE – PUBLIC HEARINGS

The evenings of November 17th, 18th, 19th were taken up by 34 groups and individuals who were invited to make presentations to Commissioners at the Public Hearing phase of the Major School Change Consultation. Each evening's presentation took place in a geographically different part of the Board.

The first presentation was held at LaSalle Comprehensive Community High School.

The second evening's event took place at Westwood Junior High School in Saint-Lazare.

The final evening saw the Council meet the community at John Rennie High School, in Pointe-Claire.

All three evenings were webcast live and are now available as video-on-demand in the MSC section on the Board's website as well as in the webcast section on the front page at www.lbpsb.qc.ca.

MAJOR SCHOOL CHANGE Decision Meeting

Change of Venue

IMPORTANT

**LINDSAY PLACE HIGH SCHOOL
111 Broadview**

Change of Venue

Pointe-Claire (QC) H9R 3Z3

IMPORTANT

7:30 p.m. – LPHS Auditorium

(continued)

NEW PARENT COMMISSIONER

The Lester B. Pearson School Board Council is pleased to welcome newly-elected Parent Commissioner **Judy Mrenice** as member representing the Elementary schools. Ms. Mrenice has children in Meadowbrook Elementary and Lakeside Academy. She will be replacing Parent Commissioner Conny Held, who has graduated and is now representing the Secondary schools as Parent Commissioner.

We welcome Ms. Mrenice to her first term and look forward to working with both Judy and Conny in what will undoubtedly be a very busy year.

RECORD WEBCAST AUDIENCE FOR THE 3 MSC PUBLIC HEARINGS

When the LBPSB decided to become the first Board to incorporate webcast technology to allow more of the public to watch the public Council meetings and to be more informed about the activities and decisions of the elected Commissioners, the expectation was that there would possibly be a couple of hundred people watching. The fact is that the Board averaged 850 viewers per webcast event for the 10 months of the 2008 / 2009 school year. The total for the year almost reached 16,000 total live and video-on-demand viewings.

With Major School Change underway this year the expectation was that there would be an increase in webcast viewership. The three nights of MSC public hearings brought incredible results. The webcast statistics reflect individual viewers, based on unique IP addresses. Following are the viewership numbers:

Webcast from LaSalle – November 17th - 610 viewers (in spite of some serious technical problems)

Webcast from St-Lazare – November 18th – 2,268 viewers

Webcast from Pointe-Claire – November 19th – 1,463 viewers

Total: 4,341 live viewers

The company that tracks these statistics (independent from the LBPSB) claims that these numbers are a record amongst all the public and para-public institutions that they track across Canada.

ENTENTE SIGNED WITH BOROUGH OF VERDUN

The Lester B. Pearson School Board has completed an agreement with the Borough of Verdun for the use of the swimming pool at Beurling Academy. The term of the agreement is for an initial 2-year period with the possibility of an extension. The Borough and the School Board will be sharing the costs for some upgrading of the facility that is required for use by Verdun citizens. This is another in the ongoing pursuit of collaborative community-based agreements between the Board and our municipal partners as both levels of government seek additional ways to best serve our population.

COMMUNITY MESSAGING SYSTEM

The Executive Committee reviewed the first year of use of the BlackboardConnect Community Messaging System. The Committee approved a new 1-year contract to continue the service. The system has been an unqualified success. An example of its increasing use is that in the first half of November 127 messages were sent reaching 44,000 phones. Every school and centre now uses the system, with some using it on a regular basis. Administrators were recently given a workshop on additional ways to use the system. It is still anticipated that access to using the system will be extended beyond the exclusive use by Principals or Centre Directors. The new contract is valued at US\$62,000 (approximately CAD\$66,000).

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THE OLYMPIC FLAME ON LBPSB TERRITORY

The Olympic Torch Relay will reach the LBPSB territory on December 8th, the 40th day of the relay. After spending the day along the South Shore the torch crosses into LBPSB territory arriving in St-Lazare at about 4:15 in the afternoon. The route will then take the flame through Hudson, Vaudreuil-Dorion, Pincourt, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Baie d'Urfé, and finishing the day at about 7:30 in the evening with a celebration in Beaconsfield. December 9th will see the flame heading north to the Laurentians but returning on the 10th passing through Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Kirkland, Pointe-Claire, and finally Dorval before heading into Montreal West and tour through the City of Montréal. This is a really exciting event and several LBPSB students will be involved in carrying the torch.

BUS BANNER CAMPAIGN – A WINNER (10 WINNERS)

For the second year in a row, the LBPSB has run a “Spot the Bus Banner” contest in conjunction with the October High School open house advertising campaign. The ballots are in and the contest enjoyed a 25% increase in participation rate this year over last year. More than 2,800 entries were eligible to be drawn as a winner of one of the 10 IPOD Nanos that were being given away.

Drawn at random by members of the public in attendance at the meeting, the winners are:

Aimée Jill Bradley	Dorval
Justin Burkinshaw	Pierrefonds
Julie Duchesne	Vaudreuil-Dorion
Anna Gardois	Pointe-Claire
Maria Gardois	Pointe-Claire
Roshini Mellaram	Île Bizard
Catherine Porsenna	Montréal
Philip Rainbow	Vaudreuil-Dorion
Melissa Wallach	Dollard-des-Ormeaux
Marie Wassef	Saint-Laurent

The winners will be contacted shortly by e-mail.

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	Judith Mrenica	514-658-6432	4027

DATES TO NOTE

PUBLIC MEETINGS – DECEMBER 2009

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

Central Parents' Committee	December 10, 2009	7:30 p.m.	Board Room
Executive Committee	December 14, 2009	6:30 p.m.	Board Room
Council of Commissioners	December 21, 2009	7:30 p.m.	Board Room

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

Marcus Tabachnick

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