

## Board Meeting

### Director's Update - Pino Buffone

30 May 2017

- 1. Acknowledgement of Students, Staff & School Communities:** Congratulations to the following students, staff and schools...
  - Steve Blok – Instructional Technology Leader... recipient of the Connect 2017 Innovative Administrator Award at the Connect Conference held in Niagara Falls last month...the award is presented to a school or system level administrator who has significantly improved the learning experience in the classroom, demonstrated in substantial, quantitative improvements in student achievement;
  - Peter Cudmore – Secondary Teacher at Arnprior District HS...for receiving the Prime Minister's Award earlier this month...a recognition of his work in preparing students for a digital-based innovation economy by turning science courses into video games where students gain points and progress to the next level accordingly;
  - Students and Staff at Admaston PS...whose artwork was submitted for consideration in the publication of the Ontario College of Teachers magazine, *Professionally Speaking*, for its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition...although the school's artwork wasn't selected for inclusion in the magazine, it will be featured in public areas of the College building at 101 Bloor Street West (Toronto) this spring; and,
  - a final kudos goes out to all students, staff and school communities in the county for their efforts in raising funds for The Terry Fox Foundation...over \$350 000 has been raised by our district over the past 37 years!
- 2. Education Week – 01-05 May 2017:** A number of schools held creative, innovative and inspiring activities/events over the course of Education Week, including:
  - 'Maker Faire' at Rockwood Public School, on 02 May 2017, where students across all grades (K-8) showcased their innovations in science and technology, arts, engineering and mathematics...as a celebration of the Maker Movement; and,
  - 'Music Monday' at Madawaska Valley District High School, on 03 May 2017, where secondary music programs across the district joined together at MVDHS to collaborate in the playing of the National Anthem and The Tragically Hip's "New Orleans is Sinking" .
- 3. Changes to Principal and Vice-Principal Assignments for 2017-2018 School Year:** As is the case at this time of each and every school year, our district has a number of appointments and/or transfers of principals and vice-principals...

#### Administrator appointments and/or transfers:

- Dean Zadow moves from Fellowes HS to Madawaska Valley District HS (effective November 2017)
- Krista Recoskie moves from Eganville & District PS (P) to Madawaska Valley District HS (VP)
- Michelle Belsher moves from Champlain Discovery PS to Eganville & District PS
- Lisa Murphy moves from Queen Elizabeth PS to AJ Charbonneau PS
- Angie McGrath moves from Arnprior District HS (VP) to Queen Elizabeth PS (P)
- Amy Johnson moves from AJ Charbonneau PS to Fellowes HS
- Steve Griffiths moves from Sherwood PS to McNab PS

- Greg Harkness moves from Fellowes HS (VP) to Sherwood PS (P)
- Amy Dahm moves from Vice-Principal of RCIS to Vice-Principal of RCI
- Shelley Gagne becomes the Principal of Champlain Discovery PS
- Ann Gagan moves from Vice-Principal of RCI to Secondary Curriculum Lead
- Gayle Corbin becomes Vice-Principal of RCIS
- Shannon Cassidy-Rouleau becomes the Vice-Principal of Champlain Discovery PS

The following administrators will be retiring at the end of the school year and will be honoured at our Retirement Celebration on 13 June 2017, along with other RCDSB staff:

- Alanna Emon – Secondary Curriculum Lead
- Cathy Kyle – Vice-Principal of Mackenzie Community School
- Tracey Stevens – Principal of McNab PS

(Note: Dave Bishop – Principal of Madawaska Valley District HS – will be retiring on 31 October 2017.)

4. **Canada 150 Celebrations:** As part of the continued recognition of Canada 150, the district will be participating in the county's celebratory event on Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Canada 150<sup>th</sup> Committee Co-chairs - Kim Love (Mayor of Madawaska Valley) and Janice Visneskie-Moore (Mayor of Killaloe-Hagarty-Richards) - have confirmed that all school boards within Renfrew County will be provided the opportunity to include a photo of the students and staff from each school across the district in the time capsule which will be created to mark the occasion, and will include small artefacts from each of the 17 municipalities. Further, across our district, a variety of schools are holding their own activities in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary...

- McNab PS will be having a Spirit Week beginning June 5<sup>th</sup>, where they will have something each day to celebrate being Canadian;
- Central PS is partnering with the county to organize a road hockey tournament on the main street of town, and, will display art projects in the school as part of this event;
- Eganville & District PS is participating in an Art Tree;
- Whitney PS is holding Canadian trivia contests until the end of the year and have decorated all the doors of the school to mark the celebration; and,
- Admaston PS has a book shrub and one buddy bench decorated and dedicated to Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>.

Note: A draft copy of the recently-assembled document, "*A History of Schools in Renfrew County*", will be included as part of the district's submission for the time capsule to the Canada 150<sup>th</sup> Committee of Renfrew County. The living document provides an overview of schools – both past and present – of the Renfrew County District School Board, and its predecessor, the Renfrew County Board of Education.

5. **Provincial Assessments of Reading, Writing & Mathematics – 23 May-05 June 2017:** Currently, our elementary students (primary-division students in Grade 3 and junior-division students in Grade 6) are participating in the Provincial Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics coordinated by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). Our elementary schools have thoughtfully prepared our students to take part in these assessments through quality teaching and learning opportunities and experiences throughout the course of the school year. These assessments will be conducted through paper-and-pencil medium, with targeted supports and/or interventions (assistive technology, a quiet work space, for instance) provided to students if/as permissible and/or required. Our district holds high expectations for our students and a belief that all students can develop the literacy and numeracy skills for success in school and life.