



Commission scolaire English-Montréal

English Montreal School Board

Fielding Focus

The monthly news bulletin of the EMSB

Vol.11. No. 3

October 30, 2008

EDITOR: MICHAEL J. COHEN

PRINTING SERVICES: L. SHAW, D. D'ORNELLAS

PROOFREADING/TRANSLATION: ALINE ZEROUNIAN

Inside

- Δ EMSB Surplus
- Δ Successful Career Fair
- Δ Inspirations
- Δ Junior Hockey
- Δ New Canada Game
- Δ Molo's Award
- Δ Grey Cup Fever
- Δ Walk to School
- Δ James Lyng Event
- Δ La Capitale Seminars



Hugh Adams, shown here being honoured by Lew Lewis in 2006.

Mourning Hugh Adams

The EMSB is mourning the passing of **Hugh Adams**, a longtime guidance counsellor in the system who lost his battle with cancer earlier this month

Mr. Adams worked for over 30 years in the educational community, most recently as a guidance counsellor at Rosemount and Lester B. Pearson High Schools and Program Mile End. One of his noted roles was as the dynamic and charismatic emcee of the annual High School Career Fair. He had to relinquish these duties two years ago when he fell ill, yet he continued to attend and even narrated a special video last year. On May 31, 2006 Mr. Adams was honoured by the Quebec Counselling Association as the winner of the 2006 Justine Harris Award for Excellence in Counselling. A month later, he was invited to an EMSB Council meeting and received an emotional standing ovation.

“Hugh served as a role model for the many students whose needs he addressed over the years,” said EMSB Director of Student Services **Lew Lewis**. For more on Hugh see the press release section of the EMSB website. His son Andrew, is an English teacher at the LaurenHill Academy Junior Campus.

November 17-21 in Professionals in Education Week

\$4.8 MILLION SURPLUS: The EMSB Council of Commissioners has approved the external auditors' report and audited financial statements for the 2007-2008 academic year's operations. For the year ended June 30, 2008 EMSB posted a combined (i.e. corporate plus schools and centres) surplus of \$6,424,000 on revenues of \$268,547,000 – or 2.4 percent thereof. With respect to the net corporate surplus for the year in the amount of \$4,899,000, EMSB Chairman **Angela Mancini** says that Council intends to pursue a number of initiatives in order to enhance the success of its students and to improve its physical facilities.

ENROLMENT REPORT: The EMSB youth sector enrolment for 2008-2009 is 23,062. That is down 996 students from the same time last year. The EMSB has 12,195 elementary students, 10,510 at the secondary level and 357 in social affairs. Adult Education and Vocational Services has more than 13,000 students.

CPC CHAIR: **Scott Day** has been elected chair of the EMSB Central Parents Committee. **Ralph De Palma** is the new vice-chair while **John Le Piane** is the treasurer. New parent commissioners are **Gail Giannakas** (primary) and **Angie Bertone** (secondary). They succeed **Anne Wade** and **Viky Keller** respectively.

EMSB COMMITTEES: Commissioner **Anne Williams** is the new vice-chair of the Education and Facilities Committee (the chair is **Syd Wise**). Commissioner **Ellie Israel** was re-elected vice-chair of the Finance and Legislation Committee (**Joseph Lalla** is the chair).

CAREER FAIR: The first phase of the ninth annual EMSB Career Fair took place October 21 and 22 at St. Pius X Adult Centre in Ahuntsic for Secondary V students, with the latter part of the second day being devoted to an open house for all students and parents in the system.



Career Fair Chair Susan Freed shares a moment with some students.

Isabelle Bouchard, a graduate of the EMSB's St. Dorothy Elementary School and Vincent Massey Collegiate, was the special guest speaker at opening ceremonies. She started working at McDonald's as a crew member while in school, studying to become a police officer. When she got her diploma, she decided to stay at McDonald's as the manager of two stores for many reasons, including the fact that her work is rewarding and challenging, as well as the friendships she has developed.



Isabelle Bouchard addresses the crowd.

Malik Shaheed, a graduate of Westmount High School, was back as the emcee. **Susan Freed**, a special needs consultant at the EMSB, served as the Career Fair chairperson. The Student Services and Adult Education and Vocational Services Departments of the EMSB coordinate this program. Ms. Freed notes that the main objective of the Career Fair is to provide students with an in-depth exposure to the various educational

opportunities available to them. All students took part in a brief general information session in the St. Pius X auditorium. Students then had the chance to visit the various exhibition/information booths staffed by representatives from English vocational centres, CEGEPS, universities, the Canadian Armed Forces and McDonald's.

The Career Fair is supported almost entirely by corporate sponsorship, principally **Jack Dym** of Pipe and Piling Supplies, RBC Royal Bank and a host of others. Paralympic athlete **Benoit Huot** and Canadian water polo team member **Sandra Lize** were at the RBC booth.

OTHER PHASES: During the year, Secondary III students will be given guided tours of each of the EMSB's vocational schools. On March 20, 2009 a special prelude to Career Fair will be held at the Centre Pierre Charbonneau for Secondary IV students. This event will include a dynamic, interactive program featuring live music and information.

MALIK: Communications Versatilité is proud to announce that **Malik Shaheed**, the personable Career Fair emcee, is now a member of the Culture-Education Resource Directory 2008 of the Ministère des cultures, de la communication et de la Condition Féminine du Québec. This program, aimed at both French as well as English schools in Quebec, is funded by the government of Quebec and does not involve any fees for the schools.

To have Malik visit and speak at your school and offer an interesting and exciting cultural activity to your students, you can fill in the form at the address below:

[http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/sections/cultureEducation/plcal/medias/Form EntenteArtistes0809.pdf](http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/sections/cultureEducation/plcal/medias/Form_EntenteArtistes0809.pdf).

During his visits, Malik uses music as a means to reach students and transmit positive messages. He also takes this opportunity to demystify the illusions surrounding the entertainment industry. The presentation is

then followed by an artistic creation workshop. Since Malik uses music to convey his messages, he wants to encourage kids to try to express themselves by writing lyrics.

For more information, please visit the Ministère des cultures, de la communication et de la condition féminine du Québec website at: <http://www.mcccf.gouv.qc.ca>, at the Répertoire de ressources culture-éducation section. You will be able to consult Malik Shaheed's profile in the Les artistes à l'école section. The fee for a full day of workshops is \$325. Workshops last one or two hours, depending on the school's availability. A full day of workshops includes two sessions of two hours each or three one hour sessions. The groups can include up to 35 students. A teacher or educator should be present throughout the activities. Info: Andrea Fuzes, 514-866-8377, info@versatilite.com or <http://www.malikshaheed.com>.



Honoré-Mercier students celebrate success.

CROSS COUNTRY TRIUMPH: On September 24 some Grade 6 students represented Honoré-Mercier Elementary School in St. Léonard at the cross country run. The girls came in first place overall while the boys finished fourth. A special assembly was held in their honour. We are so proud of them!



Our Lady of Pompei runners.

POMPEI RUNNERS: The cross-country running team from Our Lady of Pompei Elementary School in Ahuntsic had a wonderful season! Forty five students trained with **Mirella Ricci** and **Patrizia Passarelli** during the month of September. The school was well represented at the challenging two kilometre competition.

INSPIRATIONS: The EMSB has launched a new publication called *Inspirations – A Snapshot of Our Special Needs Community*.

As a leader in catering to special needs children and young adults, the EMSB is proud to be sponsoring *Inspirations*. It will initially be published twice annually and be distributed widely in the Greater Montreal to English school boards, institutions dealing with special needs individuals, hospitals, CLSCs, doctor's offices, community organizations, the media and government.

The small tabloid newspaper is also available at many drop-off points across the island. *Inspirations* will provide uplifting stories of success stories in the area of special needs. The first edition's lead story is about an autistic teenager who graduated from Vincent Massey Collegiate, a high school which requires entrance exams. There are also articles from experts in various fields providing timely advice to parents and information concerning special needs initiatives from other school boards.

While the EMSB is the publisher of this magazine, the content will ultimately cover the entire Greater Montreal area. "We are taking this initiative upon the demand of many of our parents," said Lew Lewis, director of Student Services from the EMSB. "While another such magazine was launched in this city just over two years ago, it now considers itself a national publication. As such, many of the good local stories are not being covered. We intend to rectify that."

"Through the pages of *Inspirations* we will bring you the feedback from special education consultants, psychologists, guidance counsellors, speech-language pathologists, autism spectrum disorder consultants, behavior specialists, spiritual community animators, social workers and physiotherapists," added editor **Michael J. Cohen**, the EMSB's communications and marketing specialist. "We'll go into the classrooms of the intellectually and physically handicapped as well as examine how the visually and hearing-impaired population cope day to day. The underlining message is that all of these people continue to be 'Inspirations' to all of us."

Inspirations is available online at www.emsb.qc.ca/inspirations (click on first edition). For more information call (514) 483-7200, ext. 7243 or email inspirations@emsb.qc.ca.

NEW SCHOOL CLOSING POLICY: New rules established by the Quebec Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sports (MELS) will mean that the consultation process for proposed school closures will now begin five months earlier for the EMSB.

The MELS now requires school boards to initiate the consultation process with governing boards of each of the affected schools, as well as the Central Parent's Committee (CPC), the City of Montreal, boroughs and municipalities on the EMSB territory, no later than July 1 of the year preceding the proposed closure of a school or transfer of clientele. At the EMSB, notice of motion for schools targeted for closure has traditionally been given in August, with

hearings scheduled for December, a final vote in January and closures effective as of July 1. That process will now begin in March, leading to a timeline of 15 months from the time a school is identified to the date it could possibly close. Any proposed changes to educational services not involving any school closures, such as the creation of a new school or program or the movement of students to another facility, must be completed no later than April 1 – three months prior to coming into effect.

The objective of this policy, which has been sent to the CPC for consultation, is to ensure a rational use of school premises for the provision of quality educational services whilst maintaining a degree of stability for the population of the schools concerned. All schools are considered for study through a long range planning process. The process follows a facility utilization plan which evaluates school accommodation requirements against a set of accepted criteria such as student enrollment patterns, program rationalization, transportation issues, a facility's condition, cost of operation and community usage.

The CPC has been asked to respond to the proposed policy by Nov. 7.



Michelangelo students do some planting.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY: On October 10, the EMSB's 10th anniversary celebrations continued, but this time with a green approach as schools and centres held environment-related activities. From planting trees and flower bulbs, to cleaning up the school

grounds, presentations about environmental issues such as recycling and keeping the planet clean and launching school environmental initiatives, there was great enthusiasm shown to this approach. For full details see the EMSB website press release and photo album sections.

JUNIOR HOCKEY: The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League's Montreal Juniors are reaching out to area high school students. On Nov. 5, students from Royal Vale School will be in attendance at the game against Val d'Or, while a week later, Nov. 12, it will be students from Westmount High attending the Montreal-Acadie Bathurst match. In the case of Royal Vale, one former student – **Christopher Smith** – plays for Montreal while **Marco Scandella** is on the Val d'Or squad. He was drafted in the second round of the 2008 NHL draft by the Minnesota Wild. Home games are played at the Verdun Auditorium, only a block away from the De L'Église Metro Station. In advance of these games, players from the Juniors will visit the respective schools to talk about how they have been combining academics with elite hockey. Schools interested in this program should email mcohen@emsb.qc.ca.



Rosemount students and staff stand up against poverty.

STAND UP: On October 17, students from teacher **Rachel Thompson's** French classes and members of the Green Team at Rosemount High School stood up for one minute as part of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. They joined forces with millions of people worldwide taking part

in the United Nations Millennium Campaign to call for a better, more just world.

FIRST FLIGHT: Do you remember your first flight? The thrill of the take-off, the roar of the engine and the beauty of first looking upon Canada through the clouds? Well the glorious CBC/SRC Aviation Series called “One Hundred Years of Flight in Canada” is eliciting your help to capture that experience through the eyes of a child. Please let us know whether your child, or a child you know, is embarking on his/her first aviation adventure solo. They could have flown before but this is their first time to fly all alone - unaccompanied by adults. We would like to follow them along on this first flight.

Requirements: Boy or girl, bilingual (French and English), between the ages of 7 to 13 and is flying anytime between now and Christmas (the sooner the better). CBC will be happy to provide more information and answer any questions or concerns. Please contact **Rita Kotzia** at rita.kotzia@cbc.ca or at 416.999.5544.

STARLAB A presenter from Starlab recently came to Carlyle Elementary School in T.M.R. Starlab is a simulated solar system in an inflatable balloon. The children went inside and experienced the solar system up close. The presenter projected star constellations, planets, the moon and the sun. Students learned that constellations make pictures, such as the Little Dipper. “The whole experience was so incredible because it felt so real,” said one student

FOCUS SCHOOLS: The committee studying the implementation of new focus schools has been deliberating for the past several months, following hearings in June. Their preliminary recommendations, which include the possible introduction of Jewish heritage classes for students in Secondary I and II at Royal Vale High School, the creation of a hockey school for Secondary I and II, (a fine arts school possibly in the form of a FACE School annexe) and some Black Heritage

programming have been submitted to the Long Range Planning Committee for further study.



St. Monica students are enthralled by their butterflies.

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES: With the help of the entire staff, all of the students at St. Monica Elementary School in N.D.G., from Kindergarten to Grade 6, participated in the annual Terry Fox run. The event concluded successfully with the release of the first of six Monarch butterflies that the school has acquired as larvae through the Monarch Without Borders program instituted across North America with the cooperation of the Montreal Insectarium and the University of Kansas. The program is designed to give a chance to students to see first hand Monarch larvae grow into mature caterpillars that go through the metamorphosis stages before becoming butterflies. They are then identified by students with a unique serial number tag fixed to one of the butterfly wings and then released for their two month long journey to Southern Mexico, where they will hibernate until next spring. “This activity has brought together all the students in better understanding the whole process of metamorphosis by having direct experience of the changes as they happened,” said teacher **Fernand Deschamps**.

NEW CANADA GAME: Students at Elizabeth Ballantyne Elementary School in Montreal West played a new “Canada” game at an Intergenerational Day called “Canada

Day in October” on October 20 with the Friendly Visitor Seniors at Montreal West United Church. There were three teams per table, with each comprised of a student and a senior. The game itself was established in a creative brainstorming by Spiritual Community Animator **Catherine Cherry**, teacher **Angela Kaba** and the Friendly Visitors coordinator, **Christine Laberge**. It involved moving little cars around large maps of Canada. A team member threw their dice, and the number determined the question in the realm of the geographical, historical, political, general interest, difficult, and even a section where the question had to be acted out. A correct answer warranted a move of one space, and the first team to progress all around Canada and landing in Ottawa was declared the winner.



Liberal MP Marlene Jennings observe students and seniors playing their new game.

“Everyone who played this game was in fact a winner,” says Ms. Cherry, “not just for what they learned, but also for the intergenerational sharing that took place. It was a very joy-filled morning.”

FRENCH ESSAY CONTEST: Students from across Canada are encouraged to submit entries for **French for the Future’s** National Essay Contest, run in partnership with **Apathy is Boring** and the **University of Ottawa**. The contest challenges Canadian high-school students in Grades 10 to 12 (Secondaire 4 ou 5 in Quebec) to write, in French, an essay exploring the theme of “*ta cause, ta chance.*”

First-prize winners in the two categories (French-first-language and French-second-language) will be awarded \$20,000 scholarships to the University of Ottawa and a \$1,000 cash prize. The award-winning entries will also be published on **Apathy is Boring** and **French for the Future’s** websites.

Canadians, close on the heels of a tightly contested election, have had the opportunity to reflect on the causes that are important to them. “This contest provides a chance for students to give a voice to the issues that they feel are under represented in the current political system” says **Jeff Lang-Weir**, communications manager at **French for the Future**. “Our goal is to engage young people in the political discourse of Canada while providing an opportunity to celebrate the French language.”

For contest rules and further information, please visit www.french-future.org or email jlang-weir@french-future.org.

WINNING FILM: Videographer **Tony Borioni’s** MyView film “I Hate My Life,” made last year by four John Grant High School students, took the top honor as the VIP2008 Audience Award for the Best Achievement in Youth Media. The kids won first prize and \$500. Log on www.listenup.org/project.php?project=vip2008. Borioni teaches video at John Grant and Westmount High School. In January MyView will once again, host the Reel Youth Film Festival (www.reelyouth.ca). MyView videos will be screened alongside international and local videos at the NFB Cinema on St.Denis. If your school is interested in Tony’s services email him at tony@mefirst.org.

LEADERSHIP EVENING: The Quebec Board of Black Educators Inc. will be hosting their first annual Banquet and Ball Celebrating *Community & Leadership* on Saturday November 8, 2008 (6 p.m.). The event will be held at The Schofield Hall (90 Roosevelt Avenue) in T.M.R. This exquisite

evening will feature a dinner and dance. On this evening, the EMSB/Curtis George Memorial Scholarship will be presented to a deserving youth in the community. Tickets for this event cost \$75, which includes dinner and dance.

However, for patrons wishing to attend the dance only, they can get tickets for \$35. For reservations or further information, please contact the Quebec Board of Black Educators Inc. at 514-481-9400, email qbbe@videotron.ca. **Curtis George** was the vice-principal of Rosemount Technology Centre. Soon after losing his battle with cancer, the EMSB dedicated the Curtis George Campus of RTC in Montreal North.



Molo is congratulated by his students.

MOLO'S AWARD: Romolo (Molo) Finelli, the physical education teacher at Merton Elementary School in Côte Saint-Luc, was honoured by staff, students and members of his family October 20 for receiving the National Excellence Award for Teachers (NEAT) by the Heritage Education Foundation.

This award was established in 2004 to recognize the impact that teachers can have on their students, inspiring a love of learning that can last a lifetime. NEAT acknowledges teachers who, through their dedication and use of innovative teaching approaches are enhancing the learning experience of their students in the early years of education. A recipient is selected annually from each of the five Canadian regions (British Columbia and Yukon, NWT and Nunavut, Alberta,

Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.

“Molo,” as he is affectionately known, is a former Olympic trampoliner and gymnastics instructor who was drawn to Merton in 2003 because of its gymnasium and intimate environment. He’s been a physical education teacher in the public school system for 21 years. Unlike most gym teachers who focus on teaching conventional sports, Molo decided to add circus activities like juggling and acrobatics to the regular curriculum. It was then that the school’s principal, **Raizel Candib**, encouraged Molo to put together an end of the year circus show for students who wished to volunteer their time outside of class. “The first show was magical and from then on it became a tradition,” said Molo.



Molo’ mom (middle) is presented with flowers by Principal Raizel Candib.

For Molo, the amazing thing about the circus is that everyone can participate because there’s something for each person. “Each student has a knack for something, I just direct them in the right direction” said Molo.

Ms. Candib believes that Molo’s impact on the students reaches far beyond the classroom and the stage. “The circus program gives them the kind of strength and confidence that they need to deal with the issues in their lives. It lets them know that they can reach for the stars,” said Ms. Candib.

At the ceremony in a gymnasium packed with excited students, students presented Molo with an arts and crafts model of his circus,

dozens of handwritten cards. There was also a surprise circus performance from a group of his senior students, including somersaults, juggling, balancing and unicycle driving. Molo's colleague, teacher **Bertrand Cyr**, read a tribute to him as did his longtime friend and teaching colleague **Marco Fraticelli**. Ms. Candib presented Molo's proud mother, Rosa, with a bouquet of flowers. Molo's brother, wife, two children, his first principal when he taught at Hampstead School, **Connie Bradshaw**, and many friends were on hand. See the pres release section on the EMSB website for more information.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: Dr. **Michele Borba** was the guest speaker for the "First Region 2 International Conference." It took place at the Château Royal on October 6. Dr. Borba's presentation was on building moral intelligence. She is best known for her practical, research-based strategies to enhance the character and self-esteem of children and for creating moral learning communities, and to reduce bullying and the cycle of youth violence. Dr. Borba addressed the concept of a student's moral intelligence: the learned capacity to decipher right from wrong, choose what's right, and then behave morally.



Dr. Borba (far right) is welcomed by Mario Tirelli, Tina Lavranos, Gail Ewing and Claude Dansereau.

Close to 550 teachers and professionals from the region appreciated her lively three hour conference. **Claude Dansereau** and **Tina Lavranos**, the principals respectively of LaurenHill Academy and Gardenview, organized the conference. Deputy Director General **Mario Tirelli** welcomed the audience in absence of Regional Director **Angeline**

Roumeliotis who was on special assignment in Korea. **Gail Ewing**, a dynamic teacher from LaurenHill - Junior Campus, thanked Dr. Borba at the end of the conference. The presentation was a big success. Participants enjoyed Dr. Borba's concrete and down to earth approach and left with great ideas to implement in their professional life.

POWER WITHIN: Once again, EMSB educators are being offered a special admission price for the Power Within Conference November 25 at the Palais des Congrès. Among the keynote speakers are former US President **Bill Clinton** and actor **Martin Sheen**. For complete details, log on to www.emsb.qc.ca.



Sylvia Lo Bianco and Angela Mancini present a gift to retired teacher Marian Burke from Lester B. Pearson High School.

RETIREMENT DINNER: About 180 people attended the annual retirees' dinner, which took place on October 21 at the Omni Mont-Royal Hotel in downtown Montreal. The evening honoured 98 retiring employees of the EMSB who worked as educators, administrators, professionals and support staff, and whose combined years of service to the Board added up to 2,795 years. EMSB Chair **Angela Mancini**, along with the senior administrators from each region, Adult Education and Vocational Services, Pedagogical Services, Buildings & Grounds, Community Services, Financial Services, Human Resources and the General Directorate, presented each retiree with a

special thank-you gift of a Forestville desk clock from Mosel. One of the longest serving employees honoured that evening was former Assistant Director of Pedagogical Services **Irene Konecny**, who retired after 41 years of service to the board.

MEDIA EDUCATION WEEK: The third annual National Media Education Week takes place November 3 - 7, 2008. Once again, Media Awareness Network and the Canadian Teachers' Federation have partnered for the week to promote media education and encourage media literacy activities throughout Canada. Under the theme Think Critically, Act Ethically: Inside and Outside the Classroom, this year's events aim to encourage young people to become thoughtful, informed and empowered cyber citizens. East Hill Elementary School Principal **Maria Di Perna** and EMSB Pedagogical Consultant for the Portal **Maureen Baron** are on the board of directors for this national program. Schools interested in hosting events that week, which last year included appearances by Montreal journalists and broadcasters, should let us know by emailing mcohen@emsb.qc.ca. There will only be limited opportunities, so this will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Some EMSB students have been invited to an exclusive event at Concordia University featuring Montreal native **Peter M. Lenkov**, now the executive producer of the hit CBS/CTV drama *CSI: New York*.

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR: The EMSB will kick off Media Education Week on Monday, November 3 (9:55 a.m.) when award-winning investigative journalist and New York Times bestselling author **Ian Halperin**, a graduate of LaurenHill Academy in St. Laurent, returns to his old high school (2505 Côte-Vertu) to speak to its students. Later in the day, he will also speak at his former elementary school, Gardenview (700 Brunet) at 11:35 a.m.



Ian Halperin is headed back to LaurenHill and Gardenview.

The author of seven bestselling books and the director of three films, Halperin's latest project is "His Highness Hollywood," a documentary in which he goes undercover to infiltrate the world of contemporary Hollywood and the controversial Church of Scientology. Based on his best selling book *Hollywood Undercover*, which is being reissued in paperback this fall, the film also features appearances by such well known celebrities as **Sigourney Weaver, Catherine Zeta Jones, Jay Leno and Brad Pitt**. "His Highness Hollywood" has been recently released on DVD. His next book, a biography of **Britney Spears**, will be released shortly.

Besides the New York Times, Halperin has been featured in the Los Angeles Times, the New York Post, the New York Daily News, the New Yorker and Vanity Fair and has appeared on hundreds of TV and radio shows, including "Dateline NBC," "Anderson Cooper 360," and CBS' "Early Morning Show."

A variety of other activities will be held in classrooms during the week. On Friday, November 7, some media education students from Laurier Macdonald High School in St. Léonard have been invited to an event at Concordia University where former Montrealer Peter M. Lenkov will be the guest speaker. Lenkov is the executive producer of *CSI: New York*. He previously held the same position with the show 24.

Media Awareness Network is a Canadian not-for-profit centre of expertise and excellence in media education. Its vision is to ensure children and youth possess the necessary critical thinking skills and tools to understand and actively engage with media. Under the theme *Think Critically, Act Ethically: Inside and Outside the Classroom*, this year's events aim to encourage young people to become thoughtful, informed and empowered cyber citizens.

For more information visit www.mediaeducationweek.ca.

PIAZZE ITALIANE DRAWING: **Erica Gizzi**, a Grade 4 Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School student, was one of the winners selected by PICAI for the splendid drawing she entered in the "Piazze Italiane" Drawing Contest during La settimana italiana. Erica received her prize during the awards ceremony on October 26 at the Leonardo Da Vinci Centre. A special thank you goes to Pierre Elliott Trudeau PELO Italian teachers, **Signora Clara Mariotti** and **Signora Carmela Bonifacio**, who worked extremely hard to ensure that our students participated in this contest.

LIBRARY NEWS - Library Technician **Julian Taylor** from Lester B. Pearson High School is on loan to M.E.L.S. for at least one year to work on the Action Plan for Reading with **Lisa Storozuk**. The Action Plan will once again provide all school libraries with generous budgets to improve their library collections. Also under the Action Plan, there will be Recognition Awards for literacy projects in schools. Prizes will be awarded at both Regional and Provincial levels...Once again this past summer several library staff attended the Literacy Camp in August held in the Laurentians. This was the fourth year and plans are already in the works for August 2009....The Montreal Hooked on School organization is working with Grade 6 students this year on a project called Youth Library Zone. This workshop is open to all schools

and is done in collaboration with the Montreal Libraries Network. The final result of the workshop will consist of creations bound into a book that will be on display at the municipal library in the school's neighbourhood as well as at the school library. ... **Beverley Graham**, library technician at Our Lady of Pompei School received \$100 from the students at the Library Systems and Documentation Center (John Abbott College) to purchase books for her school library.

RESPONSIBLE CHILDREN: The Laurier Macdonald Community Learning Centre (7355 Viau, Door #15 Back Entrance), in conjunction with **Patricia Waters**, MEd., Parenting Educator (Quebec Federation of Home and School) is pleased to offer a Homework Workshop: "Teaching Your Child To Be Responsible " on Wed. Nov. 26 (7 p.m.). This interactive session will be made available through the Centre's Video Conferencing Unit. Understand the connection between problem solving and decision-making skills and children taking responsibility. Learn about the importance of homework in developing responsibility and brainstorm solutions for the homework issues in your home. For more information call (514) 374-6000.

LECTURE SERIES: The Garderie Orsheli and OlamSheli Parent's Association will be presenting a Perfect Parenting Lecture Series over the next few months, featuring guest lecturer **Jessica Schwarz**, B.A., M.Ed. She is a former EMSB guidance counsellor. The four lectures will take place on four Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m at the Spanish & Portuguese Congregation (located at 4894 Rue St-Kevin) in Côte-des-Neiges.

Topics and dates in the series will include Raising the Resilient Child: Parents' role in fostering the ability to face challenges and "bounce back"(November 26); Raising the Anti-Bully - Social Responsibility and Your Child (January 13, 2009); Self-Esteem: From Toddler to Young Adult(February 17,2009); and Healthy Nutrition and Your Young Child:

(March 17, 2009). The cost of admission will be \$10 per lecture (registration one week before the lecture date); \$12 per lecture (at the door) or \$35 (advanced registration for the complete series, before Nov. 19, 2008). For more details please contact: (514) 315-3831 or garderie.orsheli.olamsheli@gmail.com
 Proceeds will go directly to the Parent's Association for the children.

KNITTED GOODS: The Laurier Macdonald Community Learning Centre is looking for Grandmas or young volunteers to teach and integrate with students either to knit, crochet during lunch hour or after school. The cold weather is approaching, therefore the knitted goods will be donated to "Les Gens Dans La Rue." Anyone who would like to volunteer with intercultural cooking as lunch or an after school activity should call **Gina** at 514-374-6000.

GREEN PROJECT: Eleven EMSB schools are undertaking a pilot project to test a series of green products from two companies, hoping that if they're proven effective, they will be used by the entire board during the 2009-2010 school year. The participating schools are Lauren Hill Academy, Cedarcrest and Gardenview in St. Laurent; St. Monica and Willingdon in N.D.G.; Coronation in Côte-des-Neiges; Gerald McShane and Our Lady of Pompei in Montreal North; Pierre Elliott Trudeau in Rosemount; Michelangelo in RDP; and John Paul I High School in St. Léonard.

The pilot project, which began during the second week of October, involves the use of green-related cleaning products from two companies, Dustbane Inc. and Avmor Inc. As well, the participating schools had dispensing units installed by the EMSB Buildings and Grounds Departments, which will help eliminate the guess work and waste of pouring and mixing the products from large volume containers. Caretaking Services conducted product information seminars at each school. Once the project is completed, it will be evaluated according to its effectiveness, total

cost comparisons and end user satisfaction. If the evaluation brings about positive results and feedback, these new green cleaning products will be considered for much wider usage throughout the EMSB as of the 2009-2010 academic year.



Royal Vale students and Guidance Counsellor Cathy Schreiber work on The Incubator.

ROYAL VALE ON CBC: Carrefour jeunesse Emploi (CJE) and LEARN are producing an entrepreneurial project-launching toolkit called THE INCUBATOR: YOUR PROJECT LAUNCHING WORKSHOP. It will be distributed to all the English High Schools in Quebec as well as to many community organizations. This kit was funded partly by the EMSB and the Lester B. Pearson School Board. Along with CBC, the CJE is promoting the launch of this project by doing the workshop with five groups of Secondary IV students, who will in turn go back to their schools and launch their projects over four or five weeks. The development of these students' initiatives has already become the subject of certain programs of CBC during their Montreal Matters theme in October. Royal Vale High School students, accompanied by guidance counselor **Cathy Schreiber**, were featured on CBC Radio recently as part of this program. Go to www.cbc.ca/montrealmatters/media/oct14.html to hear the show.

WALK TO SCHOOL: In an effort to encourage students to pursue healthy and physically active lifestyles, 850 students from five EMSB schools - Hampstead, Royal

Vale, Willingdon, St. Monica, Hampstead and Elizabeth Ballantyne - plus one private school – Lower Canada College - participated in International Walk to School Day October, 8. It began from three different parks and Hampstead Town Hall. Students who participated walked to school with their parents.



The St. Monica team "walks to school."

This was the second consecutive year the EMSB spearheaded this project, with physical education teacher **Norman Katz** and physical education and health consultant **Sandy Farr** leading the way. McGill University physical education students were on hand to animate the warmups. Both the NDG YMCA and Montreal Police Station 11 joined the event as community partners. The Police in fact planned the walking routes. N.D.G. Côte des Neiges Borough Mayor **Michael Applebaum**, Hampstead Mayor **William Steinberg**, the editor and publisher of *The Monitor Newspaper*, Olympian Wrestler, **David Zilberman** and EMSB officials participated.

GREY CUP FEVER: On November 20 (9 a.m.) Grey Cup fever will be at Westmount Park Elementary School, as members of the Calgary Stampeders' Grey Cup road show will give the students a taste of western Canadian spirit and hospitality, when they pay a visit to the school to coincide with the 96th Grey Cup championship game that will take place at the Olympic Stadium on November 23. The hour-long program will include music and entertainment provided by the Stampeders' western band, clowns, as well as

an appearance by the Stampede Queen, her court of princesses and the Indian Princess. There will also be a special presentation to the school on behalf of the Calgary Grey Cup Committee.



A fun time was had by all at the spaghetti dinner.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: Approximately 45 parents and youth attended the first spaghetti dinner to celebrate success at James Lyng High School in St. Henri. Present were students from this year's Grade 7 classes and their families, as well as some families from Westmount Park and St. John Bosco, considering James Lyng for their children's future. Tables were set up in the atrium and dinner was served by staff and volunteers from the Community Learning Centre. Parent Student Animator **Maria Di Stavolo**, Guidance Counsellor **Sue Meyer** and CLC Coordinator **Alannah Murphy** oversaw, the kitchen, preparing spaghetti, Caesar salad and garlic bread.

New Principal **Craig Olenik** welcomed the guests and outlined some of the programs and advantages of attending the school. Justin Jackson, a former student and finalist on *So You Think You Can Dance Canada*, performed three numbers to the delight of all. Mr. Olenik acknowledged the presence of Marilyn Hoang, a winner of this year's EMSB scholarship for academic excellence. "This is the first of a series of social events to be held this year for youth and their families, where we can

express our pride in the James Lyng Community,” said Mr. Olenik.



Venture students enjoy their apple picking excursion.

APPLE PICKING VENTURE: Students from Venture High School in Ville Émard went apple picking and cheese tasting at St. Joseph du Lac on October 10. A tractor ride to the top of the mountain was organized, they played soccer and toured the site. They were supplied with a snack of delicious apple muffins and apple pizza for lunch. Everybody was given a bag which they could fill with either Macintosh or Cortland apples which they took home. Students also went downtown for no car day. They enjoyed walking in the middle of the street, not worrying about oncoming cars. They looked at displays for different issues concerning the environment and played street hockey in the middle of Bleury Street.

SKATING PROGRAM: Gerald McShane Elementary School in Montreal North recently launched a new and exciting co-curricular program to develop skating competencies for Kindergarten to Grade 6 students. Through initiatives taken by Principal **Evelyne Alfonsi** and supported by Governing Board Chair Cathy Buccaro, who is also the president of SPA, Club de Patinage Artistique de Montreal-North, the school has secured the services of qualified instructors from Skate Canada.



Gerald McShane students hit the ice.

Through this exciting program, which will run until mid-March, the students will have the opportunity to skate under the direct instruction of Skate Canada coaches. In the process, students will earn their Skate Canada levels receiving the appropriate badges of merit as they successfully complete each level (Levels 1 to 6 and the enriched program for those who have attained all their levels). Although it is in its early stages, the program has been enthusiastically received by all students and their parents.

FREE SEMINARS FOR EMPLOYEES: La Capitale Financial Services Inc., the financial services firm dedicated to serving employees in the Quebec public and parapublic sectors, is pleased to offer all EMSB employees the opportunity to benefit from an overview of the financial aspects affecting retirement and find out more about the factors likely to influence their financial future in the lead-up to this important time in their life.

Three **free** seminars have been arranged for the following age groups and themes to take place at 6000 Fielding Avenue:



Financial Planning for Retirement : November 5, 2008 for employees aged 50 and over. This session will focus on sticking to a budget as part of your financial plan, taking into account how to plan a good financial strategy, pension plans, the Quebec pension plan, budget issues, legal issues and how to protect your estate.

Mid-Career Financial Security Planning : January 21, 2009 for employees aged 35 to 50. The agenda will include securing your financial future, taking into account financial management, pension plans, legal issues and life and health insurance.

Financial Security Planning, Building Your Future : April 23, 2009 for employees aged 35 and under. Discussion will focus on financial management, the importance of pension plans, legal issues and life and health insurance.

Seminars will last three and a half hours. To register or for more details, please contact the EMSB Human Resources Department at 514-483-7200 ext. 7279. Please note that these training sessions will be held outside working hours. No leave or compensation will be granted for attendance.

QPAT CONVENTION: The annual Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers (QPAT) Convention will take place November 20 and 21 at the Palais des Congr s. Come see representatives from Human Resources and Communications at our information table.

POLICE SAFETY: During the month of September, police officers were working closely with schools to raise awareness of school zones to drivers by issuing warning and/or speeding tickets. T.M.R. Police Officer **M.P. Boucher** informed officials at Dunrae Gardens Elementary School that their district would be targetted.



Dunrae Gardens police officers.

Four Dunrae Gardens students from Cycle 3 were randomly selected to assist Constable Boucher, in the efforts to help slow down drivers by reminding them that they are in fact within a school zone. The students all had the opportunity to learn how to use the speed monitor and loved the experience!

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: The 2008-2009 Entertainment Book are now available at the Administration Building. The cost is \$30. All proceeds will go to the EMSB Alric Peters Humanitarian Fund, which is available to Administration Building employees and their immediate families at a time of need. The Fund was established when **Alric Peters**, whose father Calvin managed the printing service, had leukemia and needed a bone marrow transplant. Funds were required for various medical expenses and sadly, assistance with his burial. Calvin Peters passed away August 27 of a massive heart attack. For more information on the books, contact **Carol Anne Maker** at 514-483-7200 ext. 7479 or cmaker@emsb.qc.ca.

TIP CORNER

Editor's Note: The Communications Department of the EMSB is contacted regularly by organizers of different conferences, facilitators of interesting workshops and developers of innovative fundraising opportunities. We screen these requests and make the information available to schools and centres. From this point on, we will group these in our Tip Corner and give in-school administrators, teachers, other staff, parent groups and even students of making contact directly.

STORYTELLER: **Sheila Pinsky** is a creative storyteller-puppeteer animating imaginative and interactive fun-filled puppet stories to children from pre-k to grade 3. Her adorable puppets and props are creative as well as handmade (green with a capital G). She uses an amazing variety of voices to entertain and excite audiences. Her themes range from, animals, friends, seasons, holidays, zoo, circus...etc. It is an entertaining and imaginative animation, adored by all. She would be delighted to come to your school for as many hours as you wish. Her fee is \$60 an hour. Please phone Sheila the Storyteller 514 484 2730 sheilastoryteller@hotmail.com

She is animating a funfilled workshop at the QPAT convention on Friday, November 21. Hope you can come and participate. Sheila the Storyteller Entertaining and Educational! With puppets, props, costumes and art projects!

For daycares, libraries, community centers, elementary schools, **Sheila Pinsky** (514) 484-2730 sheilastoryteller@hotmail.com.

COMPUTER EXPERTS: **Vince Santoianni** is a product of the EMSB, having attended Dante Elementary School and Laurier Macdonald High School in St. Léonard and John F. Kennedy Business Centre in St. Michel. At the latter, he gained the skills to startup his own business called Home Tech.

This is a newly developed company that specializes in the high tech world, specializing in repairing and building computers from our customers' requests and specifications.

All of his computers come with a two year hardware guarantee from the day purchased. They also develop high end websites that cost thirty percent less than their competitors. A team of technicians are also available to come to your office and help with any computer needs, such as networking, maintenance and security. Also on staff are computer graphic designers, web designers and programmers. In addition to computer tech support, they also deal with high tech security camera systems, which include installation. Home Tech offers a secure computer program that allows you to observe your target areas from any computer as long as that station has an internet connection. For more information, email Vincesantoianni@gmail.com or call 514 965-4987.

STREET GANGS: The Big Step is a team of consultants who specialize in street gang prevention. They offer seminars in schools to teach young people and adults about how to avoid joining or becoming victims of street gangs. Services include a speech, a mini video documentary from the streets, parents witnessing of lost children to street gang violence. Comic books which provide examples of street life with results of choices made are distributed. The comic book is black and white and gives the opportunity to colour in the images so they can relate to the content. Info: (514) 655-0311.

NEW DYNAMIX LAUNCH: After five years of successful teambuilding programs for children and teenagers and leadership programs in high schools, Dynamix (www.getdynamix.com) are proud to announce a new leadership program specifically tailored for elementary school students.

Launching in January 2009, Montreal-area elementary schools will be invited to sign up and then elect a select group of children from Grades 5 and 6 who will engage in workshops where they will learn not only vital leadership skills, but a sense of spirit and togetherness which they will then be able to pass down to the rest of the student body. In each session, a facilitator will present the students with different types of challenges, and together, through the simple, yet central, process of “learning by doing” they will develop the abilities to solve each problem and hone the qualities necessary to become a leader in all facets of their lives.

After the children have established themselves within the program, schools will have the opportunity to send their students on an overnight retreat where, in addition to advanced leadership training, they will be able to meet and interact with other children from schools across Montreal who are also involved in the program. They will be able to not only network, but share their ideas and come together as an ever-growing team. “Our programs are very hands on,” said Corey **Szwarcok**, the director of Dynamix. “We use experimental based learning to actively engage the students and teach them teambuilding and leadership skills. We have been running high school leadership programs for years and we are finally bringing it into the elementary level. I believe that their enthusiasm and their skills will make an impact on the whole student body, and these students will become the models for the rest of their school and peers.”

Dynamix, founded in October 2002 by Szwarcok and **Mitch Zeltzer** is a company committed to helping students discover their hidden strengths and abilities through an interactive and fun environment which is the ideal way to foster team-building and self-confidence in children and young adults.

CUBAN OPPORTUNITY: EMSB teachers who would like a first-hand introduction to the island of Cuba during the Christmas break are invited to take part in the Teachers

Introduction to Cuba Tour, which takes place from December 27, 2008 until January 3, 2009, which coincides with the 50th anniversary of Fidel Castro becoming President of Cuba. During the eight-day tour, participants will get to experience all aspects of Cuban life and culture. They will stay at the five-star Hotel Habana Libre and enjoy a complete itinerary of touring and activities that include: a walking tour of Old Havana, a luxury coach tour of modern Havana, visits to the Museum of Literacy and the Museum of Fine Arts, a visit to a rural community in the Sierra Del Rosario mountains, live performances featuring some of Cuba’s finest jazz and traditional music bands, and New Year’s Eve celebrations in the heart of Havana. The tour costs \$1,589 (Cdn) based on double occupancy. For more information, contact **Marcel Hatch** at marcel@cubaeducationtours.ca, or call toll free at 877-687-3817. For more details on the tour itinerary and costs, log on to <http://CubaFriends.com>.

KIDS POP: Pop Montreal's International Music Festival will present an event called Kids Pop October 4 and 5 at **École Lambert-Closse**, (Mile End, corner of Bernard and St. Urbain), featuring art and music workshops and entertainment. There is no admission charge. For more details, go to <http://popmontreal.com/kids/en/node/2893>. Email: sydney.wong01@gmail.com

TUTORIAL SERVICES: Alumno is an education center, which provides tutorial services to all elementary and high school students in all subjects. Our purpose is to work with students who want to maintain their grades, so that they remain a level ahead of their studies, in addition to those who have fallen behind in their classes. We start by evaluating each student, in order to appraise their present acumen to the fullest extent. We then prepare a customized tutorial plan for each student. This plan concentrates on enhancing those aspects of academia which require the most attention. We have designed

and developed effective tutorial programs with one-on-one individual attention, to assist and guide each student towards achieving success during the course of their education. We continuously achieve an advantage over industry competitors by expanding our professional staff and investing in up-to-date materials and allied resources. Our highly qualified tutors understand the importance of an exceptional education and how it's vital in influencing a student's future. We invite all students to visit our website at www.alumnoservices.com to participate in our annual "100 FREE TUTORIAL SESSIONS GIVEAWAY." For more information, call 514.364.0444 or email us at info@alumnoservices.com and ask for Nadine.

LEARN TUTORIALS: Experienced teachers are available online on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings to help Quebec students in English Schools with study and homework. If families have a computer with internet access, their children can benefit from this free program. **Tutorials to be offered in:** Math - all levels; History and Citizenship and History 414; Chemistry 534 ; Science and Physical Science 416; Homework Help for Elementary students in Cycles 2 and 3; Français, langue seconde - Secondary cycle 1 and 2; English Language Arts - Secondary cycle 1 and 2 ; and physics 534. Enjoy all the benefits that e-learning can provide. For more details log on to www.learnquebec.ca.

LEARNING BOX: La boîte du savoir (a.k.a. The Learning Box) has launched two new services for students and teachers:

www.911homework.com

If you believe your students could use a little help with homework, have them try 911homework.com! This service is an online forum where students and parents get to ask homework related questions in a safe and secure environment. Our tutors are online every evening to answer any questions in math, English, French, and many other

subjects, both for elementary and secondary students.

www.teacher-seminars.com

Tired of the same old teacher workshops? Try our lineup of fast-paced, exciting seminars to help you become the best teacher you can be. Our goal is to ensure that you leave our teacher seminars with practical strategies, lessons, and ideas that you can begin to implement immediately in your classroom. Visit us at www.teacher-seminars.com for the list and syllabus of our 2008-09 seminars. Register today, spaces are limited.

The Learning Box was founded over 10 years ago in Montreal. We have successfully tutored thousands of students across the island of Montreal and off island. Our purpose is to ensure that each student gets the education she or he deserves. For more information, please visit our website: www.laboitedusavoir.org or www.thelearningbox.org, call 514-363- 2227 or email Jennifer at info@laboitedusavoir.com

ONE OF US: The Yaldei Development Centre is introducing One of Us, a hands-on interactive three part program that is designed to raise awareness and sensitize children to their peers with special needs. The program is geared to elementary students in grades 3 and 4 and the feedback that Yaldei officials received has proven that the issues and topics are very timely and relevant to this age group. In many classrooms, the incidents of teasing and bullying children who are "different" dramatically decreased. "We offer this program to all school boards and I think all teachers and principals should be made aware that this is available to them.," said Ayala Conway from Yaldei.

Log on to <http://yaldei.org/One-Of-Us.asp> and read the first issue of the "One of Us" newsletter that will be distributed on a bi-monthly basis to schools across Montreal. Info: Ayala Conway, (514) 279-3666 ext. 250 or email ayalac@yaldei.org.

DATES OF NOTE

November 3 to 7, 2008

National Media Education Week

November 11, 2008

Remembrance Day

November 20 and 21, 2008

Quebec Provincial Teachers Association

(QPAT) Convention

Palais des Congrès, Montréal

December 10, 2008

Human Rights Day

December 22, 2008 to January 5, 2009

Christmas Break

PLEINS FEUX SUR FIELDING

DÉCÈS DE HUGH ADAMS :La CSEM déplore le décès de **Hugh Adams**, conseiller d'orientation de longue date qui a succombé au cancer. M. Adams a œuvré pendant plus de 30 ans au réseau de l'éducation et il occupait récemment le poste de conseiller d'orientation aux écoles secondaires Rosemont et Lester B. Pearson et au programme Mile End. L'un de ses rôles bien connu était celui de maître de cérémonies, dynamique et charismatique de la Foire annuelle de carrières. Il a dû abandonner cette fonction il y a deux ans pour cause de maladie. Le 31 mai 2006, M. Adams a été honoré par l'Association des conseillers du Québec qui lui a décerné le prix Justin Harris d'excellence en orientation.

PRÉSIDENCE DU CCP : **Scott Day** a été élu président du Comité central de parents de la CSEM. **Ralph De Palma** est le nouveau vice-président et **John Le Piane** a été nommé trésorier. Les nouvelles commissaires représentantes de parents sont **Gail Giannakas** (primaire) et **Angie Bertone** (secondaire). Elles succèdent à **Anne Wade** et **Viky Keller**.

COMITÉS DE LA CSEM :La commissaire **Anne Williams** est la nouvelle vice-présidente du comité des affaires pédagogiques et des services éducatifs, dont le président est **Syd Wise**. La commissaire **Ellie Israel** a été réélue vice-présidente du comité des affaires financières et législatives, dont **Joseph Lalla** est le président.

FOIRE DE CARRIÈRES

La première phase de la neuvième Foire annuelle de carrières de la CSEM a eu lieu les 21 et 22 octobre au Centre d'adultes St. Pius X d'Ahuntsic pour les élèves du secondaire V. La dernière partie de la deuxième journée a été consacrée à une séance « Portes Ouvertes » pour tous les élèves et les parents du réseau. Isabelle Bouchard, diplômée de l'école primaire St. Dorothy et du Collège Vincent Massey, a été la conférencière invitée des cérémonies d'ouverture. Elle a commencé à travailler chez McDonald tout en poursuivant ses études vers une carrière de policière. Lorsqu'elle a obtenu son diplôme, elle a décidé de continuer à travailler chez McDonald à titre de gérante de deux magasins et elle a ensuite été promue au siège social de l'entreprise.

Malik Shaheed, diplômé de l'école secondaire Westmount, a tenu, encore une fois, le rôle de maître de cérémonies. Les Services aux élèves et les Services de l'éducation des adultes et de la formation professionnelle de la CSEM ont coordonné le programme. Mme Freed souligne que l'objectif principal de la Foire de carrières est d'exposer les élèves aux diverses occasions qui leur sont disponibles. Tous les élèves ont pris part à de brèves sessions d'information à l'auditorium de St. Pius X et ils ont ensuite visité les divers kiosques d'exposition/information où ils ont pu s'entretenir avec des représentants de centres anglophones de formation professionnelle, de CÉGEPs, d'universités, des Forces armées canadiennes et de McDonald.

La Foire de carrières est entièrement parrainée par des commanditaires corporatifs,

principalement **Jack Dym** de *Pipe and Piling Supplis*, La Banque Royale RBC et plusieurs autres.

PORTES OUVERTES DE LA FOIRE DE CARRIÈRES : Pour la première fois, la Foire de carrières de la CSEM a ouvert ses portes à la communauté le 22 octobre dernier à l'école secondaire St. Pius X. Les parents de tous les élèves du secondaire, particulièrement ceux du secondaire III à V, ont été encouragés à visiter la Foire.

HOCKEY JUNIOR : Le Junior de Montréal de la Ligue de hockey junior majeur du Québec s'intéresse aux élèves des écoles secondaires de Montréal. Le 5 novembre, des élèves de l'école Royal Vale assisteront à une partie contre Val d'Or et, une semaine plus tard, le 12 novembre, des élèves de l'école secondaire Westmount assisteront à la partie qui opposera l'équipe de Montréal à celle d'Acadie Bathurst. Dans le cas de Royal Vale, un ancien élève – Chris Smith – jouera pour Montréal tandis que Marco Sandrella jouera pour l'équipe de Val d'Or. Il a été recruté au deuxième tour du repêchage LNH de 2008 par les Minnesota Wild. Les parties seront disputées à l'auditorium de Verdun, située à un pâté de maisons de la station de métro De l'Église. Avant ces parties, des joueurs du Junior visiteront ces deux écoles pour expliquer comment ils avaient combiné leurs études au hockey élite. Les écoles intéressées par ce programme devraient adresser un courriel à : mcohen@msb.qc.ca.

STARLAB : Un représentant de Starlab a récemment visité l'école primaire Carlyle de Ville Mont-Royal. Starlab est un planétarium portatif qui permet aux élèves d'observer de près le système solaire. Les participants entrent à l'intérieur du planétarium portatif et découvrent dans la nuit du Starlab les constellations, les planètes, la lune et le soleil. « Cette expérience a été incroyable parce qu'elle a semblé si réelle » a déclaré un élève.

ÉCOLES À THÈME : Le comité qui étudie la mise en œuvre des nouvelles écoles à thème

a délibéré au cours des derniers mois, suite aux audiences de juin. Ses recommandations préliminaires, qui ont été soumises au comité de planification à long terme, incluaient l'introduction potentielle de classes d'héritage juif pour les élèves du secondaire I et II à l'école secondaire Royal Vale, la création d'une école de hockey pour le secondaire I et II et une école des beaux arts (probablement sous forme d'une annexe de l'école FACE) et des programmes d'héritage noir.

NOUVEAU JEU : Les élèves de l'école primaire Elizabeth Ballantyne de Montréal-Ouest ont joué un nouveau jeu intitulé « Canada » en compagnie des *Friendly Visitor Seniors* de l'Église Unie de Montréal-Ouest. Cette activité a eu lieu lors de la journée intergénérationnelle du 20 octobre « Fête du Canada en octobre ». Il y a eu trois équipes par table, chacune formée d'un(e) élève et d'un(e) aîné(e). Le jeu a été inventé par un remue-méninges de l'animatrice de vie spirituelle, **Catherine Cherry**, l'enseignante **Angela Kaba** et de la coordonnatrice de *Friendly Visitors*, **Christine Laberge**. Le jeu consiste à déplacer de petites voitures sur des grandes cartes du Canada. Un membre de l'équipe jette les dés et le chiffre détermine la question dans le domaine de la géographie, de l'histoire, de la politique, de l'intérêt général, et il y a même une section où la question doit être animée. Une bonne réponse permet de passer à une autre case et la première équipe qui fait le tour du Canada et termine à Ottawa sera déclarée la gagnante.

« Toutes les personnes qui participent à ce jeu seront des gagnantes » déclare Mme Cherry, « non seulement pour ce qu'elles apprennent, mais aussi pour le partage intergénérationnel qui aura lieu.

CONCOURS DE DISSERTATION

FRANÇAISE : Les élèves de tout le Canada sont encouragés à soumettre leurs travaux au concours national de rédaction du **Français pour l'avenir** organisé en partenariat avec *Apathy is Boring* et l'Université d'Ottawa. Le concours met au défi les élèves des écoles

secondaires canadiennes de la 10^e à la 12^e année (secondaire 4 et 5 au Québec) de rédiger, en français, une dissertation explorant le thème « Ta cause, ta chance ». Les premiers prix des deux catégories (français, langue maternelle et français, langue seconde) sont une bourse d'études de 20 000 \$ à l'Université d'Ottawa et 1 000 \$ comptant. Les soumissions gagnantes seront publiées aux sites Web du **Français pour l'avenir** et de *Apathy is Boring*.

Les canadiens, à la suite d'une élection serrée, ont eu l'occasion de réfléchir aux causes qui leur importent le plus. « Ce concours donne l'occasion aux élèves de présenter les questions qui, selon eux, ne sont pas représentées par le système politique actuel » déclare **Jeff Lang-Weir**, directeur des communications du **Français pour l'avenir**. « Notre objectif est d'engager les jeunes au discours politique du Canada tout en leur donnant l'occasion de célébrer la langue française. »

Pour les règlements du concours et des informations supplémentaires, veuillez visiter www.french-future.org ou adressez un courriel à jlang-weir@french-future.org.

POWER WITHIN : À nouveau, les éducateurs de la CSEM pourront profiter d'un prix d'entrée spécial au congrès *Power Within* qui aura lieu le 25 novembre au Palais des Congrès. L'ancien président des États-Unis, **Bill Clinton**, et l'acteur **Martin Sheen** font partie des conférenciers invités. Pour tous les détails, consultez le site Web www.emsb.qc.ca

PROJET VERT : Onze écoles de la CSEM entreprennent un projet de mise à l'essai de produits verts de deux compagnies qui, si ils s'avèrent efficaces, pourraient être utilisés par toute la Commission au cours de l'année scolaire 2009-2010. Les écoles participantes sont : l'Académie Lauren Hill, Cedarcrest et Gardenvue à Saint-Laurent; St. Monica et Willingdon à NDG; Coronation à Côte-des-Neiges; Gerald McShane et Our Lady of Pompei à Montréal-Nord; Pierre Elliott

Trudeau à Rosemont; Michelangelo à RDP et l'école secondaire John Paul I à Saint-Léonard.

Le projet-pilote, qui a débuté au cours de la deuxième semaine d'octobre, consiste à utiliser des produits de nettoyage de deux compagnies, Dustbane Inc. et Avmor Inc. Des unités distributrices ont été installées dans les écoles participantes par les Services de l'équipement de la CSEM qui aideront à éliminer la perte et le mélange de produits tirés de grands récipients. Les services de l'entretien ont donné des sessions d'information à chaque école. Dès que le projet sera complété, son efficacité, la comparaison des coûts et la satisfaction des usagers seront évalués. Si l'évaluation donne des résultats positifs, ces nouveaux produits verts de nettoyage seront considérés pour une utilisation beaucoup plus étendue à la CSEM, à compter de l'année scolaire 2009-2010.

ROYAL VALE À LA CBC : Carrefour jeunesse emploi (CJE) et LEARN produisent une trousse de lancement de projet d'entrepreneuriat intitulé *THE INCUBATOR : YOUR PROJECT LAUNCHING WORKSHOP*. Il sera distribué à toutes les écoles secondaires anglophones du Québec ainsi qu'à plusieurs organisations communautaires. Cette trousse est financée, en partie, par la CSEM et la Commission scolaire Lester-B.-Pearson. La CBC, conjointement avec CJE, fera la promotion du lancement de ce projet en présentant un atelier à cinq groupes d'élèves du secondaire V qui, à leur tour, retourneront dans leurs écoles et lanceront leurs propres projets sur une période de quatre à cinq semaines. Le développement de ces initiatives d'élèves a déjà fait l'objet de certains programmes de la CBC en octobre. Les élèves de l'école secondaire Royal Vale, accompagnés par leur conseillère d'orientation, **Cathy Schreiber**, ont participé récemment à l'une de ces émissions radiophoniques. Consultez www.cbc.ca/montrealmatters/media/oct14/html pour écouter l'émission.

FIÈVRE DE LA COUPE GREY : Le 20 novembre (9 h), la fièvre de la Coupe Grey se répandra à l'école primaire Westmount Park, alors que les membres du *Calgary Stampeders' Grey Cup road show*, donneront aux élèves un aperçu de l'esprit et de l'hospitalité de l'ouest canadien lors de leur visite qui coïncidera avec le championnat de la 96^e Coupe Grey qui aura lieu au Stade Olympique le 23 novembre. Le programme d'une heure offrira de la musique jouée par la troupe des Stampeders, des clowns, ainsi qu'une visite de la Reine du Stampede, sa cour de princesses et la Princesse indienne. Il y aura une présentation spéciale à l'école de la part du Comité de Calgary de la Coupe Grey.

SESSIONS GRATUITES DE FORMATION AUX MEMBRES DU PERSONNEL: Les Services financiers La Capitale Inc. ont le plaisir d'offrir à tous les employé(e)s de la CSEM, âgés de plus de 50 ans, l'occasion de profiter d'une vue d'ensemble de tous les aspects financiers affectant la retraite. Vous pourrez vous familiariser avec les facteurs qui influenceront probablement votre avenir financier dans cette étape importante de votre vie. Trois séminaires gratuits ont été planifiés pour les groupes d'âge suivants et ils auront lieu au 6000 avenue Fielding. **Planification de la sécurité financière à LA RETRAITE:** 5 novembre 2008 destinée aux membres du personnel âgés de plus de 50 ans. À l'ordre du jour : suivre de près le budget dans la vie financière en abordant les sujets suivants : les actions pour bien préparer sa stratégie financière, les régimes de retraite, le Régime des rentes du Québec, l'aspect budgétaire, les aspects légaux, les besoins de protection du patrimoine. **Planification de la sécurité financière à la MI-CARRIÈRE:** 21 janvier 2009 pour les employés âgés de 35 à 50 ans. À l'ordre du jour : gestion financière, l'importance des régimes de retraite, les aspects légaux, l'assurance vie et l'assurance santé. **Planification de la sécurité financière**

BÂTIR SON AVENIR: 23 avril 2009 pour les employés âgés de 35 ans ou moins. La

discussion portera sur la gestion financière, l'importance des régimes de retraite, les aspects légaux, l'assurance vie et l'assurance santé. Les séminaires sont d'une durée de trois heures et demie. Pour s'inscrire ou pour plus de détails, veuillez contacter le Service des ressources humaines au 514-483-7200, poste 7279. Veuillez prendre note que ces séances de formation auront lieu en dehors des heures de travail. Aucune libération ou rémunération ne sera accordée pour y assister.

SÉCURITÉ POLICIÈRE : Au cours du mois de septembre, des policiers ont travaillé, en étroite collaboration, avec les écoles pour sensibiliser les conducteurs aux zones d'écoles en donnant des avertissements ou des contraventions pour excès de vitesse. L'agent de police M.P. Boucher de Mont-Royal a avisé l'administration de l'école primaire Dunrae Gardens que son district serait visé. Quatre élèves du Cycle 3 de Dunrae Gardens ont été choisis au hasard pour aider le constable Boucher à faire ralentir les conducteurs en leur rappelant qu'ils traversaient une zone d'école. Les élèves ont eu l'occasion d'apprendre comment utiliser le détecteur de vitesse et ils ont été enchantés par cette expérience.

NOUVEAU LANCEMENT DE DYNAMIX Après cinq années couronnées de succès de programmes de création d'équipes pour les enfants et les adolescents et des programmes de leadership dans les écoles secondaires, Dynamix (www.getdynamix.com) est fière d'annoncer un nouveau programme de leadership conçu spécifiquement pour les élèves du primaire. Le lancement est prévu en 2009 et les écoles primaires de la région de Montréal seront invitées à se joindre au programme et de choisir un groupe d'élèves de 5^e et 6^e année qui participera à des ateliers où les élèves acquièrent, non seulement des habiletés vitales de leadership, mais aussi un sens d'appartenance qu'ils pourront ensuite transmettre au reste du corps étudiant. À chaque session, un animateur présentera aux élèves divers types de défis et, ensemble, par un simple processus d'apprentissage pratique,

ils développeront les habiletés pour résoudre chaque problème et perfectionneront les qualités nécessaires pour être un leader dans tous les aspects de leurs vies. Dynamix, fondée en octobre 2002 par **Corey Swarcok** et **Mitch Zelter**, est une compagnie engagée à aider les élèves à découvrir leurs habiletés et points forts cachés par le biais d'un environnement divertissant et interactif, qui est le moyen idéal pour entretenir la création d'équipes et la confiance en soi chez les enfants et les jeunes adultes.

INTRODUCTION À CUBA: Les enseignant(e)s qui voudraient se rendre compte par eux-mêmes des divers aspects de Cuba durant le congé de Noël sont invité(e)s à participer au voyage d'introduction à Cuba pour les enseignant(e)s, qui aura lieu du 27 décembre 2008 au 3 janvier 2009 et qui coïncide avec le 50^e anniversaire de l'accession de Fidel Castro à la présidence de Cuba. Au cours de la tournée de huit jours, les enseignant(e)s auront l'occasion d'expérimenter tous les aspects de la culture et de la vie cubaine. Ils logeront à l'hôtel cinq étoiles Habana Libre et auront droit à un itinéraire complet de tourisme et d'activités, dont une visite à pied de la Vieille Havane, une visite par autocar de luxe de la Havane moderne, des visites aux musées de l'alphabétisation et des beaux-arts, une visite à la communauté rurale de Sierra Del Rosario, des représentations de jazz et d'orchestres traditionnels cubains et les célébrations du Nouvel An au coeur de la Havane. Le coût du voyage est de 1 589 \$ canadien, occupation double. Pour plus de renseignements, communiquez avec Marcel Hatch à marcel@cubaeducationtours.ca ou appelez sans frais au 877-687-3817. Pour plus d'information au sujet de l'itinéraire et des coûts du voyage, consultez <http://CubaFriends.com>. ONE OF US : Le Yaldei Development Centre introduit One of Us, un programme interactif en trois parties conçu pour rehausser la sensibilisation des enfants envers leurs pairs ayant des besoins particuliers. Le programme vise les élèves du primaire de 3^e et 4^e année, et les réactions

obtenues par les représentants de Yaldei ont démontré que les questions et les sujets sont très pertinents pour ce groupe d'âge. Dans un grand nombre de classes, les incidents de taquinerie et d'intimidation des enfants qui sont « différents » ont augmenté de façon dramatique. « Nous offrons ce programme à toutes les commissions scolaires et je pense que les enseignant(e)s et les directions d'école devraient être mis au courant de la disponibilité de ce programme » déclare Ayala Conway de Yaldei. Consultez <http://yaldei.org/One-Of-Us.asp> et lisez le premier numéro du bulletin de nouvelles qui sera distribué deux fois par mois aux écoles de la région de Montréal. Info: **Ayala Conway** (514) 279-3666, poste 250 ou par courriel à ayalac@yaldei.org.

<p>Submissions should be made to Michael J. Cohen preferably by e-mail (mcohen@emsb.qc.ca) or fax (514-483-7213).</p>
