

PEARSON NEWS

LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD

Volume XII, No 2 FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL & THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD September 28, 2009

RAPPORT DU DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL

Données d'effectif

Les données concernant l'effectif continuent d'être compilées en préparation de la dotation définitive fondée sur le nombre officiel d'inscriptions en date du 30 septembre. Les indications préliminaires confirment une diminution de l'effectif global d'environ 740 élèves, correspondant aux projections faites au début du printemps.

Top 10 After 10

Mme Cindy Finn, notre directrice des Services aux élèves, a récemment été honorée par l'université Bishop comme l'une de ses « *Top 10 After 10* », c'est-à-dire parmi les 10 premiers chefs de file 10 ans après l'obtention de leur diplôme universitaire. Décrivant ses réalisations, le comité de sélection a écrit : « Son objectif est de voir les écoles continuer leur parcours vers l'intégration scolaire complète et la réussite pour tous ». À la Commission scolaire Lester-B.-Pearson, nous reconnaissons également ses compétences et son leadership et nous nous considérons chanceux de la compter parmi nos gestionnaires et nos éducateurs.

Dotation en personnel

Les journées qui suivent le retour à l'école sont caractérisées par des ajustements au personnel enseignant en raison de la taille des classes une fois que les inscriptions sont terminées. Un certain nombre de changements ont été apportés et on peut s'attendre à d'autres modifications dans les jours qui viennent.

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

Enrollment Numbers

Enrolment numbers continue to be refined in preparation for final staffing allocations based on the official September 30 enrolment count. Preliminary indications confirm a decrease in overall enrollment of approximately 740 students, consistent with projections made in the early Spring of the year.

“Top 10 After 10”

Dr. Cindy Finn, our Director of Student Services, has been honoured recently by Bishop's University as one of its “Top 10 After 10”, a top ten achiever a decade after graduation from the university. In noting her attainments, the selection committee wrote, “She aims to see schools continue to move forward in their journey to be fully inclusive and to promote success for all”. Here at Lester B. Pearson, we, too, recognize her abilities and her leadership and consider ourselves fortunate to have her as a senior administrator and educator.

Teacher Staffing Progress

The days after school opening are always characterized by staffing adjustments as a result of class size once student enrollment has stabilized. A number of changes has been made to date and further modification can be expected in the coming days.

(continued next page)

Plan stratégique

L'adoption du projet de loi 88 apporte un certain nombre de changements qui doivent être pris en compte dans le Plan stratégique de la Commission scolaire, nécessitant une série d'atelier pour nos cadres. De plus, nous avons formé un comité sous le leadership du directeur principal Steve Balleine qui travaille à établir un processus et une orientation pour l'élaboration et la révision de notre plan stratégique.

Foire de l'éducation de *Montreal Families*

Cette foire s'est déroulée les 21 et 22 septembre et a donné l'occasion aux parents et aux élèves d'obtenir des renseignements sur nos établissements et nos programmes. Ceux-ci ont démontré beaucoup d'intérêt et nous ont rassurés quant à la confiance de la communauté dans nos institutions.

Grippe

La pandémie potentielle de grippe H1N1 occupe certainement tous les esprits et je tiens à assurer à la communauté de la commission scolaire que nous surveillons chaque jour la situation dans nos écoles et nos centres. Une procédure quotidienne de nettoyage et de désinfection est toujours en vigueur, conformément aux directives que nous avons reçues du ministère de la Santé. Le Ministère nous a demandé de lui fournir des statistiques sur les absences (chez les élèves comme chez les employés) causées par des symptômes de toux et de fièvre afin de contrôler toute propagation de la maladie. C'est pourquoi nous demandons aux parents et aux employés qui s'absentent de laisser savoir à l'école s'ils éprouvent de tels symptômes. Ces renseignements resteront confidentiels et ne serviront qu'à déterminer les progrès de la pandémie.



Strategic Plan

Law 88 has mandated a number of changes that are to be reflected in the Board's Strategic Plan, resulting in a series of workshops for senior administrators. In addition, we have established a committee under the leadership of Senior Director Steve Balleine that is working to establish process and direction for our Strategic Plan development and revision.

Montreal Families Education Fair

The Montreal Families Education Fair that took place on September 21 and 22 gave parents and students a rich opportunity to gain information on our schools/centres and varied programs. The level of interest was high and it is reassuring that our schools and centres are seen by our community in a very positive light.

Influenza

The potential H1N1 influenza pandemic is certainly on the minds of everyone and I wish to assure our school board community that we are monitoring the situation in our schools and centres on a daily basis. Daily cleaning and disinfection procedures continue to be implemented in accordance with guidelines received from the Ministry of Public Health. We have been asked to provide statistics to the Ministry regarding any absences (students and staff) in which cough and fever symptoms are present so that any progress of the disease can be monitored. Thus, we request that, in reporting absence to the school, parents or staff members indicate in their message if such symptoms are involved. This information remains confidential and is used only to determine the progress of the illness.



GREENDALE CORN ROAST

The Corn Roast is a huge annual event at Greendale School. This year, the Corn Roast took place on Thursday, September 3rd. Everyone was welcomed with a huge smile. We even had people from the school board come and help with the hamburgers. They wore really nice aprons that Home and School gave them.

At the Corn Roast, you were able to have corn on the cob (all you can eat). There were other delicious treats such as hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks and TCBY for a small cost. The music was playing and we got to dance and have a wonderful time.

At the Corn Roast, we got to socialize with our classmates, play games, meet new families and get to know our friends who now come to Greendale. It is an opportunity to relax, talk, eat and be ourselves before school work starts.

Greendale's Corn Roast is something we always look forward to. What a fantastic way to start a new school year. This was our last Corn Roast because we are in Grade 6, but we will be back next year, maybe to help.



*Marion Knott (left) and
Myret Smith-Brown, President of Home & School, (right)*

Tyanna Supreme and Adam Mokhtar



Olivia Ferris

Locker Extreme Makeover at Beurling Academy

Last year in *The Messenger*:

The students of Beurling Academy's student council implemented a locker makeover this year. Their hope was to improve their school environment and have some fun in the process. At least 470 lockers on the basement and the first floor were improved. Many students were involved and a core group participated faithfully every month spending hours and hours of their own time cleaning and painting for the benefit of their peers. Secondary V student, Samantha Brathwaite, was invaluable and was dedicated to the project and worked tirelessly throughout the entire year.



Extreme Makeover Locker Edition comes to an end at Beurling Academy after a year of hard work. Teachers, Myra Bernardin and Kyle Rougeau organized the painting of over 800 lockers in the school. This idea originated from student council as an idea to improve the school. It took a whole year to complete this project with the help of many students. The hallways are now a warm burgundy, the school color, which makes for a positive and united environment.

Thank you to Home and School for funding this activity and to Mr. Abracen for feeding all the hard working students. Finally, a big shout out goes to all the students who worked endless hours on this very large endeavor. This was a very worthwhile project which will benefit the students and staff of Beurling Academy for many years to come.



ST. CHARLES CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY

St. Charles is proud to be a member of Peaceful Schools International and it strives to promote a community where the teachers, students and community members collaborate in an environment of safety and respect. Peaceful Schools International was founded in 2001 by Ms. Hetty Van Gorp, who lost her 14-year-old son in a violent bullying incident in 1991.



September 21st was International Peace Day and St. Charles commemorated the day by reminding all the students what it means to be a Peaceful School. The students gathered for a Peace Assembly which included the following:

- Songs filled the air as the children sang a variety of songs ending with the principal's, Mme Coiteux, favorite song "*Une Colombe est Partie en Voyage*".
- Theresa Bigland, our school's spiritual animator, introduced the school's Peer Mediators. Theresa Bigland works tirelessly and is committed to providing these students with the proper peer mediation training. Our Peer Mediators have graciously given up their recess and lunch play time to be present in the school yard and are the extra eyes and ears helping to achieve a peaceful playground.
- Children created peace flags with messages of peace that are a visual reminder to all of us for so that we can spread peace and it is our hope that this peace will spread throughout our school, then community and finally in our world.
- Special guest speaker at the Peace Assembly was Ms. Judy Grant. Ms Grant oversees the Peaceful Schools initiative at the Lester B School Board and her goal is to create an environment where bullying cannot exist. She reminded us why we decided to become a member of Peaceful Schools, and that was because we chose to work together to use that power for peace.

The students then proceeded to build a human peace sign in front of the school and the school re-raised its Peaceful Schools International Flag. It's not enough to simply call ourselves a Peaceful School, rather it's an ongoing process where peace must be taught, modeled and worked at.



Marie-Josée Coiteux
Principal

*Ms. Judy Grant and Theresa Bigland with
the school's Peer Mediators*

A WORD FROM YOUR COMMISSIONERS UN MOT DE VOS COMMISSAIRES

PATRICK WHITHAM – Ward 5 Lachine
Email: pwhitham@lbpsb.qc.ca



Community Partners Appreciation

Community partners are an added value to our students/schools. One key opportunity in my role as Commissioner is to participate in a number of special community partners events.

The launching of The Mildred Brunet & Friends Foundation, which took place at Bishop Whelan elementary school, in Dorval, is one such event. The Foundation is partnered with the Brunet Health Care Group and Service de police de la Ville de Montréal to offer young people under the age of 14 a unique experience, such as summer camp.

Another event was entitled “Families Count”. The theme of this event was “Dreams, Drugs and Decisions: A Sobering Look Inside the World of Illicit Drugs”, organized by Lakeside Academy’s community rep. Georgina Saba-Hanash. Randy Johnston, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Lachine, sensitized parents of teenagers to the serious problems of illicit drug use in today’s world.

It is special community partners such as these that help support our schools.

I would like to thank these partners for their commitment and contributions to our students/parents.

Patrick Whitham

A WORD FROM YOUR COMMISSIONERS UN MOT DE VOS COMMISSAIRES

LUISA BULGARELLI-VERO – Ward 17 Pierrefonds West

Email: lvero@lbpsb.qc.ca



Another school year underway !

As the start of another school year is well underway, it never ceases to amaze me when I hear about and see learners of varying ages begin a journey which is full of anticipation, hopes and dreams. The great adventures in learning that have started in our public schools will embody the defining moments that will be remembered forever.

Looking forward to the next school year, there are many topics and challenges before us as Commissioners. One of primary importance is the future direction of this school board. The major school change process underway is an integral part of and will contribute to the future decisions to be made by Council. The opinions and feedback received will be seriously considered and will be a part of our discussions as we move forward into this process.

I will continue to support and work toward the improvement of our educational services, facilities and programs. Our need to explore and provide additional innovative programs and services must be maintained. Building on our current successes such as the International Program and pre-k 4-year old program is a priority. We must also not forget to review and discuss the current levels of success so that we can continue to excel and make representations for resources and funding from the MELS.

A special mention to the students, staff, parents and volunteers at the school communities of St. Charles, Thorndale and St. Anthony. I wish you a most rewarding and successful year as you embark on the great journeys ahead of you in education.

I value and support the community's interest and participation in public education. My commitment to the fulfillment of quality learning experiences in a sustainable environment for all our learners will continue to be my focus in the 2009-2010 school year.

Together, we can make a difference.

Luisa Bulgarelli-Vero

Greendale Walks for Terry Fox

Sunshine, smiling faces and giggles! The tone was set for our a perfect afternoon walk. Students and Staff joined together on Thursday, September 24 to support the Marathon of Hope started 29 years ago by a courageous young man.

The seniors paired up with our K-4 and Kindergarten students, along with the entire school, parents and staff around the Greendale neighborhood in support of raising funds. Activities took place in school before the big day and students learned about our great Canadian hero, Terry Fox. Assemblies were held, pledges were filled and parents helped us along the route to ensure the safety of all. Juice and cookies were provided for everyone compliments of our Home and School parents!

*Dona Bianchi
Principal*



Riverview's Roots Harvest Corn Roast

On Wednesday, September 9, the Riverview Community Learning Centre (CLC) welcomed students and parents back to school with a corn roast. Close to two hundred people feasted on fresh juicy corn and ice cream care of the CLC and its many volunteers. The weather was perfect and the mood was festive.

The corn roast was in celebration of the success and bountiful harvest of the Riverview's Roots Collective Garden. The CLC's collective garden project began with 5 classrooms from Kindergarten to grade 2 planting vegetable and edible flower seeds and learning all about gardening with the help of community partners at Culture Élémentaire Verdun. The rest of the students at Riverview helped to build four large garden bins in the school yard and a Three Sisters Garden in front of the school. Once school was out six summer camp groups from Dawson Community Centre and the YWCA paid weekly visits to Riverview to garden and participate in educational activities. Between Riverview, Dawson and the YWCA an estimated 350 children and youth participated in the gardening project and learned about urban gardening, nutrition and food security. The success of Riverview's Roots Collective Garden can be attributed to the extensive participation of Riverview students and staff and three solid partnerships with Cultures Élémentaire Verdun, the YWCA and Dawson Community Centre. The project was made possible with the generous financial support of the Canadian Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN) and the Saint Lawrence Optimist Club. We look forward to expanding our garden next year providing many more family and community events and programs in the 2009-2010 School Year.

*Audrey Ottier
CLC Coordinator*



*Photo courtesy of
Nancy Roach,
Parent volunteer*

Daniela's Corner

School is in full swing now that a month has already gone by since the first day back. It has been a busy month, with the schools and centres being full of activities and great events a lot of which the media has decided to report on.



For the first day back, I was at St. Edmund Elementary. It was there that CTV News chose to feature students' first day back. St. Edmund's back-to-school theme this year was different countries around the world. Students and teachers were encouraged to dress up in the traditional clothing from different countries or bring a flag from the country of their choice. Children who were excited to be back and those who were a little more apprehensive to beginning a new year in a new grade were interviewed by the reporter. The story, which ran on the six o'clock news the evening of the 31st of August, was a wonderful way to kick off the first day back to elementary school.

Also featured on CTV News as well as on Global News were teacher Karen Jones and some of her students from Macdonald High School. They wrote a book about the more than century old tunnels found in the school. These tunnels are apparently haunted and Ms. Jones decided to research the stories she's heard about the supposedly haunted tunnels with her students. They spent a few hours at the school one night and they too heard mysterious noises coming from within the tunnels. Ms. Jones and her students have written a book about their experiences with the ghosts who roam the tunnels at night.

These are just a few examples of the great media coverage LBPSB's schools and centres have been receiving since the start of the school year. To view more stories about all the fantastic events happening, I encourage you to visit the Press Room section on the board's main website. It's there that you will find all the media coverage LBPSB receives. I also encourage you to advise me of any event you'd like publicized. This will enable me to contact the media. The more positive coverage our schools and centres receive, the better.

Daniela Scoppa

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 !

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



The partnership continues...

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 – OCTOBER 2009

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

Executive Committee	October 19, 2009	6:30 p.m.	Board Room
Special Needs Adv. Cttee	October 14, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Room 219/221
Council of Commissioners	October 26, 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