



Commission scolaire English-Montréal
English Montreal School Board

Fielding Focus

The monthly news bulletin of the EMSB

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Hi Ying Ti Li (third from the right) is presented with a new iMac computer in recognition for her winning entry in the EMSB 10th anniversary logo contest (see the logo at the left).

EMSB To Be Part of Education Fair

Parents who are concerned about making good academic choices for their children should attend the Montreal Families Education Fair September 22 (5 p.m. to 8 p.m.) at the Holiday Inn - Midtown – Montreal (420 Sherbrooke St. West, corner of Hutchison). The EMSB and a number of our schools will have information kiosks. Sponsored by Global Television, this event gives parents a chance to get more information about these schools and school boards. To see a complete list of participants, please check out www.montrealfamilies.ca For more information, call (514) 487-8881.

September 8 is World Literacy Day

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: Students of the EMSB primary and secondary institutions will return to class on Tuesday, September 2, 2008. Kindergarten children must be five years of age on or before September 30, 2008 while Grade 1 (Cycle 1) students must be six years old on or before the same date.

Registration for those not previously enrolled is still underway. Parents are asked to call the school in their neighbourhood to make an appointment. E-mail inquiries can be sent to informationdesk@emsb.qc.ca. A special information desk may also be reached by calling 514-483-7200. The EMSB serves more than 37,000 students at 38 elementary schools, 17 secondary schools, nine outreach schools, 11 social affairs institutions and 11 adult and vocational centres.



Students are getting ready for a return to classes.

All pupils registering for the first time are required to provide a birth certificate and vaccination records to the school the child will be attending. Parents will be asked to fill out forms which will allow the school to apply for the certificate of eligibility for English schooling. Under the Charter of the French Language, a certificate of eligibility is generally granted to children who did the majority of their elementary or secondary studies in English in Canada; whose mother or father did the majority of his/her elementary

studies in English in Canada or whose brother or sister did the majority of his/her elementary or secondary studies in English in Canada. Please note that as a result of Bill 104, this criteria excludes studies completed in the Quebec Private School system.



Andrew Carter, shown here with physical education teacher **Norman Katz** and sportscaster **Rob Martier**, is ready to visit Hampstead School.

ANDREW CARTER: For the third year in a row the CJAD morning show and host **Andrew Carter** will broadcast from an EMSB school on the first day of classes. Listen to him from 5:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. live from Hampstead Elementary School.



Jaydee Bixby: Rosemount High bound

JAYDEE BIXBY TO VISIT: Alberta singing sensation **Jaydee Bixby**, who finished second in CTV's Canadian Idol a year ago, will make a special visit to Rosemount High School on Wed. Sept. 3. He is scheduled to have lunch with the staff and then talk to students in the auditorium. Bixby just turned 18. Rosemount High School has an excellent music and orchestra program, run by **Debbie Best**.

On Idol Bixby gained millions of adoring fans thanks to both his impeccable voice and hip-swallowing Presley-esque stage manner that left more than a few ladies swooning. Even Idol guest star Paul Anka was compelled to endorse Bixby, noting that he “has the type of talent that will keep him around for decades to come.” His new album, *Cowboys and Cadillac* finds the sure-footed teen intensifying and broadening the same velvety voice that prompted throngs of Canadians to instantly adore him. For more on Jaydee log on to www.jaydeebixby.com or on My Space at <http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=383969516>.

10TH ANNIVERSARY: The EMSB will launch its 10th anniversary celebrations appropriately on the 10th day of the first month of classes. On Wednesday September 10 (from 10 a.m. onwards), elementary school students will parade around their neighbourhood streets, carrying special 10th anniversary flags while high school students will take part in walk-a-thons to mark the occasion. In the event of severe rain, these programs will be rescheduled to Friday, September 12.

Meanwhile, also on September 10, the EMSB Administration Building at 6000 Fielding in N.D.G. will be the site of a series of special events

A special 10th anniversary committee at the EMSB is co-chaired by Region 1 Director **Marzia Michielli** and Assistant Director of Human Resources **Connie Primiano**. Their committee has recommended that, whenever possible, a special activity occur on the tenth day of each month. In addition to the monthly activities, there will be three major events involving parents, employees and students.

Already, a special 10th anniversary commemorative edition of the *EMSB Express* tabloid newspaper has been published. A contest among students produced a theme song. In addition, a 10th anniversary logo,

designed by Rosemount Technology Centre student **Hi Ying Yi Li**, graces EMSB publications, the website and large banners which are to be displayed at every school and centre. Ms. Ying Yi Li was presented with a new iMac computer at the August 27 as an expression of appreciation for her fine work.

On September 10 at the Administration Building, activities will commence at 9:30 a.m. with addresses by EMSB Chair **Angela Mancini**, Director General Antonio Lacroce and a representative from the Ministry of Education, Sports and Leisure. The winners of the logo contest and the 10th anniversary song competition will be introduced. Students from neighbouring schools will be in attendance as will representation from the adult sector and different unions. A plaque commemorating the 10th anniversary will be unveiled in the foyer, with Ms. Mancini presiding. Everyone will then move outdoors for a ribbon cutting, symbolizing the brilliant future for the EMSB. At this point a time capsule will be deposited, next to the planting of a new red oak tree donated by *Pépinière Jasmin*, to be reopened in 10 years.

While all elementary schools in the system will parade around their respective streets waving flags, those closest to the EMSB Administration Building will rendez-vous there and be greeted by EMSB officials as well as Quebec Members of the National Assembly **Tony Tomassi** (Lafontaine) and **Russell Copeman** (N.D.G.). The EMSB's St. Pius X Culinary Institute will donate a giant birthday cake for the occasion. For more details see the EMSB website, specifically the press release and 10th anniversary sections.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS: Several administrative appointments have been made for the 2008-2009 academic year. New principals are: **Demetra Droutsas**, John Grant and Paul VI (from vice-principal at Westmount High); **Alice Buchanan**, Dante (from St. Dorothy); **Rosetta Ortona-Perri**, St. Dorothy (from vice-principal at Pierre de Coubertin); **Sonia Marotta** (from teaching at

St. Dorothy to vice-principal at Pierre de Coubertin);



**Demetra Droutsas: John Grant and Paul VI
Principal**

Richard Mason, St. Monica (from Marymount); **Luigi Santamaria**, Marymount (from James Lyng), **Serge Furlanetto**, Lester B. Pearson (promoted from vice-principal); **Connie Forese**, Willingdon (from Pierre Elliott Trudeau); **Joan MacMillan**, Carlyle (from vice-principal of Michelangelo); **Jacques Monfette**, Outreach/Alternative School Network (from Mackay/Phillip E. Layton); **Patricia Ciccarelli**, Mackay/Phillip E. Layton (promoted from vice-principal); **Craig Olenik**, James Lyng (promoted from vice-principal); **Itrat Ahmed**, Parkdale (from Carlyle); **Michelle Stein**, Pierre Elliott Trudeau (from Holy Cross); **Eleni Zervas**, Holy Cross (from vice-principal of Gardenview).



Steven Erdelyi: new Westmount High VP

New vice-principals are: **James Fequet**, Rosemount (from teaching at Marymount); **Steven Erdelyi**, Westmount High (from teaching at Marymount); **Gail Callender**, James Lyng (from teaching at Dalkeith); **Roberto DiMarco**, St. Pius Adult and Vocational (from teaching at Outreach/Venture); **Joe Anne Desir**, Mackay/Philip E. Layton (from teaching at Coronation); **Ranis Delis**, Gardenview (from teaching at Roslyn); **Steven Rebello**, Lester B. Pearson (from teaching at the same school); and **Marylène Perron**, Michelangelo (presently a special education consultant at the EMSB). Retiring as principals are **Terrence Quinn** (Lester B. Pearson) and **Ivana Colatriano** (Willingdon). Retiring as a vice-principal is **Luciella Cianci-Teolis** (St. Pius X Adult and Vocational). Taking a leave of absence next year as principal is **André Vamvakas** (St. Monica).



Joseph Petraglia

COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Commissioners **Joseph Petraglia** and **Joseph Lalla** are the new chair and vice-chair respectively of the Adult Education and Vocational Services Committee (AEVS).

WILLINGDON PARK: New playground equipment was installed at Willingdon Elementary School in N.D.G. over the

summer. On September 10, the school will hold an official opening ceremony for their new “Willingdon Park” in the afternoon tied into the neighbourhood parade.



Willingdon’s new playground

Following this at noon the NDG YMCA will be treating the entire school to a barbeque at Terrebonne Park. Students will then all walk back to school for the official opening of the playground at about 1:15 p.m. Willingdon will be profiled on Global TV the first day of school.

GOLF TOURNAMENT: The EMSB held its fifth annual Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament on June 27 at Club de Golf St. Raphaël in Île Bizard. Montreal Impact president and noted businessman **Joey Saputo** served as the honorary chairman.



John Ryan, Pat Moffa, Mario Tirelli and Jerry Dunn take a break between holes.

A record number of 240 golfers helped raise a tournament high of more than \$40,000. Proceeds will go towards the EMSB Scholarship Program, which benefits a number

of graduating EMSB students so that they can pursue their post secondary studies at a CEGEP or in vocational education.

Besides 18 holes of golf, there was a brunch, dinner, plenty of fabulous door prizes (a fur lined coat, golf clubs, a Montreal Impact signed and framed jersey, a Dell laptop computer, an IMAC computer, a weekend in St. Adolphe and jewelry) plus prizes for longest drive and closest to pin. There was no hole-in-one recorded during the day. Participants made valiant attempts at the 18th hole, as an automobile from Saturn Mondial was up for grabs. The organizing committee for the tournament was chaired by **Mario Tirelli**, deputy director general and ably assisted by his predecessor **Donald A. Reid**. At the awards banquet, Mr. Tirelli and Mr. Reid thanked Mother Nature for delivering five consecutive years of sunny skies for the tournament. The 2009 tournament will take place at the same location on Monday, June 29.

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 actor **Martin Sheen** and former U.S. vice-presidential candidate **John Edwards**. For complete details log on to http://www.powerwithin.com/pdf/EMSB_jk.pdf.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB: Region 1 Director **Marzia Michielli** recently introduced the Principal’s Summer Reading Club. The EMSB had about 1,000 books to give away to students in the elementary schools. They used them as an incentive to encourage students to read during the summer months. **Before** June 23 students indicated how many books they were going to read during the summer months. Throughout the summer, they were encouraged to ask their parent(s) to take them to the library to take out books (in French or English). **Upon the children’s return** in the new school year, they will

give in the reading log showing the number of books read. It will be tallied by grade level, or another grouping of your choice. Every participating school will receive approximately 80 books as part of this initiative.

CENTRAL STUDENTS COMMITTEE:

The EMSB plans to establish its first Central Students' Committee, providing an opportunity for secondary students to meet on a regular basis. The mandate will be to: communicate issues and interests of concern to the students of the EMSB, improve communications between the school and the community, explore solutions that will produce an enriched school environment, develop leadership skills, participate in the EMSB consultation process and represent the students of the EMSB through recommendations to the Council of Commissioners.

PUBLICATIONS: A special 10th anniversary edition of the EMSB Express Newspaper will be sent to schools soon for distribution. It is already posted in the Press Room and 10th anniversary sections of the EMSB website. Meanwhile, new wall calendars have been distributed to schools and centres while the 2008-09 high school guide will be sent out to all Grade 6 students.

OPEN HOUSES: A comprehensive list of EMSB elementary and high school open houses can be found on the EMSB website.

DRAGON BOAT CHAMP: Sheri Elaine Cameron, a teacher at Lauren Hill Academy in St. Laurent, is a Dragon Boat paddler. She and her team were at a world championship competition in August in Penang, Malaysia and returned home with three silver medals.

CBC SCHOOL NEEDS: CBC Television's News at Six, Radio One's Homerun (88.5 FM), the Foundation of Greater Montreal (FGM), the Alexander Dworkin Foundation (ADF), the EMSB, the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB), the Riverside School

Board, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, the National Film Board of Canada (NFB), Equiterre and the Earth Values Institute (EVI) are proud partners in the CBC School Needs Project 2008.

The School Needs Project was created in 2007 out of the CBC Montreal Matters project to help meet a need at an elementary school that could not be met through its normal operating budget. Each year, the CBC School Needs project follows up on the previous year's Montreal Matters topic. This means that for 2008, students will be developing projects related to the environment. Two schools were selected to participate by each school board, with the EMSB represented by For the EMSB, St. Monica in N.D.G. and East Hill in Rivière-des-Prairies

Each school received a visit from either Equiterre or the Earth Values Institute, as well as the NFB and CBC to help educate and motivate the student in the possibilities of an environmental project in their school and community.

The projects for participating schools were determined by the students themselves with the support of a teacher. Students benefit from this project on many levels, from the educational, community and growth experience, to the concrete results of receiving services or equipment that help them as well as leaving a legacy for future students. The total cost of each proposed project is limited to between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

In terms of the proposal judging process, students were selected from secondary schools of each board to join the FGM's Youth in Philanthropy program and serve as judges for School Needs. Maria Scotto of John F. Kennedy High School in St. Michel is the EMSB rep in this category.

The FGM and ADF have each committed \$5,000 for this project. This funded school environmental visits, provided \$500 in up-front funding for project development to each school and grant funds for the most

compelling projects, as identified by the project judges.

Students from each elementary school have already presented a short case for support which will air on *CBC News at Six* and *Homerun* in September

On September 16, CBC will host a celebration event for students, teachers, principals and partners to announce the final grants as determined by the judges. Log on to <http://www.cbc.ca/montreal/features/schoolneeds> for more details.

Here is the television broadcast schedule

Sept. 2 - School Needs 2008 Introduction
 Sept. 3 - First Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 4 - Second Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 5 - Third Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 8 - Fourth Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 9 - Fifth Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 10 - Sixth Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 11 - Seventh Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 12 - Eighth Elementary School Presentation
 Sept. 15 - Secondary School Judges & Judging
 Sept. 16 - School Needs Grant Event at CBC

PASS OR FAIL: As the school year kicks into gear across the country, CBC News (Radio, Television and CBCnews.ca) airs *Pass or Fail: Education for the 21st Century*. Starting Monday, Sept. 1, the week-long series probes whether Canadian students are getting what they need to survive and thrive.

The series begins with the findings of a national survey of Canadian parents and students who are currently enrolled or have left school in the last ten years, exploring their attitudes and experiences.

Highlights from the series on CBC Television (**CBC NEWS: THE NATIONAL**, **CBC NEWS: MORNING** and **CBC NEWS: TODAY**), CBC Radio One (**WORLD REPORT**, **WORLD AT SIX** and **THE WORLD THIS WEEKEND**) and CBC.ca include:

- French immersion – is it worth it or a waste of time?
- Teaching boys – have boys been short-changed by a lack of gender-specific teaching?
- Discipline and behaviour in the classroom and issues of security
- The 21st century curriculum – is Canada’s education system teaching kids what they need to know in a modern way?
- Alternative education – where can parents turn when the regular school system fails them?
- Teaching the brightest vs. teaching those with learning disabilities
- The challenges of integrating immigrant students in the classroom and teaching English as a second language
- Parent-teacher conflicts
- Full poll results and a “Your View” forum on CBC.ca where Canadians can provide their say on the issue

Pass or Fail: Education for the 21st Century also looks at what Canadians can learn from successful education systems abroad, as CBC’s David Common reports from Finland on why the country has one of the highest ranked educational systems in the world.



Jed Kahane: EMSB grad heads CTV Montreal

CTV ROUNDTABLE: The team at CTV News Montreal will hold a roundtable at their Papineau Blvd. headquarters August 28 with

representatives from English school boards. In addition to the communications and marketing specialist, representing the EMSB will be Director General **Antonio Lacroce**, Honoré-Mercier Elementary School Principal **Donna Manos** and John F. Kennedy High School Principal **Joseph Marra**. CTV Montreal's newly appointed news director is **Jed Kahane**, a former student at Roslyn and Westmount High, who has worked for CBC TV and CTV National in this city for nearly 20 years.



The Chorale performs at last May's Spring Concert.

CHORALE AUDITIONS: Students from Grades 4 to Secondary 5 who wish to audition for the EMSB Chorale's 29th Season are invited to come to the first rehearsal on Saturday, September 6 at Westmount Park School (15 Park Place) in Westmount. High school students should come to the 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. rehearsal (Senior Chorale) and elementary students should come to the 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. rehearsal (Junior Chorale). There is no need to prepare anything. The audition consists of simple vocal and pitch-matching exercises. For more information, please call: **Patricia Abbott** at 514-483-7200, ext. 7234 or write: pabbott@emsb.qc.ca.

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.



Maureen Baron

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. Mark your calendars now and plan to get involved.

THE HOUR: How GREEN are your schools? Well, 'The Hour' with **George Stroumboulopoulos** wants to find out. The program is challenging schools across the country to join their new campaign - 'One Million Acts of Green.' It kicks off this October, and they are inviting EMSB schools to be a part of it. The goal is to change how we live and how we treat the planet, one act at a time. Young and old, parents and kids, small towns and big cities, The Hour wants to build a nationwide movement and inspire people to make real change, in a practical way.

Install compact fluorescent lightbulbs. Walk or bike to school. Buy local food. Recycle your cell phone. They have got a bunch of ideas. The Hour will have a highly interactive website, so everyone can register their acts and watch them build. For more information contact Julia.Frances@cbc.ca or by phone at 416.205.6977. The Hour is a national current affairs show on CBC television hosted by Stroumbouloupoulos. It's not a newscast. It's not a magazine show. It's a different take on the news through the lens of George and company. While news shows cover the issues of the day, The Hour dissects the issues within the issues. Always unconventional. Often controversial. Never predictable.

ETHICS AND RELIGIOUS CULTURE: The 2007-2008 school year marked the last year that the Catholic Moral and Religious Education (CMRE), Protestant Moral and Religious Education (PMRE) and Moral Education (ME) courses were offered at EMSB schools. They will be replaced by the new Ethics and Religious Culture (ERC) program, which will be implemented in September 2008. This program does not include any faith-based instruction and is non-denominational. Under the Basic School Regulation, it is stipulated that the Ethics and Religious Culture course is compulsory at the primary and secondary levels.

Pedagogical Services held two days of training last year on board-wide regional pedagogical days in order to allow teachers to become familiar with the ERC program before the implementation date. These training sessions were animated by a team of 12 facilitators consisting of pedagogical consultants and teachers at both the elementary and secondary levels who had received ongoing professional development and support from the MELS and EMSB Pedagogical Services over the last two years. Thanks to this team, approximately 740 elementary and high school teachers were able to attend these well received training sessions.

Last spring, the ERC program was presented to the elementary and high school principals and a presentation was also offered to members of the Education and Facilities Committee. An information session, animated by MELS representatives, was provided to some members of Governing Boards. An information kit designed for Governing Boards and parents was sent from the MELS to every school. In addition, parents also received a brochure informing them about the new ERC course.

BILL 101 EXPERT RETIRES: Quietly over the summer **Pat D'Ornellas**, who worked for many years in the EMSB Bill 101 Registration Office retired. Pat is a special person who showed so much patience and compassion for the many families who came to meet her each year in pursuit of a certificate of eligibility for English education. "It was humbling to experience the trust and confidence at the Board and with school personnel for many years," she said. "I will miss the contacts with so many people from probably every country in our small world. And no. I have not lost my enthusiasm or passion for fighting Law 101, only my energy." She retired after 29 years of service to the EMSB and the former Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal.



Westmount High students meet NHLer Martin Lapointe (left) and Montreal Juniors coach Pascal Vincent (right).

GENERATIONS HOCKEY: A press conference was held August 27 at the

Generations Foundation headquarters in St. Henri to announce an agreement with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League Montreal Juniors team, brokered by the the EMSB Marketing and Communications Division. The team, which is playing out of the Verdun Auditorium, has received donations from different individuals and companies to go towards the purchase of home game tickets that the Generations Foundation will distribute to students who could normally not afford to buy tickets. A number of students from Westmount High School were on hand for the announcement. They received tickets to an exhibition game against the Gatineau Olympiques. In addition they got to meet NHL players **Martin Lapointe** of the Ottawa Senators and **Bruno Gervais** of the New York Islanders, **Marc-Édouard Vlasic** of the San Jose Sharks and **Maxine Talbot** of the Pittsburgh Penguins, who there to announce they are contributing to this fund. Juniors head coach **Pascal Vincent** was also there. Team owner **Farrell Miller** and president **Martin Routhier** will work with the EMSB and the Commission scolaire de Montréal to plan special nights for students at large. Log on to www.montrealjuniors.com for more about the team or www.generationsfoundation.com.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: The 2008-2009 Entertainment Book will be available beginning in late August 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. Sadly, Calvin Peters passed away in his sleep on August 27. For more information on the book,s 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.

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.

STEPPING UP: The Stepping Up program, which helps demystify the high school entrance exam process, and answer some common questions about high school applications and programs, has launched a new website at www.steppingup.net. The high school application process has changed considerably over the years. Private schools have adopted the use of the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT) exam and a growing number of public high schools have also introduced their own exams. Interviews are also a common part of the admission process.

“Having had children of our own go through this process, we understand that it can be a very stressful experience for your children, as well as for yourselves as parents,” state **Gary and Ingrid Poupart**, who run the program. “Our goal is to help your child to better understand the high school admissions process, whether in the private or public sector. We have discovered that most children are unaware of what is expected of them during this process, and this is a huge cause of stress. We believe that we can help reduce this stress by instilling the understanding and confidence needed so that they will be able to

better perform when it comes to writing admission exams and being interviewed. We offer a wide range of options to help your child build the skills needed to perform their best on these demanding exams and interviews.”

On the website, visitors can learn more about Stepping Up and the many products that are offered. The website will allow you to register and pay for their popular fall workshops. They have also introduced their first in a series of practice exams booklets for parents to practice with their children at home.

TUTORIAL SERVICES: Alumno is an education center, which provides tutorial services to all elementary and all high school students in all subjects. Our purpose is to work with students who want to maintain their grades to remain a level ahead of their studies, in addition to those who have fallen behind in their classes. We start by evaluating each student, to appraise their present acumen to the fullest extent. We then prepare a customized tutorial plan for each student that concentrates on enhancing those aspects of academia upon which it is considered that the greatest attention is required. We have designed and developed effective tutorial programs with one-on-one individual attention, to assist and guide each student to achieve 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 vital it is 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" or for more information at 514.364.0444 or email info@alumnoservices.com and ask for Nadine.

SCRATCHCARD BENEFITS: Looking for a fundraiser? An organization called

efundraising.com is proposing a scratchcard option.

- Cards can be personalized for any group.
- You receive 10% free bonus cards.
- Discount with upfront payment (**25% off orders of 50-99 cards, 50% off orders of 100 cards or more**)
- 30 day credit option available
- Low donation amounts for your supporters ranging from FREE to \$2.50.
- Over 30 Scratchcard varieties to choose from
- As a thank you, each of your supporters receives a coupon sheet of brand names including **Pizza Hut, KFC, Famous Players and Cinéplex Odeon movie theatres, ice cream and more.**

For more details, contact **Martin Gendron** at 1-888-875-1245 ext.2365
martin.gendron@rd.com

ADULT AND VOCATIONAL SERVICES

AEVS: The Adult Education and Vocational Services (AEVS) Department began their advertising campaign on August 4 for three weeks on television stations CTV Montreal, Telelatino, CJNT and WPTZ. They also had their admission guides inserted into *The Gazette* on Saturday August 16. There has also been a lot of ads in community newspapers, placed by the Centres.

DATES OF NOTE

September 10, 2008

10th anniversary kickoff

October 5, 2008

World Teachers Day

October 5 to 11, 2008

Fire Prevention Week

www.afleq.ca

October 8 to 12, 2008

Quebec Literacy Week

October 13, 2008

Thanksgiving

October 21 and 22, 2008

Career Fair For High School Students
Hosted by EMSB Student Services
Department and Adult Education and
Vocational Services
St. Pius X Adult Centre
9955 Papineau, Ahuntsic

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, Montreal

December 10, 2008

Human Rights Day

December 22, 2008 to January 5, 2009

Christmas Break

PLEINS FEUX SUR FIELDING**LA CSEM PRENDRA PART À LA FOIRE DE L'ÉDUCATION**

Les parents qui sont préoccupés par les choix académiques pour leurs enfants devraient assister à la Foire de l'Éducation des familles montréalaises le 22 septembre (17 h à 20 h) au Holiday Inn, 420, rue Sherbrooke ouest. La CSEM et plusieurs de ses écoles ont des kiosques d'information. Commanditée par *Global Television*, cet évènement donne aux parents l'occasion d'obtenir plus d'information au sujet de ces écoles et commissions scolaires. Pour consulter la liste complète des participants, veuillez vérifier www.montrealfamilies.ca et, pour plus de renseignements, appeler au (514) 487-8881.

TOURNOI DE GOLF: La CSEM a tenu son cinquième tournoi de golf du Fonds des

bourses d'études le 27 juin dernier au Club de Golf St Raphaël de l'île Bizard. Le président du Montréal Impact et homme d'affaires bien connu **Joey Saputo** en a été le président honoraire.

Un nombre record de 240 golfeurs a aidé à recueillir plus de 40 000 \$ qui seront versés au Fonds de bourses d'études de la CSEM qui aide plusieurs diplômés de la CSEM à poursuivre leurs études post-secondaires au CEGP ou en formation professionnelle.

En sus des 18 trous de golf, il y a eu un brunch, un dîner, un grand nombre de fabuleux prix de présence (un manteau doublé de fourrure, des bâtons de golf, un tricot Montréal Impact signé et encadré, un ordinateur portatif Dell, un ordinateur IMAC, une fin de de semaine à Saint-Adolphe et des bijoux), plus des prix pour le lancer le plus long et le plus près du trou. Il n'y a pas eu de trou d'un coup durant la journée. Les participants ont déployé de vaillants efforts au 18^{ème} trou pour essayer de gagner une automobile offerte par Saturn Mondial. Le comité organisateur de ce tournoi était présidé par **Mario Tirelli**, directeur général adjoint, aidé par son prédécesseur **Donald A. Reid**. Au banquet de remise de prix, M. Tirelli et M. Reid ont remercié Mère Nature d'avoir offert cinq journées ensoleillées pour les cinq dernières années du tournoi. Le tournoi de 2009 aura lieu au même endroit le lundi 29 juin.

CLUB DE LIVRES D'ÉTÉ: **Marzia Michielli**, directrice de la Région 1, a récemment introduit le Club de livres d'été. La CSEM avait près de 1 000 livres à donner aux élèves des écoles primaires. Ils ont servi à motiver les élèves à lire durant les mois d'été. **Avant** le 23 juin, les élèves ont indiqué le nombre de livres qu'ils allaient lire en été. Tout au long de l'été, ils ont été encouragés à demander à leurs parents de les amener à la bibliothèque pour emprunter des livres (en français et en anglais). **À leur retour à l'école** pour la nouvelle année, ils remettront leur

journal de lecture mentionnant le nombre de livres lus. Chaque école participante recevra près de 80 livres dans le cadre de cette initiative.

COMITÉ CENTRAL D'ÉLÈVES : La CSEM a l'intention d'établir son premier Comité central d'élèves pour donner l'occasion aux élèves du secondaire de se réunir régulièrement. Le mandat du comité sera de : communiquer les sujets et les intérêts des élèves de la CSEM, améliorer les communications entre l'école et la communauté, explorer des solutions qui produiront un environnement scolaire enrichi, développer des habiletés de leadership, participer au processus de consultation de la CSEM et représenter les élèves de la CSEM par le biais de recommandations au conseil des commissaires.

PUBLICATIONS : Une édition spéciale du 10^e anniversaire de *EMSB Express* sera bientôt envoyée aux écoles pour distribution. Elle est déjà affichée aux sections Nouvelles et 10^e anniversaire du site Web de la CSEM. En outre, de nouveaux calendriers muraux ont été distribués aux écoles et centres tandis que le guide 2008-2009 des écoles secondaires sera envoyé à tous les élèves de 6^e année.

PORTES OUVERTES : Une liste complète des portes ouvertes des écoles primaires et secondaires se trouve au site Web de la CSEM.

ÉTHIQUE ET CULTURE RELIGIEUSE : L'année scolaire 2007-2008 a marqué la fin des cours d'enseignement moral et religieux catholique (EMRC), d'enseignement moral et religieux protestante (EMRP) et d'enseignement moral (EM) dispensés dans les écoles de la CSEM. Ils seront remplacés par le nouveau programme Éthique et culture religieuse (ÉCR) qui sera mis en place en septembre 2008. Ce programme n'inclut pas d'instruction religieuse et il est non confessionnel. Le Régime pédagogique stipule

que le cours d'Éthique et de culture religieuse est obligatoire au primaire et au secondaire.

L'an dernier, les Services pédagogiques ont offert deux journées pédagogiques de formation à l'échelle de la Commission pour permettre aux enseignant(e)s de se familiariser avec le programme ÉCR avant la date de mise en œuvre. Ces sessions de formation ont été animées par une équipe de 12 conseillers pédagogiques et d'enseignants du niveau primaire et secondaire qui avaient obtenu perfectionnement professionnel et soutien du MELS et des Services pédagogiques de la CSEM au cours des deux années précédentes. Grâce à cette équipe, près de 740 enseignant(e)s du primaire et du secondaire ont été en mesure d'assister à ces sessions de formation.

Au printemps dernier, le programme ÉCR a été présenté aux directions des écoles primaires et secondaires ainsi qu'aux membres du comité des affaires pédagogiques et des services éducatifs. Une session d'information animée par des représentants du MELS a aussi été offerte à certains membres des conseils d'établissement. Une trousse d'information conçue pour les conseils d'établissement et les parents a été envoyée par le MELS à chaque école. En outre, les parents ont aussi reçu une brochure détaillant le nouveau cours ÉCR.

GANGS DE RUES : *The Big Step* est une équipe de conseillers qui se spécialisent en prévention des gangs de rues. Ils offrent des séminaires dans les écoles pour enseigner aux jeunes et aux parents comment éviter de se joindre ou devenir des victimes des gangs de rues. Les services incluent un discours, un mini-documentaire sur vidéo sur les rues et présentant des parents qui ont perdu des enfants suite à la violence des gangs de rues. Des livres de bandes dessinées donnant des exemples de la vie dans les rues et des résultats des choix adoptés sont distribués. Le livre de bandes dessinées est présenté en noir et blanc et donne aux élèves l'occasion de

colorer les images pour mieux apprécier son contenu. Informations : (514) 655-0311.

STEPPING UP : Le programme *Stepping Up* qui aide à démystifier le processus d'examen d'entrée au secondaire, et répondre à quelques questions courantes au sujet des demandes d'admission et des programmes du secondaire, a lancé un nouveau site Web à www.steppingup.net. Le processus de demande d'admission au secondaire a changé considérablement au cours des années. Les écoles privées ont adopté l'utilisation du Test d'admission à l'école secondaire et un nombre croissant d'écoles secondaires publiques ont aussi introduit leurs propres examens. Les entrevues font aussi partie du processus d'admission.

« Ayant des enfants qui passent à travers ce procédé, nous comprenons que cette expérience peut être très stressante pour vos enfants ainsi que pour les parents » déclarent **Gary et Ingrid Poupart**, qui administrent le programme. « Notre but est d'aider l'enfant à mieux comprendre le processus d'admission à l'école secondaire, privée ou publique. Nous avons constaté que la plupart des enfants ignorent ce que l'on attend d'eux durant ce processus et ceci est une énorme cause de stress. Nous croyons que nous pouvons aider à réduire ce stress en inculquant la compréhension et la confiance requises afin qu'ils soient en mesure d'avoir un meilleur rendement lorsqu'ils passent des examens ou des entrevues. Nous offrons une vaste gamme d'options afin d'aider votre enfant à acquérir les habiletés requises pour donner son meilleur rendement pour ces examens et entrevues éprouvants. »

Sur le site Web, les visiteurs peuvent obtenir plus d'information au sujet de *Stepping Up* et des produits qui sont offerts. Le site Web vous permet de vous inscrire et de payer leurs populaires ateliers d'automne. Ils ont aussi introduit le premier d'une série de livrets d'examens afin que les parents les pratiquent avec leurs enfants à la maison.

DATES À RETENIR

10 septembre 2008

Lancement du 10^e anniversaire

5 octobre 2008

Journée mondiale des enseignants

5 au 11 octobre 2008

Semaine de prévention des incendies

www.afleq.ca

8 au 12 octobre 2008

Semaine québécoise d'alphabétisation

13 octobre 2008

Action de Grâces

21 et 22 octobre 2008

Foire de carrières pour les élèves du secondaire

Présentée par le Service d'éducation des adultes et de la formation professionnelle de la CSEM

Centre d'adultes St. Pius X

9955 Papineau, Ahuntsic

3 au 7 novembre 2008

Semaine nationale d'éducation aux médias

11 novembre 2008

Jour du Souvenir

20 et 21 novembre 2008

Congrès de l'Association provinciale des enseignantes et enseignants du Québec (APEEQ)

Palais des congrès, Montréal

10 décembre 2008

Journée des droits de la personne

22 décembre 2008 au 5 janvier 2009

Congé de Noël

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

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www.emsb.qc.ca

Coming Soon!!!!

Inspirations – a newspaper for special needs parents and students