

Renfrew County District School Board Director's Report – May 31, 2016

1. Innovative Education Programs for Children and Youth in Care

RCDSB staff will be presenting our “Innovative Education Programs for Children and Youth in Care” at the upcoming Ontario Public School Boards’ Association AGM in Ottawa on June 10th. Back in 2013, the Ministry of Education invited school boards to submit proposals to support the development and implementation of programs to improve the educational outcomes and well-being of Children and Youth in Care. Since then, our Board has received funding to run three programs in our district at RCI, RCIS and FHS. Student Success Leader, Jacqueline Poirier and Student Success Teacher Scott Buffam will be representing our Board at this prestigious event.

2. Options 2016 Results!

RCDSB students excelled at the recent Options 2016 skilled trades fair held in Pembroke on May 11th at the Pembroke Memorial Centre. In the 15 skilled competitions, RCDSB students captured 12 first place finishes, 11 second place finishes and 12 third place finishes. In total, our students took 35 of the 45 medals in the competition. Our OYAP Coordinator, Terry Hoelke, was honoured during the opening ceremonies as he has officially retired from our Board. Terry has left a lasting legacy of excellence in the skilled trades!

3. Renfrew County Youth and Educators’ Forum on Inclusion

June 1st at Algonquin College in Pembroke, the Renfrew County Youth and Educators’ Forum on Inclusion will be a day for students and staff to come together, learn and share their thoughts on making schools safer. The day will include a morning of inspirational talks that share the stories of the history of anti-bullying work in the region. Workshops will go deeper into understanding topics of diversity, and build understanding for LGBTQ and inter-sectional communities. The day will conclude with a discussion of student and teacher voice in order to envision the future of our learning and action in regards to inclusion in the RCDSB. The day is supported by personnel from the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity and is funded through a grant from the Ministry of Education’s Student Success Implementation Branch.

4. Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP)

We are pleased to learn the Teacher Learning and Leadership Program is funding two projects in our district next year. Central PS teachers Heather Dale and Melanie Reid received \$30,453 to explore how a balanced literacy block in a second language classroom can increase student engagement, confidence, and achievement in speaking, reading and writing in a second language. Madawaska Valley District HS teachers Susan McCullough, Joanne Hartwig, and Pam McCallum have received \$29,887 to learn how research based reading interventions can improve secondary student reading skills and to explore the most effective practices for grouping students and providing authentic tasks.

5. Golf Fore Kids Day!

On June 29, 2016 the RCDSB will be hosting its first annual Golf Fore Kids Day at the Oaks of Cobden Golf Course! All proceeds from the tournament will make a direct impact on RCDSB students by supporting the Student Support Fund (SSF). The Student Support Fund will provide schools with mini grants to help students overcome barriers and enhance their school experience. The SSF will provide students with financial and/or in-kind support, so they can fully participate in school life. The types of support students can receive from this fund include assistance with fees for extracurricular programs, college application fees, and support for family crisis (flood, fire, etc).