

Director's Report – April 19, 2016

1. NTIP Activities Continue

On April 13th, 37 of the RCDSB 1st and 2nd year contract and long term occasional teachers attended a workshop at Fellowes High School organized by the NTIP Steering Committee. The sessions included Math Strategies focused on the work of Cathy Fosnot facilitated by Lisa Blokland and Nicole Bell, Writing Strategies facilitated by Sherri Wylie and Carly McLaren, Strategies for French Instruction facilitated by Carole Soucy, Secondary Best Practices facilitated by Jeff Barber, Tom Havey, Cheryl Welbanks and Tammy Cayer, Google Read and Write facilitated by Kaia Paddock, and Math Games facilitated by Sherri Wylie and Nicole Bell. The participants also had the privilege of working with former RCDSB Principal Lizanne Lacelle as she shared her expertise around Knowledge Building from K-12. This was the fourth workshop of the year for the participants of the NTIP program. On May 19th, the RCDSB NTIP and Leadership Development participants will come together for a workshop with keynote speaker Willow Sweeney. This will serve as a day to consolidate the learning from the many PD opportunities this school year.

2. Leadership Innovation Session

On April 14th, 60 new and experienced leaders participated in an inspirational and informative session with George Couros. Participants got to see and try various social media strategies as well as examples of using technology to make curriculum more powerful. Couros advocated for a strengths-based approach when leading meaningful innovation. RCDSB leaders left the session equipped and motivated to further develop a culture of innovation across our district. The training was well received and is an example of the Board's commitment to the professional learning of our leaders.

3. EOSDN 2016 Outstanding Service Award

The Renfrew County District School Board is thrilled to announce Superintendent Gayle Bishop is this year's recipient of the Eastern Ontario Staff Development Network's Outstanding Service Award. Gayle has been a member of EOSDN for 21 years and is currently a member of the Board of Directors representing our district. Through the years, Gayle has been involved in many aspects of the Network's work – most notably; Professional Development; Leadership Academy and Supervisory Officer's Qualification Program Modules. Gayle will be honoured by her peers at the May 26th EOSDN Award Presentation Dinner.

4. Options 2016

One of the most exciting and dynamic student events of the school year is being held on Wednesday, May 11th at the Pembroke Memorial Centre – Options 2016! Options is a skilled trades career fair that features local high school students participating in a variety of competitions that demonstrate their impressive talents. The event is open to parents and the public and in addition to the skills competitions, apprenticeship information, interactive trades demonstrations and summer job postings for students will be available.