



Commission scolaire English-Montréal

English Montreal School Board

Fielding Focus

The monthly news bulletin of the EMSB

Vol. 8 No. 6

February 24, 2006

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Sophie Gregoire of CTV's eTalk Daily interviews Lauren Hill Junior campus students about eating disorders. See inside for more.

March is Nutrition Month

March is National Nutrition Month and the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) is once again playing a lead role via its Cafeteria and Nutrition Education Team. Each elementary school has been provided with a booklet called Sunny's Calendar of Nutrition Activities. Sunny is the EMSB nutrition mascot and students are being asked to accompany him on a journey to healthy eating which includes the Breakfast Maze, healthy snacks and lunches. There is even a contest on the back page in which students can be eligible for prizes. Meanwhile, in the application of its nutrition policy, the Cafeteria and Education Division of Community Services has selected a number of schools to take part in the Food: Fuel for Life Nutrition Education Program for Secondary II students. It is divided into three sessions: influences on body image and self-esteem and its effects on emotional and physical health; effects of poor eating habits on body health; and recommendations for choosing and leading a healthy lifestyle. The objective is to educate and provide dietary strategies to achieve and maintain good health as well as increase nutrition knowledge to promote health and delay the onset of nutrition-related diseases. For more information call **Giuliana Di Quinzio** at (514) 483-7200, ext. 7368.

MARCH BREAK: MARCH 6-10, 2006

CAREER FAIR: St. Laurent Adult Centre Guidance Counsellor **Lizette Gilday** has been appointed chair of the 2006 EMSB Career Fair. It will take place October 24 to



26
at
St.
Pius
X.
She

succeeds Vincent Massey Collegiate guidance counselor **Tina Stoupakos**, who held these responsibilities for the previous three years.

SUBJECT TIME ALLOCATION: In light of the fact that subject-time allocation for elementary students in the Basic School Regulation for pre-school, elementary and secondary has been increased from a weekly 23 hours and 30 minutes to 25 hours, effective next August, the EMSB will be implementing new subject-time allocations. The EMSB Pedagogical Services Department has conducted a review of the French programs in the schools and has made recommendations as to the language of instruction for the subjects in each of the cycles at the elementary level. It will be up to the governing boards of each school to determine the final implementation.

CHINESE NEW YEAR: The Chinese New Year was celebrated at the EMSB. Carlyle Elementary School in T.M.R. hosted a performance by the First Montreal Center of Chinese Culture & Arts. Founded in 1996, the Centre has staged hundreds of impressive performances for Chinese Canadian and American audiences in the U.S. and in Eastern Canada. There were a few musicians who performed a number of traditional pieces followed by the principal of the Chinese School who taught a few Chinese dances to the children. "We also had a mini

performance by the students, who re-enacted the Chinese new year celebration as if we were right at home," says Spiritual Community Animator **Puynung Choy**. Bancroft Elementary School (on the Plateau) hosted its annual Chinese New Year luncheon/celebration featuring a dance show in the gymnasium.



Chinese New Year at Bancroft.

Sinclair Laird Elementary School in Park Extension hosted the Montreal Chinese Opera. Some of the members were professional opera singers and actresses in Hunan, China. They are well known in performing Chinese traditional folk style opera. Some played traditional Chinese instruments that were typical and once banned in China. There were a myriad of colours from their bright dresses, multi-colored costumes and make-up which is particular to Chinese Opera. Also, one of the performances was a piece song from the 2004 Olympics. This same group was at Nesbitt Elementary School in Rosemount and at Carlyle and Dunrae Gardens in T.M.R.

BASKETBALL JAMBOREE: This joint Greater Montreal Athletics Association/Montreal Amateur Athletic Association/Quebec Basketball Federation/McGill University/EMSB activity was held on Jan 26 at the McGill Physical

Education Gymnasium. Close to 500 elementary Cycle 3 students from EMSB, Lester B. Pearson School Board and the private schools participated. There were 10 EMSB schools present with more than 340 students who were introduced to the skills of basketball by the first year McGill Physical Education and Health students. The energy and enthusiasm in the eight gymnasiums was tremendous!



Olga Hrycak

Former EMSB physical education consultant **Olga Hrycak** was there to oversee the Jamboree for her last time. Before the students left for their buses, Professor **Gordon Bloom** thanked Olga for her 18 years of service, running the Jamboree. Other organizers this year included **Gordon Oliver**, and the graduate Phys Ed students from McGill University, **Roy Shetler** and **Robin Jean** from the GMAA, and **Sandy Farr** from the EMSB.

GG'S AWARD: In 1981, Canadians were distraught to hear of Terry Fox's lost battle against cancer. In response, **Giuseppina (Jessie) Di Paolo** organized a 10k Terry Fox Walkathon at Lester B. Pearson High School, where she teaches Canadian history. The school has raised a total of \$225,000 for the Terry Fox campaign thus far... and continues its commitment to this annual fundraiser for cancer research. She has also initiated other programs in the school: a Remembrance Day tribute to war veterans, a Canadian

citizenship ceremony and the Big Brother/Big Sister program. "I was personally very happy to see an educator recognized for building a better community," said **Peter Sheremeta**, Quebec Provincial Director / National School Run Organizer.



Dwight Walton and Nevio Marzinotto

MATRIX COACH: The head coach of the Montreal Matrix professional basketball team is **Nevio Marzinotto**, the physical education teacher at John Paul I Junior High School. Born in Italy, he came to Montreal at the age of five. He studied at McGill and Concordia University, earning a physical education degree. Mr. Marzinotto, who came to the Matrix with 33 years of coaching experience, was head coach at McGill University from 2000 to 2004 after serving as assistant for seven years. Mr. Marzinotto also coached the Quebec provincial team for 11 years, winning two national championships at the Canada Games in 1993 and 2001 while placing second in 2005. One of the players, **Shawn "Smoke" Brown**, attended Coronation Elementary School and Sir Winston Churchill High School (now Lauren Hill). "Shawn has been such a positive influence with our Cycle III students over the past six years," says Coronation Principal Diane Wood. "The Cote des Neiges Black Community Association and Coronation had a relationship whereby they would send Shawn twice a week to work with our students in an after school basketball

program. Unfortunately they didn't replace him when he left to play for the Matrix. We would invite him to join our platform party for Grad each year to give out prizes. We miss him." Ms. Wood intends on inviting Brown back to show students his new moves on the court.

MATRIX STAR AT JFK: Dwight Kennedy, the popular student supervisor and midget basketball coach at John F. Kennedy High School in St. Michel, was living out a dream while playing for the Matrix (www.montrealmatrixbasketball.com).

However, while playing in Long Island he was blindsided by an opponent who broke his jaw. Now 40 years of age, Dwight has played pro ball in Switzerland and Israel. He was a member of the 1988 Canadian Olympic team. The six-foot-five 1982 Wagar High School grad returned home in the fall of 2004 and was given some part-time work at JFK. The late **Tony Colannino**, who was the principal, recommended to Dwight that he apply for a vacant student supervisor's position which he succeeded in obtaining. Present-day Principal **Dominic Furfaro** says Dwight is well respected by the students who have all become big Matrix fans. Dwight expects to return to work at the EMSB in two weeks. **The Matrix will host Rochester this Friday night at the Centre Pierre-Charbonneau.**

CENTRAIDE: The EMSB once again participated in the Centraide Campaign and due to the generosity of our employees over \$11,000 was donated to this most worthwhile campaign. Centraide offers support to all aspects of our society and it is important to realize that a number of families within the EMSB benefit from this organization. Coordinator Paul Saunders wishes to extend a special thank you to all those who participated.

VOLUNTEER NIGHT: The EMSB will hold its fifth Volunteer Appreciation Evening

on Wednesday, April 19 at the Centre Renaissance in Anjou This will precede National Volunteer Week, which occurs nationwide April 23-29. The FACE Orchestra has been confirmed as musical guests. Global Television anchor **Jamie Orchard** and 940Montreal newscaster **Luciano Pipia** will be the emcees. Ms. Orchard has been on maternity leave for the past year and actually returns to work that same week. She has co-hosted three previous Volunteer evenings. Mr. Pipia is, in fact, a devoted EMSB volunteer. His daughter attends Dante Elementary School in St. Léonard and he sits on the governing board.

First Canadian Financial Services (www.fcfs-inc.com), specialists in Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs), will once again be the title sponsors of event. The theme is "*Shower's of Kindness.*" First Canadian's president, **Joseph Afshar**, will serve as the evening's honorary chairman. An Education Savings Plan (ESP) is a vehicle generally used by parents to save for their children's post-secondary education. Mr. Afshar and his team meet regularly with EMSB parent groups and provide free consultations. A community-minded company, in addition to RESPs, First Canadian Financial Services specializes in the sale of retirement, estate and tax planning; mutual funds; life, disability and critical illness insurance; annuities; Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIF), savings plans and mortgages. Parents who would like to reach Mr. Afshar directly can call 484-1867 or log on to www.fcfs-inc.com.

Time and space will not allow the EMSB to honour all of its nearly 1,500 volunteers in person. Therefore, only those individuals who have volunteered for more than five years will attend the reception, representing some 500 people. However, several thousand copies of a commemorative program book will be distributed to each school. Please log on to the Parent Info

section of the EMSB website (www.emsb.qc.ca) to review the list of volunteers.



Athina Galanogeorges

NEW PED SERVICES ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Athina Galanogeorges has been appointed assistant director of Pedagogical Services. She has been the principal of Rosemount High School for three years. Prior to that, she had spent four years as vice-principal.

LMAC PREMIERE: To coincide with the publication of a sixth extraordinary book that uses photographs, artifacts and stories to discover their families' cultures and histories, the students and faculty of Laurier Macdonald High School in St. Léonard have launched an unprecedented companion docu-drama on the subject.

Ripples In Time, a LMAC Media Film Production, was screened before a capacity crowd on Feb. 1 at the Leonardo Da Vinci Cultural Centre. Mose Persico, the host of a number of popular local CTV entertainment shows, was a special guest speaker. He delighted the crowd with an impromptu

review of the riveting 48 minute film, which also included a six minute "The Making of..." The book and film is the latest in a series which already includes *Faded Memories*, *Rainbow of Dreams*, *Memories in Black and White*, *Once upon a Journey* and *Whispering Dreams*. Each publication was dedicated to the memories of past generations; each an inspirational collection of stories about love, hope, death, change and above all, dreams.



A scene from Ripples In Time.

Like its predecessors in this collection, *Ripples In Time* is a multimedia, cross-curricular project designed to engage students in writing, photography, computer technologies and other activities as they researched the history behind selected family photographs and artifacts. Students gathered information about social, historical and geographical contexts to write short vignettes called "Footprints" that relate to the themes of the stories. What was exciting for the students was finding historical information that related to their families and cultural groups. This allowed the authors to easily integrate history. Principal **Pat Buttino** served as the executive producer. Media education teachers **Frank Tiseo**, **Leon Llewellyn** and **Audrey Berner** headed this project, serving as editors of the book. Mr. Tiseo directed the film, with **Michael Penning** and **Alan Taylor** responsible for

cinematography. Multi-talented student **Giancarlo Scalia** wrote the musical score.

RENAMING OF WAGAR: The Côte Saint-Luc facility which was home to Wagar High School for 40 years and presently houses John Grant High School and the Marymount Adult Centre will be renamed the Giovanni Palatucci Educational Centre. EMSB Chairman **Dominic Spiridigliozzi** and Dr. **Syd Wise**, the commissioner for Côte Saint-Luc and a former Wagar principal, are spearheading this initiative which will have a significant educational component attached to it. The EMSB plans to twin two schools, Laurier Macdonald High School in St. Léonard and Bialik High School in Côte Saint-Luc. Students from John Grant and the Marymount Adult Centre will be implicated as well. Together, they will learn about the heroics of Giovanni Palatucci and others who saved lives during the Holocaust. The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) has agreed to play a central role in the programming aspect. Over the last two years, the EMSB and the MHMC teamed up on a Holocaust sensitization program which brought students to the museum for visits and meetings with Holocaust survivors. This was an especially eye opening experience, particularly for the non-Jewish students. Museum visits for the EMSB students will be incorporated into this year's project. Complete details will be unveiled soon. Between 1938 and 1944, Palatucci was in charge of the Foreigners Office and later Chief of Police in Fiume, northern Italy. He is credited with saving the lives of 5,000 Jews destined to extermination camps. He himself died at Dachau.

DRAWING CONTEST: The Cycle 2 students of John Caboto Elementary School in Ahuntsic were inspired to draw and describe "What is the Community to You" for the TD Canada Trust at 433 Chabanel Street West. Branch Manager **Cindy Zappavigna** and Personal Financial Advisor

Tony Capotosto contacted Principal **Leah Auclair** with a proposal to bring the bank and the school closer together. After months of hard work, the children's drawings were exhibited in the school gymnasium on February 21 and 26 finalists were selected from 88 submissions.



The John Caboto TD Bank connection.

All Cycle 2 children received paper and coloured pencils provided by the bank and all received a bank as a participation gift. The top finalists received a TD T-shirt, a TD lunch bag or knapsack, and the winning contestant, Christopher Salucci, received an i-Pod. Ms. Zappavigna's TD branch will hold an open house on March 25 where the art work will be displayed once again. Teachers and students had a wonderful time and the TD employees were impressed by the talent and enthusiasm of the John Caboto Students!

EARLY LITERACY: Literacy is increasingly an area of concern in Canada because it is clear that a society's economic well-being is closely tied to the skills of its workforce. Statistics Canada has recently published its 2003 survey on adult literacy and skills. The study determined the minimal level of skill required for functional literacy, which is defined as being able to understand and use information in order to function in an industrialised, information-driven society. In Canada, 48 percent of adults score below the minimal level in the two areas directly related

to reading skills, making them functionally illiterate. Moreover, these scores have varied only slightly since 1994. This high rate of functional illiteracy has focused attention on the need for structured reading programs, especially at the elementary school level. For a comprehensive article on this subject, log on to www.emsb.qc.ca. The authors are Hampstead Elementary School kindergarten teacher **Helen Donahue** and Governing Board Chair **Clarice Samuels**.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: In honour of Black History Month, some presentations at the EMSB paid tribute to the military contributions made not only by Black Canadians, but also Aboriginal Canadians, during major battles and peacekeeping missions. A presentation by Canadian Armed Forces personnel called "Honour Before Glory," showed to students a rarely mentioned aspect of Canadian history, focusing on the participation of Black and Aboriginal Canadians in the Canadian Forces during World Wars I and II, the Korean Conflict and different peacekeeping missions around the world. "Honour Before Glory" took place at the following schools: John Paul I Junior High School, in St. Léonard, McLearn School in Pointe-Aux-Trembles and Edward Murphy School in the East End. Westmount Park Elementary School was invited to host an author visit for Black History month courtesy of Babar Bookstore. Author and playwright **Gail Nyoka** addressed Grade 6 students. She was shortlisted for the Governor General's award this year for "Mella and the N'anga: an African Tale" and won the Chalmers Award for her play "Melle Mella." Nyoka was born in Trinidad, grew up in England and Wales and now lives in Ontario.

The National Defense Public Affairs Office – Quebec Region, in association with the Canadian Armed Forces Recruitment Centre, presented a history of the role played by Black and Aboriginal Canadians in the Canadian Forces to the Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 students of

General Vanier School in St. Leonard, and Dalkeith School in Anjou. The event involved a 30-minute PowerPoint presentation and talk given by members of the Canadian Forces, followed by two hour-long films.



The Impact launch at Edward Murphy.

MAKING IMPACT: The Montreal Impact (www.impactmontreal.com), the EMSB and the Commission scolaire de Montréal (CDSM) kicked off their first stay-in-school program called *All the way with the Impact* (*Jusqu'au bout avec l'Impact*), designed to promote the importance of persevering in school. An official launch took place at Edward Murphy Elementary School in Hochelaga Maisonneuve with players **Mauro Biello**, **Adam Braz** and assistant coach **Lloyd Barker**. They also visited Wellington, St. John Bosco, Gardenvue, Honoré-Mercier and Michelangelo. As part of the partnership, the Impact's June 14 game against the Atlanta Silverbacks will be dedicated to the school boards. The Impact will hold a special ceremony before the game highlighting some of the most outstanding students, and bursaries will be awarded to the top students. These bursaries will be named in honour of the late **Tony Licursi**, the longtime Impact statistician who died recently. Mr. Licursi was a member of the EMSB's James Lyng High School Alumni Association. Schools will be sent special forms in early March enabling their students (parents and staff as well) to reserve tickets for the bargain price

of \$4. They will be available on a first-come, first serve basis. Students will be encouraged to attend the game with their school banners and pre-game parade on the field is likely.



Mauro Biello and Uzooma Okeke join General Vanier students at Heart Week launch.

HEART WEEK: The EMSB marked its third annual Heart Week, with a launch at General Vanier Elementary School in St. Léonard. Coordinated by the Heart of Life Fund, with the support of The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), the program involved children wearing red on a designated day during the week of February 13 to 17 and making a donation. **Mario Bentrovato**, a member of the Heart of Life Fund and an EMSB parent, heads the campaign. He notes that one child in 100 is born with a heart defect. His young daughter is among those included in that group. The Heart of Life Fund wishes to increase awareness of the problem among children with normal and healthy hearts. The Heart of Life Fund is an organization associated with the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation. At this time, it is fund-raising to strengthen the Pediatric Heart Failure Program by expanding into the field of Pediatric Mechanical Heart Assist and Pediatric Heart Transplantation in a new program that is unique in Canada.

At the official kickoff, this year's Heart of Life Ambassador, **Mauro Biello** of the Montreal Impact soccer team and **Uzooma**

Okeke of the Montreal Alouettes, were introduced. Dr. **Adrian Dancea**, a cardiologist at the hospital, was also on hand.



Tania Piperni

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER CONSULTANT: For the very first time the EMSB Student Services Department has hired an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) consultant. **Tania Piperni** has extensive knowledge of ASD, as well as a strong understanding of the different evidence-based approaches and best practices in working with children and youth with ASD. In this new role, Ms. Piperni is providing consultation, training and resource development support to educational personnel (i.e. teachers, administrators, professionals etc.) and existing multidisciplinary teams within the Board. She is assisting the school teams in the process of assessing the needs of students with ASD so as to help them in the preparation of Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) and subsequent appropriate support measures.

Ms. Piperni started at the EMSB in November. Her background includes a BA in psychology and a M.Ed. in educational psychology, both from McGill. For the previous six years she worked at Giant Steps, a specialized private school in Westmount specifically for children with autism. She

began there as a child care worker working one-on-one with students. In addition, she was also a supervising classroom teacher for several years. “The students there vary in the severity of their delay and they can be partly integrated into their neighbourhood school as well,” she said. “Thus, I had contact with several EMSB teachers and principals while integrating students. I have also done private work with children with autism, speech delays, and developmental delays. “

At the EMSB, she now works closely with her supervisor Edith Clarke as well as the special education consultants. They are her support system to bounce off ideas and they suggest which schools most need her consultation. “I usually visit the school for the first time with the special education consultant and then I return for further consultations and follow up on my own,” she says. “I provide strategies and help with modifications for the students to the CCW and the teachers. Assistance can vary from suggestions to better include the student in the classroom, to how to adapt the classroom curriculum, to where the student should sit, and how to create a unique program to better fit the needs of the student. I work closely with the CCW and consult with the principal as well. They are kept up-to-date with my recommendations and we often work together to make solutions applicable. I have consulted with eight schools so far and have so many more awaiting my visits. There is such a great demand for services regarding children with autism; two years ago there were 85 students with autism at the EMSB and now it has doubled to 170. I look forward to meeting more students, workers, and administration personnel as I visit more schools. So far the atmosphere has been welcoming and inviting.”

HUGGIES VALENTINE’S DAY BASKET: The fourth Huggies Valentine’s Day basket and card drive for the Montreal Children’s Hospital was a great success. The

project originated at Michelangelo Elementary School in RDP where Spiritual Community Animator **Vince Lacroce** and Cycle I teacher **Sonia Arnaldo** came together to bring some cheer to **Sabrina Di Giandomenico** (Brain tumor patient at the Montreal Children’s Hospital). The project expanded to four East end EMSB schools, with the goal of creating Valentine’s Day gift baskets for all of the children at the hospital. The Huggies baskets contained new non-violent toys, games, books, and personalized Valentine’s Day cards made by the students. This year, Laurier Macdonald, Dalkeith Elementary, General Vanier Elementary, John Paul I High School, McLearn Elementary, Edward Murphy Elementary, Gerald McShane Daycare and EastHill Elementary continued this project in memory of Sabrina Di Giandomenico who passed away from a brain tumor in the summer of 2003. The schools’ combined efforts were able to raise over 2,000 gifts and over 150 personalized baskets for the young patients at the hospital. An honourable mention to **Linda Moro** and **Annie Caya** who helped Laurier Macdonald surpass their school record by raising over \$2,100 for the cause. On February 14, school administrators, students, and parent volunteers from these schools gathered together and were able to personally greet these patients with their new gifts. “I would like to congratulate all of the school administrators, students, teachers, and parents who made this project a success,” said Mr. Lacroce. “An honourable mention must also go to Spiritual Community Animator **Rocco Speranza**, who spearheaded his cluster of schools in this tradition and helped in the distribution of gifts.”

CANADIAN IDOLS; Attention EMSB students with singing talents. It's been two years since Quebec delivered a Top 10 Finalist for Canadian Idol. Will a Quebec singer make the cut this year? CTV has announced that the 11-week, 11-city Canadian Idol Audition Tour returns to

Montreal for the fourth year in a row with a stop at Complexe Desjardins (150 Ste. Catherine Street West) on Friday and Saturday, March 17 - 18, 2006 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days. They are open to all Canadians between the ages of 16 and 28 as of Feb. 1, 2006. The Canadian Idol "Easy-Access" tour makes it easier than ever to audition. There is no need to line up as competitors can now choose the day and time they want to audition. Montreal is one of 11 cities slated for regional auditions for the fourth season of Canadian Idol. The maximum age for competitors has been increased from 26 to 28. Prospective competitors are encouraged to visit the Canadian Idol Web site www.idol.ctv.ca, where they can download and complete a Regional Release Form which is required to audition (Release Forms will also be available at the auditions). Applicants can also find on the website Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), audition tips, and the complete rules and regulations. The best resource for competitors is the Forums section, where applicants can learn valuable information and advice from previous hopefuls. Finally, competitors subscribing to the Canadian Idol newsletter will receive frequent e-mail updates about the auditions. EMSB students have auditioned in the past and at least one from FACE School made it to the top 150 two years ago.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE: Dunrae Gardens Elementary School in TMR hosted the Inside/Outside Edge for the second year in a row. This is an adventure-based company focusing on the development of youth through learning environment and educational activities that build self-confidence, leadership and group skills. These programs promote adventurous activities as fun, safe physical activity for life. Once again, the students had a great time. The school also organized an evening for the parents. Physical education teacher **Yan Deville** coordinated the program.

BOARD OF TRADE: The EMSB has once again had excellent participation from secondary students for the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal Outstanding Student Awards Program. Preliminary interviews at the EMSB level have led to a number of students being contacted by the Board of Trade for subsequent interviews during the period of April 5 – 7, the purpose being to select the overall gold, silver and bronze medal winners in each of the following categories: Social Sciences/Languages, Science/Maths, Arts and Vocational. Ceremonies will take place at a downtown hotel on May 30.

GOLF: The third annual EMSB Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament, scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 29 at the Lachute Golf Club (355 Bethany Road) in Lachute. Proceeds from the tournament will go towards the EMSB Scholarship Program, which benefits a number of current students and EMSB graduates, so that they can pursue their post secondary studies in vocational education, CEGEP studies or undergraduate studies.

The cost for participating is \$175 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf (shotgun start, Vegas style), brunch, cocktails and dinner, plenty of fabulous door prizes, plus prizes for longest drive and closest to pin. Anyone wishing to sponsor a hole or donate a prize at the tournament is invited to contact the **EMSB Golf Organizing Committee**. Sponsors of holes will have their organization recognized on the tee boxes. For more information please call (514) 483-7200, ext. 7434.

EBS STUDY SKILLS: The issue of how parents can help their children in completing their homework was the main focus of a special session that took place on the evening of January 31 at Elizabeth Ballantyne School in Montreal West. The session, entitled "Organizational and Study Skills for Students

and Parents,” was organized by parent **Randi Weitzner**, in conjunction with Elizabeth Ballantyne and Edinburgh schools (Ms. Weitzner’s children are students at both schools), and the Adult and Vocational Education Department of the EMSB. A total of 56 parents were in attendance to hear guest speaker **Carolyn Melmed**, a study skills consultant with 25 years of teaching experience, offer her advice on homework strategies. She emphasized that one of the key elements to having children be successful in controlling their learning is organization; the more organized a child’s world is at home, the easier it will be for them to become more organized in their work at school. Ms. Melmed also urged parents to understand the kind of student their children are and help them meet their potential, as well as be more generous with their praise towards their efforts at school and encourage them to compete with themselves, and not their peers. She also told the parents to make the effort to take a closer look at their children’s learning style and develop homework strategies that would conform to and support their unique learning styles. She also suggested that children should read and re-read their homework instructions, use their school agendas more effectively towards organizing their homework, and stressed the importance of parents reading with and to their children.

SENSITIZATION KIT: Three years of intensive translation, consultation and teamwork culminated last week with a new English version of a kit entitled, *For a New Understanding of Homosexuality*. La Direction de la Santé Publique spearheaded the efforts in partnership with the EMSB, the Lester B. Pearson School Board, the Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers, AIDS Community Care Montreal (ACCM), the Public Health Agency of Canada, Batshaw Youth and Family Services, AlterHeros, Gay Line, Jeunesse Lambda, the Montreal Youth Coalition against Homophobia, Project 10,

Séro Zéro and the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sports (MELS). On hand for the launch representing the EMSB were Assistant Director of Student Services **Dora Cesta**, Spiritual, Religious and Moral Education Consultant **Irene Miller**, Spiritual Community Animator **Daniel Sup** and Westmount High School Principal **Claude Dansereau**. The kit is available for use in EMSB high schools and the outreach network. Programs aimed at combating homophobia and sensitizing students to different sexual orientations is already in place at the EMSB via a MELS/ Ministry of Health and Social Services entente. This prevention and socialization program will be greatly aided by the proper utilization of the kit in the school community. Training sessions for spiritual community animators, in-school administrators and other staff members were held. These programs were sponsored by the Institut National de la Santé Publique du Quebec (I.N.S.P.Q.) and facilitated by social worker **Bill Ryan** and psychologist **Françoise Susset**. For more information, log on to www.santepub-mtl.qc.ca.



Mary Moroska (left) with Marion Daigle of the Quebec Home and School Association.

ON LIBRARIES: Librarian **Mary Moroska**, who works at three EMSB elementary schools, has written an interesting article on the School Libraries in Canada website

(<http://www.schoollibraries.ca/articles/196.as>)

[px](#)). Ms. Moroska just finished her second term on the APSDS (Association pour la promotion des services documentaires scolaires) administrative council. Her article provides an overview of the three-year \$60 million investment the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sports has made to school libraries.



Commissioner Rosa Cerrelli does some reading at Michelangelo.

MICHELANGELO's AUTHORS: During EMSB Library Week, Michelangelo Elementary School in RDP had four visitors: reports Librarian Walter **Pittman**; **Barbara Sala**, author and illustrator of *Celestine and the Magical Geranium*, read her book and showed the children in cycle 3 the original paintings she did for the book; author **Bonnie Farmer** read and discussed her book *ABC Letters in the Library* with kindergarten and Cycle 1 classes; EMSB French consultant **Marie-Andrée Veilleux** read stories and did activities with Cycle 2 students; and Commissioner **Rosa Cerrelli**, read to the kindergarten classes and Grade 3 pupils.

PROFESSIONALS WEEK: February 20 to 24 marks Professionals in Education Week. Professionals include pedagogical and adult/voc ed services consultants, guidance counselors, psychologists, information officers, childcare workers, translators, archivists, librarians, financial and administrative officers, spiritual and community animators, occupational

therapists, nutritionists, speech therapists and analysts.

MERTON MENTION: In the most recent edition of the magazine *Art et Culture à l'école*, Merton Elementary School in Côte Saint-Luc's project about the First Nations was written about.

POWER DAY: Superheroes and how ordinary people can do extraordinary things was the theme of EMSB Power Day 2006, which took place on February 17 at Rosemount High School. Power Day is a leadership development program for students, which is organized by a committee of students from different EMSB schools. EMSB Director General **Antonio Lacroce** addressed the gathering, and spoke about how he developed his leadership skills throughout his career in education, and how being a leader can be a source of inspiration to other people. Keynote speaker **Ian Tyson** focused on leadership in schools and also led a workshop on how to run successful school activities. The rest of the day-long event was filled with an assortment of workshops and activities which not only promoted student leadership, but also gave the student participants a chance to interact with each other and share ideas on how to develop their own leadership abilities.

REFURBISHED CHAIRS: The students of **Uri Hoffman's** art class have refurbished the chairs of the French immersion kindergarten class at Edward Murphy Elementary School in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve. These chairs were in a deplorable state and new ones would have been very costly. Kindergarten teacher **Marie-Lyne Level** requested the help of the young Grade 6 students as well as the services of Echo-Quartier so that the chairs would have a more attractive appearance. Since last December, an employee of Echo-Quartier has helped the students in Mr. Hoffman's class repaint the chairs, using

recycled paint. The goal of the project was to sensitize the children to the recycling of various materials. Young people are big consumers, and this project has allowed them to become more aware of the need to recycle whenever possible. At the same time, the students were able to demonstrate their talents and creativity in art. On February 2, the students put the final touches to the project and presented the chairs to the kindergarten class. The designs on the 24 chairs are grouped into various themes such as animals, flowers, and handprints which are sure to attract and please the younger set.



Edward Murphy students display their refurbished chairs.

JUMP ROPE: Royal Vale School will be taking part in the "*Heart and Stroke Jump Rope for Heart*" event on March 29. This annual event is a unique program that combines physical fitness (through the use of jump ropes) and cardiovascular education while raising funds to support the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Quebec. For the past 16 years, the Jump Rope for Heart Program has reached over 50,000 school children each year in Quebec. Last year, Royal Vale Elementary School raised a total of \$13,800.00 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Quebec. They are aiming to raise over \$15,000 this year with everyone's support. The fundraising part of Jump Rope for Heart consists of staff and students participating in a skipping challenge. Prior to the event, participants secure pledges.

Students will receive fabulous thank you prizes based on the pledges they collect individually. This year, Royal Vale High School will join in on the fun and fundraising with their own "*Hoops for Heart*" which follows the next day, March 30th, 2006. Phys Ed specialist Norman Katz's will be teaching the required skills and preparing the students in their Physical Education classes leading up to March 29. The **Jump Rope for Heart** event is a fun, non-competitive and dynamic event in which children can participate to raise money for the **Heart and Stroke** Foundation's research, education and prevention programs. For more information, please contact Mr. Katz at (514) 481-2463.

RENZULLI: EASE activities (Exposure to Adventure, Stimulation and Enrichment)/Renzulli are an important part of student life at Royal Vale School. **Cynthia Bennett's** Grade 6 Film Club members have now completed filming their original stories and are about to embark on the creative process of editing these iMovies. When finished, these movies will be entered in the River Valley Student Video Festival, an international student film competition hosted by River Valley Middle School in Grand Bay-Westfield, New Brunswick.

SUN YOUTH VISITS: During the month of January 2006 two speakers from the Sun Youth Organization were invited to visit and speak, along with Spiritual Community Animator **Rocco Speranzo** to the students at the four schools in his cluster (Edward Murphy, East Hill, McLearn, and John Paul I Junior High). The visits consisted of presentations on the issues of strangers, bullying and taxing. Focus was placed on positive solutions and tips. The very interactive presentation lasted about one hour, which included a 24-minute video. The presentations are very age-appropriate and adapted for the

students' age and grade level. It is important to keep reminding the students about these issues and how to stay safe. The speakers help remind the students about 1) The do's and don'ts of meeting with strangers. 2) Staying alert and staying safe from Bullying 3) Taxing (Mainly for grade 6 and high school students). The Sun Youth guest speakers can be contacted at (514) 842-6822.

LA MAITRESSE ROUGE: On Friday February 24 the children at Our Lady of Pompei Elementary School in Ahuntsic had an exciting visit from "La Maitresse Rouge." This was a musical production put on by the Moulin à Musique where a group of musicians introduced a string quartet to the students in a creative and playful way. In the month of January the children learned a song that was provided by the group. The children had no idea that six weeks later they would be seeing this song come to life in a musical performance. The students' curiosity was aroused when the musicians arrived at the school and began playing the familiar melody in the hallways. This was followed by a performance in the gym where the children learned a lot about the different characteristics of the string instruments found in the quartet. This wonderful performance was enjoyed by all in attendance!

EATING DISORDERS: In a society where being thin is in – and allegations about the health of young celebrities continue to swirl – eating disorders are a fact of life for many of today's teenagers. As a follow-up to National Eating Disorder Awareness Week (Feb. 5 – 11), CTV provided some EMSB students with a special screening of a dramatic, two-episode story arc in *Degrassi: The Next Generation* that draws attention to this pervasive problem. It took place at Lauren Hill Academy Junior Campus. EMSB Nutritionist **Giuliana Di Quinzio** was on hand to give a brief introduction before the two episodes (a combined 44 minutes with no commercials). **Sophie Grégoire**, the Quebec

correspondent for CTV's TV's *eTalk Daily*, was also on hand to cover the premiere and say a few words. She has previously worked with a Quebec organization that raises awareness on eating disorders and it is a cause that she is very passionate about. Ms. Grégoire filed an excellent report for *eTalk Daily* and interviewed students. Ripped from the headlines, "Our Lips Are Sealed," was a two-part account of how 16-year-old Emma Nelson (Miriam McDonald) battles with anorexia and bulimia. Dealing with topics involving sexuality, drugs, religion and self-esteem, *Degrassi: The Next Generation* - the most-watched Canadian drama series - continues to make waves, tackling topical issues that affect teenagers from all walks of life. In "Our Lips Are Sealed," a distraught Emma throws herself into losing weight - the one thing she has control over - when she confronts her parents' recent split and the demands of keeping her relationship with Peter (Jamie Johnston) under wraps from her best friend Manny (Cassie Steele).

ALS UPDATE: **Luke Fritz** of the Montreal Alouettes addressed about 350 students at Lauren Hill Junior Campus recently. He spoke about his own experiences and advised students seeking to advance to a professional level in sports to avoid the pitfalls that lay before them. The message to all students, however, was that no matter what their goals in life were, clear-headedness, good decision-making, and taking their studies seriously were pre-requisites for success. His honesty and good humour were appreciated by all. Meanwhile, Lauren Hill Junior Campus spent February enjoying the perfect weather conditions while taking part in an assortment of outdoor events, including tubing, skiing, and snowboarding at Mt. Avila and Mt. St. Sauveur; sliding, skating, and snowshoeing at Beaver Lake; a cemetery walk at Notre Dame des Neiges Cemetery; a dogsled run, tubing, sculpting, and snow games at Parc Jean Drapeau. There was also a variety of indoor activities for those so inclined. Their three-

day ski trip at Mont St. Anne's also kicked off Feb. 1.

BRAIN TUMOUR AWARENESS: The week of March 13- 17 is Brain Awareness Week, with March 17 being Brain Tumour Awareness Day. During that week, graduate students from the Montreal Neurological Institute will be visiting many EMSB schools to talk about the brain, our senses and the nervous system. On March 17 students from Dalkeith Elementary School in Anjou will be visiting the the MNI Brain Tumour Research Center and doing a host of interactive activities in the labs. As well, on that day, 20 EMSB schools (the number is growing daily) will be fundraising for the Franco Di Giovanni Foundation supporting the Brain Tumour Research Center at the MNI. The schools will be holding dress down days, selling grey “Brain Waves” bracelets, ribbons or doing other fundraising activities.

Also, on Saturday March 25, the second annual Franco Di Giovanni Fundraising Social supporting Brain Tumour Research will be held at Buffet Villa Italia at 8600 Maurice Duplessis Blvd. in R.D.P. There will be a seven course meal, open bar, door prizes, and auction of sports memorabilia (Mike Komisarek signed hockey stick, signed Jean Beliveau, Martin Brodeur, Sheldon Surrey and Phil Esposito jerseys, Montreal Alouettes and Montreal Impact Teams signed footballs, etc). Special guest will be **Dr. Rolando Delmaestro**, Clinical Director of the Brain Tumour Research Center at the MNI. Cocktails start at 5:30 pm. Tickets are still available at \$100 each. Come out and support this worthy cause! Together we can make a difference.

BRAIN WAVES GALA: On Wednesday May 3, John F. Kennedy H.S., Laurier Macdonald H.S, Rosemount H.S. Royal Vale H.S. and Laurier Macdonald Career Center will be putting on a gala at 7 pm at the Leonardo da Vinci Center (8370 Lacordaire Blvd.) in St. Léonard. The event is also

supported by our local CTV television affiliate. **Frank Cavallaro** and **Mose Persico** will be the emcees. Besides presenting up and coming young talent, the gala will offer numerous door prizes including a trip for two to Florida. Tickets are still available and cost \$20 each. Lastly, the fundraising campaign “Brain Waves” grey bracelets are available for \$2 each. For addition information log on to

<http://www.emsb.qc.ca/en/BrainWavesBracel et.pdf>

POWER WITHIN: Former American President **Bill Clinton** and Tour de France legend and “Live Strong” cancer survivor **Lance Armstrong** will be the keynote speakers at the next Power Within (www.powerwithin.com) conference in Montreal on Tues. March 7 at the Palais des Congrès. Just as was the case last summer when **Dr. Phil McGraw** headlined the list of speakers, a special rate is being offered to EMSB personnel. Log on to www.emsb.qc.ca for all of the details.

A GENEROUS MAN: Father Jerry Sinel, pastor of St. Raphaël Centre in Outremont, has been so generous to St. Raphael Centre in Ahuntsic this year, report school staff. He has played the *Easter Bunny* for the students for the past three years, giving each of them Lion’s Club chocolate bunnies at Easter time. In the spirit of **St. Nicholas** (who was famous for his charity, patron of Russia, Greece and also the patron of children), Father Jerry treated the students to a pizza party with all the trimmings on St. Nicholas’s feast day December 6. Most recently, he played *Cupid*, treating staff and students to a spaghetti luncheon with all that goes with it! “He has also been instrumental in supporting our school financially when we needed,” says school secretary **Brenda Brisebois**.

DEMIM DAY: The Cure Foundation has notified the EMSB that schools, centres and central head office together raised \$24,783.35

for the 2005 National Denim Day. This annual event enables the Foundation to continue its efforts to improve the outcome for those affected by breast cancer through the funding of research, education and awareness across Canada. The 10th anniversary edition of National Denim Day will be on Tuesday, May 16.

DA VINCI ART: **John A. Cosgrove** and **Patrice Potvin**, glassmaking artists, created luminous mosaics with Cycle 2 students. Grade 2 students visited the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Arts. Grade 6 students will be visiting the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. **Diane Vaillancourt** and **Charles Montpetit**, authors of children's books, gave motivating workshops to Cycle 1 students in French and English. The captivating storyteller, **Stephanie Beneteau**, met with all groups during Library Week. Grade 6 students had the opportunity to hear themselves on Radio McGill (90.3). This was made possible with the help of **Pierre-Jean Cano's** workshops. Mr. Cano is an independent radio programming producer. To complement the school band program, Jeunesses Musicales du Canada will present "Giggle and Stomp" to Kindergarten and Cycle 1 students and "Journey to Dixieland" to our Cycles 2 and 3 students. Students in the band program will also get a feel of the classical by attending performances of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Finally, hats off to **LDV's** dynamic team of **volunteer parents!** From decorating the school hallways and lobbies for Halloween and Christmas to dressing up as elves for carolling and serving chocolate milk to transforming the library into a beautiful "Kingdom of Reading," they just keep on going tirelessly.

947 HITS FM: The promotional team at 947 Hits FM has begun visiting EMSB schools, handing out free merchandise and giving students an opportunity to get their voices on the air.

Meanwhile, 94.7 Hits FM and Mantas Studios have teamed up to present a prom like no other. They have the HIT music, lights, smoke, video recording equipment and lots of Hits FM Prizes! They can also customize your prom to fit any of your needs ! For more information please call **Angela Di Corpo** at 514) 428-9740 or e-mail angela@947hits.com.

ADULT EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL SERVICES

SKILLS OLYMPICS: The Rosemount Technology Centre is building robots. Their latest creation, Bridge-iT, competed in the Annapoly 2006 **Robotics competition** which took place at Regina Assunta in Montreal. Students from Industrial Drafting, Electromechanics, Cabinetmaking, electromechanics and even computer graphics worked on this project. "Humaniod" the mascot (a welding project) is also in the final stages of construction. On other fronts RTC is working even more closely with industry. **C and D Aerospace** is advertising training at RTC in **Furniture Finishing**. They are offering part time work for students enrolled in the program and upon completion - a full time job for successful students. As a result, RTC Director Marzia Michielli says the phones have been ringing off the hook. In addition, on March 7, RTC will be hosting various schools for the Regional Skills Olympics in Cabinetmaking. On March 9, they will host the Regional Skills Olympics in Desktop Publishing. Winners from the regional competitions go on to compete at the Provincial level in Quebec City. Winners for the regional level will be announced on March 29.

SALES OLYMPICS: The EMSB's John F. Kennedy Business Centre hosted the Regional Olympiades for the Professional Sales Program. Six students in total participated in the competition – three from JFK and three from the Commission scolaire

Marguerite Bourgeois. “The competitions are very much like those seen on the Donald Trump NBC Reality Show *The Apprentice*, explained JFK Director **Keith Imhoff**. Judges evaluated the competency of the participants, including their level of skill mastered and the application of the sales tools and techniques. In the first phase, judges presented a product. Competitors had to then prepare a plan of action. They were given 10 minutes to present the product by means of an audio-visual presentation. Fifteen points were assigned to the written version of the plan of action and 25 for the oral presentation. As for the second phase, the candidate had to prepare a kiosk representing the product that had been assigned. Candidates were supplied with the following resources: the technical specifications of the product; access to the product itself; a work station with individual computers providing access to Microsoft Office software package; a multi-media projector; access to an overhead projector; access to television; and a calculator. The plan of action required a sales scenario including a planned preparation of activities, the creation of a promotional flyer and business card, an audio-visual presentation of the product, invoices used to finalize the sale and professionally, clean and efficiently produced documentation. The winner of this competition will represent Montreal in the provincial competition in Quebec City at the end of March. National finals are scheduled for the month of May in Halifax.

HOTEL RECEPTION: Meanwhile, the JFK Business Centre is introducing a new hotel reception program which will prepare students to operate hotel computer systems, efficiently handle reservations, perform daily audits, sell hotel products and services and communicate effectively in French. Courses begin March 13. The Business Centre will unveil its virtual *i World* Hotel at a special reception on February 28.

“When we agreed to accept the Ministry of Education’s offer of the hotel reception program, we knew it would not be enough to simply give students the knowledge they needed to work for a hotel as the hotel’s front desk clerk,” said Centre Director Keith Imhoff. “We needed to replicate an environment that would provide the students with the feeling they were already working for a hotel. We opened the JFK Business Centre *i World* Hotel. When you step through our doors you could be walking into any of the world’s best upscale hotel lobbies. *i World’s* virtual 200 room hotel will offer our guests both suites and deluxe rooms with the choice of a garden view or a panoramic view of Montreal. Our guests will be met at the front desk by our students who are not only learning the technical skills needed by our partners but even more importantly how to successfully present themselves to VIP guests. As we all know, a client’s first contact is what sets the stage for how a guest feels. We have successfully attracted industry partners who share our dream and on February 28, 2006 when we launch *i World* we will announce our major industry partner who shares our vision for a training facility that is unique in Montreal.

The *i World* Hotel has created an oasis for guests that will allow them to escape their hectic lives while giving our students the opportunity to truly learn how to be the best that they can be. Guests will be able to sit and relax and listen to soft music and admire the amazing art work of Joseph Radnai (*L’arche fleuri*), Philippe Richard (*Montreal après la Pluie*) and finally Monique Bedard (*Introduction du 1er mouvement*) loaned to the school by “*la Galerie Klimantiris*.” The attendance of Mr. Didier Robette, vice president of Business Market Tourism for Montreal, will ensure that the fusion between education and the business milieu is strong and constant. “We believe in providing training based not only on up-to-date theories, but on common practicalities that

prepare individuals to enter a job market with an advantage – the advantage of hands-on experience so we can continue to make a commitment to our thriving tourism industry,” said Mr. Imhoff.



LMAC mechanics Jomar Lapid Marco Sansalone and Huai Lu Li.

HAIRDRESSING OLYMPICS: The local Olympic competition in Hairdressing was recently held at *Laurier Macdonald Career Centre* in St. Leonard. Three finalists were selected to represent the Centre at the Regional Competition, to be held March 13 at Gordon Robertson Career Centre – *Melissa Pietrunti*, *Yu Na Fu* and *Daniel Marin*. The day long event was filled with the enthusiasm and delightful apprehension of both competitors and spectators, as the participants weaved their magical talents and skills to create trendy looks on their models. The judges deliberated long and hard before choosing the winners. LMAC will also be sending three auto-mechanic students to the Regional Competition, which will be held March 11 at Ecole des Metiers D'Automobile. LMAC Olympians have been diligently preparing for the competition as they know only two competitors out of nine will be chosen to move on to the Provincial Competition. Good luck to *Jomar Lapid Marco Sansalone* and *Huai Lu Li*.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 6-10, 2006

Spring Break

MARCH 7, 2006

Power Within Conference

Featuring former US President Bill Clinton and Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong
Palais des Congrès

www.powerwithin.com

Regional Skills Olympics

Cabinetmaking

Hosted by Rosemount Technology Centre

MARCH 9, 2006

Regional Skills Olympics

Desktop Publishing

Hosted by Rosemount Technology Centre

MARCH 13-17, 2006

Brain Tumour Awareness Week

MARCH 25, 2006

The Franco DiGiovanni Brain Tumour Awareness Fundraising Social
6:30 p.m.

Buffet Villa Italia

8600 Maurice Duplessis Boulevard

R.D.P.

http://www.mni.mcgill.ca/announce/2006FDG_social.pdf

MARCH 26, 2006

Bell Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair, Centennial Regional H.S.
880 Hudson Ave. Greenfield Park

www.exposciencesbell.qc.ca

MARCH 30, 2006

Jump Rope for Heart

Royal Vale School

MARCH 31, 2006

Hoops for Heart

Royal Vale School

APRIL 12, 2006

Chapeau Les Filles Gala
Écoles des Métiers de la construction

MAY 3, 2006

Brain Waves Gala
(Rosemount H.S., J.F.K. H.S., Laurier
MacDonald H.S., Royal Vale)
7 p.m.
Leonardo Da Vinci Center
8350 Lacordaire Boulevard
St. Leonard

MAY 4, 2006

EMSB Public Speaking Competition
Sec I and II
Westmount High School

MAY 5, 2006

EMSB Public Speaking Competition Sec.
III, IV, and V.
Westmount High School

MAY 6, 2006

EMSB Chorale
Spring Gala Concert
7:30 p.m.
Oscar Peterson Hall
Tickets: \$10 (adults)/\$5 (students and
seniors)

MAY 11-13, 2006

Canadian Association of Principals
Conference
Quebec City
www.cap2006.ca

Bell Montreal Expo Sciences Regional
Finals (Primary), Aréna Étienne-Desmarteau
3430 Bellechasse
(www.exposciencesbell.qc.ca)

MAY 16, 2006

National Demim Day

MAY 19-20, 2006

Québec Robocup Junior, École Secondaire
Père Marquette 6030, rue Marquette

Montreal www.sciencetech.ca

May 25-27, 2006

Canadian School Boards
Association Congress 2006, hosted by
QESBA
Delta Centre-Ville

MAY 30, 2006

In-School Administrators Fashion Show
Fashion for Compassion
EMSB in Vogue Act II
7 p.m.
Hellenic Community Center
5777 Wilderton

Tickets: \$20 each

Emcees: Eramelinda Boquer and Al Gravelle of CJAD

Cheques can be forwarded to Tina Lavranos,
Gardenview Elementary School; Connie
Primiano, Honoré-Mercier Elementary
School; Paul Saunders, central head office
Info: (514) 483-7200, ext. 7379

All proceeds will go to the autism clinic of
the Montreal Children's Hospital

JUNE 29, 2006

EMSB Scholarship Golf Tournament
Lachute Club ((355 Bethany Road)
Info: (514) 483-7200, ext. 7379

PLEINS FEUX SUR FIELDING**Mars est le mois de la nutrition**

Mars est le Mois national de la Nutrition et la CSEM tient à nouveau un rôle important par le biais de son équipe de cafétérias et d'éducation en nutrition. Chaque école primaire a reçu une brochure intitulée « Calendrier des activités de nutrition de Sunny ». Ce dernier est la mascotte de nutrition de la CSEM et il est demandé aux élèves de se joindre à elle pour une randonnée d'alimentation saine qui inclut le Labyrinthe du petit-déjeuner, des collations et des repas de midi sains. Il y a même un concours à la dernière page qui permet aux

élèves de gagner des prix. Dans le cadre de l'application de sa politique en matière de nutrition, la Division des cafétérias et de l'éducation en nutrition du Service aux communautés a choisi un certain nombre d'écoles qui prendront part au programme d'éducation en nutrition « Les aliments : une source de vie » pour les élèves du Secondaire II. Il est divisé en trois sessions : les influences sur l'aspect physique et l'estime de soi et ses effets sur la santé physique et émotive; les effets des mauvaises habitudes alimentaires sur la santé du corps et des recommandations pour choisir et mener un style de vie sain. L'objectif du programme est d'éduquer et d'offrir des stratégies diététiques visant à promouvoir la santé et à retarder l'apparition de maladies reliées à la nutrition. Pour plus de renseignements, appeler **Giuliana Di Quinzio** au (514) 483-7200, poste 7368.

FOIRE DE CARRIÈRES : Lizette Gilday, conseillère d'orientation au Centre de formation des adultes Saint-Laurent, a été nommée présidente de la Foire de carrières de 2006 de la CSEM. La Foire aura lieu du 24 au 26 octobre à l'école secondaire St. Pius X. Elle succède à Tina Stoupakos qui a occupé cette fonction au cours des trois années précédentes.

NOUVEL AN CHINOIS : Le Nouvel an chinois a été célébré à la CSEM. L'école primaire Carlyle de Ville Mont-Royal a été l'hôtesse d'une représentation du *First Montreal Centre of Chinese Culture & Arts*. Fondé en 1996, le Centre a monté des centaines d'impressionnantes représentations pour des auditoires sino-canadiens et américains aux États-Unis et au Canada. Quelques musiciens ont interprété plusieurs pièces traditionnelles et leur représentation a été suivie par le directeur de l'école chinoise qui a enseigné quelques danses chinoises aux enfants. « Nous avons aussi eu droit à une mini représentation par les enfants qui ont présenté la célébration du Nouvel an

chinois » a déclaré **Puynung Choy**, animateur de vie spirituelle et d'engagement communautaire. L'école primaire Bancroft a organisé son déjeuner/célébration annuelle du Nouvel an chinois mettent en vedette un spectacle de danse au gymnase. L'école primaire Sinclair Laird de Parc Extension a reçu l'Opéra chinois de Montréal. Certains de ses membres étaient des actrices et chanteuses professionnelles d'opéra à Hunan en Chine. Elles sont bien connues pour leurs interprétations d'airs traditionnels d'opéra folklorique chinois. Quelques unes d'entre elles ont utilisé des instruments de musique typiques et qui avaient été bannis en Chine à une certaine époque. Ce spectacle a été un festival de couleurs avec costumes bariolés, robes chatoyantes et le maquillage typique chinois. L'une des pièces interprétées a été une chanson des Jeux Olympiques de 2004. Ce même groupe se produira à l'école primaire Nesbitt de Rosemont et aux écoles Carlyle et Dunrae Gardens de Ville Mont-Royal.

CENTRAIDE : La CSEM a participé encore une fois à la campagne Centraide et grâce à la générosité de son personnel, plus de 11 000 \$ ont été versés à cette campagne des plus méritoires. Centraide offre son soutien à tous les aspects de notre société et il est important de réaliser que plusieurs familles de la CSEM profitent du soutien de cette organisation. Paul Saunders, coordonnateur de la campagne, désire adresser un chaleureux merci à toutes les personnes qui ont participé.

NOUVEAU NOM DE WAGAR : Le bâtiment de Côte-Saint-Luc qui a abrité l'école secondaire Wagar pour plus de 40 ans et qui est occupé actuellement par l'école secondaire John Grant et le Centre de formation des adultes Marymount, portera le nom de Centre Giovanni Palatucci. **M. Dominic Spidirigliozzi**, président de la CSEM, et le **Dr Syd Wise**, commissaire de la circonscription de Côte-Saint-Luc et ancien directeur de Wagar, ont lancé cette initiative

qui aura un élément éducatif important. La CSEM compte jumeler deux écoles, l'école secondaire Laurier Macdonald de Saint-Léonard et l'école Buialik de Côte-Saint-Luc et les élèves de John Grant et du Centre d'adultes Marymount seront aussi touchés par cette mesure. Ensemble, ils apprendront les faits héroïques de Giovanni Palatucci et d'autres qui ont sauvé des vies au cours de l'Holocauste. Le Centre commémoratif de l'Holocauste à Montréal (CCHM) a accepté de tenir un rôle important dans ce programme. Au cours des deux dernières années, la CECM et le CCHM ont collaboré à un programme de sensibilisation à l'Holocauste qui offre des visites au musée aux élèves ainsi que des rencontres avec les survivants de l'Holocauste. Cette expérience a été particulièrement révélatrice surtout pour les élèves non juifs. Les visites des élèves de la CSEM au musée seront incorporées au projet de cette année. Des détails complets seront annoncés bientôt.

CONSEILLÈRE EN AUTISME : Pour la première fois, les Services aux élèves de la CSEM ont engagé une spécialiste en autisme et en troubles envahissants du comportement (ATEC). **Tania Piperni** a une connaissance très approfondie de l'ATEC ainsi que des approches basées sur la différence de preuves et des meilleures stratégies à employer avec les enfants et les adolescents atteints d'ATEC. Mme Piperni offre l'orientation, la formation et le soutien au développement de ressources au personnel enseignant (directions d'école, enseignant(e)s, professionnels etc.) et aux équipes multidisciplinaires existantes de la Commission. Elle aide les équipes de l'école à évaluer les besoins des élèves atteints d'ATEC afin qu'elles puissent mettre sur pied un plan personnalisé d'éducation et les mesures de soutien subséquentes appropriées.

Mme Piperni est entrée en fonctions à la CSEM en novembre. Elle a obtenu un baccalauréat en psychologie et une maîtrise

en psychologie éducative de l'Université McGill. Au cours des six dernières années, elle a travaillé à Giant Steps, école privée de Westmount spécialisée spécifiquement pour les enfants atteints d'autisme. Elle a débuté comme éducatrice travaillant sur une base individuelle avec les élèves. En outre, elle a aussi supervisé un enseignant pendant plusieurs années. « La sévérité du retard des élèves de cet établissement varie et ils peuvent être partiellement intégrés à l'école de leur quartier et, c'est ainsi, que j'ai entretenu des contacts avec plusieurs enseignant(e)s et directions d'école de la CSEM. J'ai aussi effectué des interventions privées avec des enfants autistes et avec retards de développement et de langage.

À la CSEM, elle oeuvre en étroite collaboration avec son superviseur Edith Clarke ainsi qu'avec les conseiller(ère)s en adaptation scolaire. Ils échangent des idées et lui suggèrent quelles sont les écoles qui ont le plus besoin de consultation. « Je visite habituellement l'école pour la première fois en compagnie du/de la conseiller(ère) en adaptation scolaire et j'y retourne ensuite pour des consultations et un suivi » déclare Mme Piperni. « J'offre des stratégies et de l'aide aux modifications pour les élèves et le personnel enseignant. L'aide peut varier de suggestions sur la façon de mieux inclure l'élève dans la classe, sur la façon d'adapter le programme d'études de la classe, sur la place où devrait s'asseoir l'élève, et la façon de créer un programme unique le mieux adapté aux besoins de l'élève. Je travaille en étroite collaboration avec les éducateurs et les directions d'école. Ils sont mis à jour par mes recommandations et nous travaillons souvent ensemble à appliquer des solutions. À ce jour, j'ai offert des consultations à huit écoles et plusieurs autres attendent ma visite. Il y a une forte demande de services pour les enfants atteints d'autisme; il y a deux ans, il y avait 85 élèves autistes à la CSEM et ce chiffre a maintenant doublé. J'espère pouvoir rencontrer plus d'élèves, d'éducateurs et de

personnel d'école car, jusqu'à maintenant, l'atmosphère a été chaleureuse et accueillante.

CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DE MONTRÉAL :

Les élèves du secondaire de la CSEM ont, encore une fois, participé en grand nombre au Concours d'excellence de la Chambre de commerce du Montréal métropolitain. Les entrevues préliminaires au niveau de la CSEM ont permis à un grand nombre d'élèves d'être contacté par la Chambre de commerce pour des entrevues supplémentaires au cours de la période du 5 au 7 avril – dans le but de choisir les lauréats des médailles d'or, d'argent et de bronze dans les catégories suivantes : Sciences humaines/langues, Sciences/mathématiques, arts et formation professionnelle. Les cérémonies de remise de prix auront lieu le 30 mai dans un hôtel du centre-ville.

BIBLIOTHÈQUES : La bibliothécaire **Mary Moroska** qui travaille aux bibliothèques de trois écoles primaires a écrit un intéressant article qui a été publié au site *School Libraries in Canada*. (<http://www.schoollibraries.ca/articles/196.aspx>). Mme Moroska vient de terminer son deuxième mandat au conseil administratif de l'APSDS (Association pour la promotion des services documentaires scolaires). Son article donne une vue d'ensemble sur l'investissement de 60 millions de dollars sur une période de trois ans du ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport.

TROUSSE DE SENSIBILISATION : Trois années de consultation, traduction et travail d'équipe intensif ont culminé la semaine dernière par la publication d'une nouvelle version anglaise d'une trousse intitulée *For a New Understanding of Homosexuality*. La Direction de la Santé Publique a mené les efforts en partenariat avec la CSEM, la Commission scolaire Lester-B. Pearson, l'Association provinciale des enseignantes et

des enseignants du Québec, *AIDS Community Care Montreal (ACCM)*, l'Agence de la santé publique du Canada, Batshaw, AlterHeros, Gay Line, Jeunesse Lambda, le *Montreal Youth Coalition against Homophobia*, Project 10, Séro Zéro et le ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS). La CSEM a été représentée au lancement de la trousse par la directrice adjointe des Services aux élèves, **Dora Cesta**, la conseillère en enseignement spirituel, religieux et moral, **Irene Miller**, l'animateur de vie spirituelle et d'engagement communautaire, **Daniel Sup**, et le directeur de l'école secondaire Westmount, **Claude Dansereau**. La trousse est disponible aux écoles secondaires et innovatrices de la CSEM. Des programmes visant à combattre l'homophonie et à sensibiliser les élèves aux différentes orientations sexuelles sont déjà en place à la CSEM par le biais d'une entente avec le MELS et le ministère des Services de santé et sociaux. Une utilisation appropriée de la trousse par la communauté scolaire sera d'une grande aide à ce programme de prévention et de socialisation. Des sessions de formation pour les animateurs/animateuses de vie spirituelle et d'engagement communautaire, les directions d'école et autres membres du personnel ont été organisées. Ces programmes ont été commandités par l'Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec (I.N.S.P.Q.) et animés par le travailleur social **Bill Ryan** et la psychologue **Francoise Susset**. Pour plus d'information, visitez www.santepub-mtl.qc.ca.

SAUTONS EN COEUR : L'école Royal Vale prendra part le 29 mars à l'activité **Sautons en Cœur** de la Fondation des maladies du cœur. Cet événement annuel est un programme unique en son genre qui combine l'activité/physique (par le biais du saut à la corde) et l'éducation cardiovasculaire tout en recueillant des fonds pour appuyer la Fondation des maladies du cœur du Québec. Au cours des 16 dernières

années, le programme Sautons en coeur a touché chaque année plus de 50 000 élèves au Québec. L'an dernier, l'école primaire Royal Vale a recueilli 13 800,00 \$ pour la Fondation des maladies du coeur du Québec et elle vise cette année à atteindre 15 000,00 \$. La section levée de fonds de Sautons en coeur consiste à faire participer le personnel et les élèves à un concours de saut à la corde. Avant l'évènement, les participants s'assurent de promesses de dons. Les élèves recevront de fabuleux prix de remerciements selon le nombre de promesses recueillies individuellement. Cette année, l'école secondaire Royal Vale se joindra aux festivités et organisera son propre *Hoops for Hearts* qui aura lieu le 30 mars 2006. Le spécialiste en éducation physique, Norman Katz, enseignera les habiletés requises et préparera les élèves lors de leurs classes d'éducation physique et ce, jusqu'au 29 mars. L'activité «**Sautons en coeur**» est un évènement amusant, non compétitif et dynamique grâce auquel les enfants peuvent recueillir des fonds pour la recherche et les programmes de prévention de la Fondation des maladies du coeur. Pour plus d'informations, veuillez communiquer avec M. Katz au (514) 481-2463.

POWER WITHIN : L'ancien président des États-Unis, **Bill Clinton**, et la légende du Tour de France et vainqueur du cancer, **Lance Armstrong**, seront les conférenciers principaux au prochain congrès *Power Within* (www.powerwithin.com) qui se tiendra le 7 mars au Palais des Congrès. Comme cela a été le cas l'été dernier lorsque le **Dr Phil McGraw** faisait partie des conférenciers invités, un taux spécial est offert au personnel de la CSEM. Consultez www.emsb.qc.ca pour tous les détails.

JOURNÉE DU DENIM : La Fondation Cure a avisé la CSEM que les écoles, les centres et le centre administratif ont recueilli 24 783,35 \$ pour la Journée Nationale du Denim de 2005. Cet évènement annuel

permet à la Fondation de poursuivre ses efforts visant à améliorer le sort des personnes affectées du cancer du sein par le biais du financement de la recherche, l'éducation et la sensibilisation à travers le Canada. Le 10^e anniversaire de la Journée Nationale du Denim est le mardi 16 mai.

FORMATION GÉNÉRALE DES ADULTES ET FORMATION PROFESSIONNELLE

OLYMPIADES DES HABILITÉS : Le Centre de Technologie de Rosemont construit des robots. Leur dernière création, *Bridge-iT*, a figuré au concours de Robotique de 2006, du 15 au 18 février à Regina Asunta à Montréal. Des élèves de dessin industriel, d'électromécanique, d'ébénisterie et de graphiques informatisés ont travaillé à ce projet. La mascotte «**Humanoid**» (un projet de soudure) est aussi aux derniers stages de la construction. Dans d'autres domaines, le CTR oeuvre en étroite collaboration avec le milieu industriel. *C and D Aerospace* fait la publicité de la formation du programme «**Finition de meubles**» du CTR. Ils offrent du travail à temps partiel aux élèves inscrits au programme et, dès qu'ils l'ont complété, un travail à temps plein aux élèves qui ont réussi le cours. La directrice du CTR, Marzia Michielli, mentionne que les appels téléphoniques affluent suite à cette offre. En outre, le 7 mars le CTR recevra diverses écoles aux Olympiades régionales d'habiletés en ébénisterie. Les lauréats des concours régionaux participeront au concours provincial à Québec. Les lauréats au niveau régional seront proclamés le 29 mars.

DATES À RETENIR :

6-10 MARS 2006

Relâche du printemps

7 MARS 2006

Congrès *Power Within*

Mettant en vedette l'ancien président des États-Unis Bill Clinton
Lance Armstrong, gagnant du Tour de France
Palais des congrès
www.powerwithin.com

Olympiades régionales des habiletés
Ébénisterie
Centre de technologie de Rosemont

9 MARS 2006

Olympiades régionales des habiletés
Éditique
Centre de technologie de Rosemont

25 MARS 2006

Levée de fonds
Franco DiGiovanni - Sensibilisation à la tumeur du cerveau
18 h 30
Buffet Villa Italia
8600 boulevard Maurice Duplessis
R.D.P.

26 MARS 2006

Expo sciences Bell
École secondaire Centennial régional
880 avenue Hudson, Greenfield Park
www.exposciencesbell.qc.ca

30 MARS 2006

Sautons en coeur
École Royal Vale

31 MARS 2006

Hoops for Heart
École secondaire Royal Vale

12 AVRIL 2006

Gala, Chapeau Les Filles
École des métiers de la construction

3 MAI 2006

Gala Brain Waves
(École secondaire Rosemont, école secondaire JFK, école secondaire Laurier Macdonald, Royal Vale)
19 h

Centre Leonardo Da Vinci
8350 Boulevard Lacordaire
Saint-Léonard

4 MAI 2006

Concours d'art oratoire de la CSEM
Sec. III, IV et V
École secondaire Westmount

6 MAI 2006

Concert gala de printemps
Chorale de la CSEM
19 h 30
Salle Oscar Peterson
Billets : 10 \$ (adultes) 5 \$ (élèves et aînés)

11-13 MAI 2006

Congrès de l'Association canadienne des directeurs d'école (CAP)
Québec
www.cap2006.ca

Expo sciences Bell
Finales régionales
Aréna Étienne Desmarteau
3430 Bellechasse
www.exposciencesbell.qc.ca

16 MAI 2006

Journée Nationale du Denim

19-20 MAI 2006

Québec Robocup Junior
École secondaire Père Marquette
6030 rue Marquette, Montréal
www.sciencetech.ca

25-27 MAI 2006

Congrès 2006 de l'Association des commissions scolaires canadiennes
Sous les auspices de l'ACSAQ
Delta Centre-Ville

30 MAI 2006

Défilé de modes des cadres scolaires
CSEM à la mode - Acte II
19 h
Centre communautaire Hellénique

5777 Wilderton

Billets : 20 \$ chaque

Les chèques peuvent être adressés à : Tina

Lavranos, école primaire Gardenview;

Connie Primiano, école primaire Honoré

Mercier; Paul Saunders, centre administratif

Informations : (514) 483-7200, poste 7379

Tous les profits seront versés à la clinique
d'autisme

de l'hôpital de Montréal pour enfants

29 JUIN 2006

Tournoi de Golf de la CSEM

Club Lachute (355 Chemin Bethany)

Informations : (514) 483-7200, poste 7379

Submissions for the Fielding Focus should be made to Michael J. Cohen by e-mail (mcohen@emsb.qc.ca), fax (483-7213) or drop it by room 109.