



Woodlands School Council News

Council Executive - Chair: Sangeeta Chopra-Charron, Brenda Patterson

November 2007

3225 Erindale Station Road, Mississauga, Ontario, L5C 1Y5, Phone: 905-279-0575

Important Dates

- November 2 - Commencement
- November 5
Professional Learning Day
(No School for Students)
- November 7
Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day
Secondary Pathways Fair
- November 8
Secondary Mid-term Reports Issued
- November 13th – November 16th
Grad Photos
- November 15
Secondary Parents' Night
- November 26
School Council Meeting
- December 5
Co-op Career Fair
- December 6
Early Release Day(11:40)
- December 12
Snow Show
- December 21
Holiday Assembly
(Modified Day)
- December 24 - January 4
Winter Holidays
- January 9
University Application Dead
line
- January 14 - Friday, January 18 In-
Class Evaluations
- January 21
Grade 9 EQAO Math Test
- January 24 - January 30
Secondary Exams
- February 1st
Semester 2 Begins

School Website

<http://woodlands.peelschools.org>

School Council Contact

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Brenda Patterson (Co-chair)
brendapatterson@rogers.com

Take Our Kids to Work

Wednesday, November 7, 2007, is the 13th annual TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK Day. Grade 9 students from all across Canada are invited to spend TOKW day job shadowing a parent, relative, adult friend, or volunteer host. This is an exciting opportunity for all our Grade 9's to experience the workplace.

CAMP I CAN

From July 4 - August 2, The Woodlands was the site of our 2nd annual CAMP I CAN. The camp is an alternative to summer school and allows students to complete grade 9/10 credits in which they were previously unsuccessful. The program offers an alternative learning environment and academic work is alternated with fun, camp style activities chosen to boost learning skills: organization, teamwork, initiative, etc. Students are invited to join the program in which this past summer, 30 students and 3 teachers were involved.

IDC4U7 - FINANCIAL SECURITIES

Students in the Financial Securities course will have the opportunity to compete in the Financial Securities Portfolio Competition Sponsored by the Investor Education Fund. Selected portfolios will be submitted to this province-wide activity. In early December, groups of students will be guests at a Canadian Club of Toronto luncheon meeting. The speaker will be David Dodge, Governor of the Bank of Canada. For more information, please contact Mr. Kake in the Business Studies department at 905-279-0575 ext. 344.

Postsecondary Pathways Fair

On Wednesday, November 7 The Woodlands School held a Postsecondary Pathways Fair for students in Grades 10-12. Students had an opportunity to ask questions and gather information about various post-secondary options, including workplace training, apprenticeships, colleges and universities. Liaison personnel from a number of Ontario Colleges and Universities will be available, as well as reps. from private career colleges and industry sectors. The event will take place in Gym AB during Periods 1/2.

Co-op Education



Co-op Education started off in the usual manner this year. Again, we are running 2, 3 and 4 credit programs to meet the

needs of our students. All students spent the first 3 weeks in Pre-placement and now, are reporting to suitable work placements. We welcome our new employers, including B & G Car Sales, Dr. St. Hillaire Dental, Harborn Dental, Cushman & Wakefield LePage, Mississauga Board of Trade, Sunwing Vacations, Dr. Bubanovich, Woodbine Toyota, Coulson Contracting, Fairwind Public School, Stitches, GTA Midways, and Skinner & Middlebrook. Thanks to our previous employers for participating in this important program.

Enhanced Learning Program News

Parents of students in the Enhanced Learning Program will have just received their child's IEP. The Peel District School Board's Gifted Plan was developed at The Woodlands in consultation with coordinators of all other regional centres. We are proud to have played such an important leadership role in aligning the regional enhanced centres in Peel. Parents looking to find out more about how each individual enhanced course aligns with the plan are directed to the Alternative Programming Page that accompanies the standard course outlines. As always, opportunities for gifted and highly motivated students are updated frequently on the following website:

<http://teacherweb.com/ON/TheWoodlandsSchool/EnhancedLearningProgram/NewsFlash.stm> Add your email address to the distribution list for regular updates. Please contact Ms. Quinn to add your email address to the distribution list for regular updates.

Drama Club

This fall brought out old and new members, swelling our numbers to over 60. Enthusiasm has been abundant, with over 50 students auditioning for the upcoming "Theatre Shorts", an evening of one-act plays which will be taking place on November 22nd/23rd. Selected plays will then move on to represent our school at the prestigious SEARS Festival, a one-act play competition taking place throughout the province of Ontario. Before this, our budding actors and writers will have the chance to perfect their performances in front of a panel of professional adjudicators at the regional *StudentWrights* Workshop. Best of luck!

ENTREPRENEURSHIP HAS IT ALL" Conference

On October 17th, 15 grade 8 students experienced a wonderful opportunity to participate in a Youth-In-Motion conference focusing on entrepreneurship and the enterprising person. Accompanied by Mr. G. Samuels, Guidance Counselor, to the Red Rose Convention Centre, the students explored meaningful career / life opportunities while being inspired to be contributing Canadian citizens.

Along with 300 other students from across Peel, these students had an exciting day of interactive "talk show" workshops, round tables and keynote speakers. This was a tremendous opportunity for them to meet dynamic, successful entrepreneurs from diverse cultures and various walks of life.

The grade 8 students felt that the conference opened their eyes to new ideas and would recommend attending future conferences each year! Just awesome!

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

The grade 8's are fortunate enough to participate again in an innovative one-day program that will change the way they view their future. Junior Achievement of Central Ontario along with their corporate volunteers from the Bank of Montreal (BMO) will present "Economics of Staying in School" (ESIS) on November 28th.

ESIS allows students to understand how each opportunity is a stepping-stone to success and realize the financial demands and constraints of independence. Students can reflect on the advantages of staying in school to acquire the knowledge/skills needed for long-term career success. Please contact Mr. Samuels, grade 7/8 Counselor for further details.

Elementary VOICE 7/8

Once again, the grade 7/8 "VOICE" (Student Council) has been elected; two students from each grade 7/8 class have been chosen to represent their fellow peers. Together with VOICE coordinators Mr. G. Samuels/ Mr. S. Harris, these leadership students will attend regular meetings to present future initiatives and concerns that have been raised in their classes. It will be the responsibility of these "VOICE" reps to help coordinate special events and other important school activities. The grade 7/8 classes are looking forward to another wonderful year beginning with a Fall Spirit Day and dance being held on October 31st. Many other fabulous special events and activities are already in the works!

DECA at THE WOODLANDS SCHOOL

DECA is an international association of business students which has been operating at The Woodlands for the past seven years. Every year, at every level of competition -regional, provincial, and international - Woodlands students have earned top honours. This year we have 124 DECA members, all of whom will participate on November 7, at an in-school competitive event. This will give members a chance to practice their test taking and role-playing skills in preparation for the Peel regional competitions taking place on November 24/29. Students will be able to earn the right to represent the county at provincials in February 2008. At provincials, students compete to form part of the Ontario delegation traveling to Atlanta in April to compete at the international level. We look forward to an amazing year.

Woodlands Athletic Association

The Woodlands Athletic Association is back in full swing now that school has begun! The 2007-2008 season is shaping up quite nicely with the football buyout taking place on October 24th period 5! This will be followed closely by the volleyball intramurals in Oct/Nov and floor hockey intramurals in February! Look for the posters advertising these events and more on a Woodlands wall near you!

Tennis

After a year of absence, the tennis team came back stronger than ever before. The team consisted of 11 seniors and 13 juniors. Six strong teams qualified for the ROPSSAA finals, at the Ontario Racquet Club. Representing the seniors were Shekhar Sexana (singles), Ian Lau (singles) and Liang Zeng & Annie Balgobin (mixed doubles). The junior team consisted of Ryan Lau (singles), Vishal Palaniappan & Thomas Le (boys doubles), and Charlie Tan & Katia Souslova (mixed doubles). Ryan Lau was crowned the ROPSSAA champion for junior boys singles and our junior boys team won the team championship trophy! Congratulations!

Terry Fox Fundraising

The Woodlands Elementary Students raised \$ 246.70 for Terry Fox Cancer Research.



Counting On You

Counting On You (COY) is an after school program designed to give Grades 7-10 students extra support with literacy and numeracy skills. The Grade 9/10 Math Literacy course prepares students for the EQAO *Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics* tests written at the end of each semester. COY teachers work with students on understanding the language of the EQAO test and the concepts taught in the Grade 9 Math curriculum. The focus of the Grade 9/10 Literacy course is to prepare students for the *Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test* (OSSLT) written every March. Students taking COY learn to write news stories as well as concise paragraphs and essays, and to read graphic organizers. Students enrolled in the Grades 7/8 Literacy and Math Literacy courses are offered a parallel curriculum to those students in Grades 9/10. Elementary students work on curriculum-based activities that improve general literacy and numeracy skills, as well as prepare them for future studies in high school.

Since its inception over five years ago, this program has grown to over 100 students in eleven classes running every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-5 p.m. While most Term 1 classes have reached max. enrollment, every effort will be made to accommodate students who still wish to join COY. Please contact Mrs. Perugini (daphne.perugini@peelsb.com) for info. on the COY program, or visit http://www.peelschools.org/alt_programs/con_ed/literacy_math/counting_on_you.htm for general information.

Multicultural Settlement and Education Partnership

New comer families face many changes in Canada. To help them, MSEP services are available at Woodlands. What is MSEP? The *Multicultural Settlement and Education Partnership* is a settlement service program that helps newcomer parents and students successfully integrate into Canadian society. MSEP provides settlement services to new immigrant families from the base of their local school. MSEP settlement workers help parents better understand the Canadian way of life, and help schools identify the needs of newcomer students and families. Please feel free to contact Betty Dai, our settlement worker at 905-302-0508 or e-mail her at bdai@cicswis.ca.

McMaster Engineering & Science Olympics



17 Woodlands students in six teams entered the 2007 McMaster Engineering and Science Olympics events held on October 18, 2007. The teams were guided by Mr. Shaikh from the Science Department. There were over 1000 participants from 55 schools. The Woodlands students' proudly brought back three silver medals and 1 bronze medal. Congratulations to the students and Mr. Shaikh.

Woodlands Student takes Gold

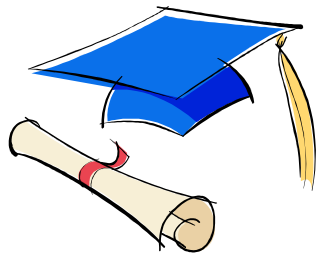


Out of more than 600 students who participated in the 2007 Shad Valley /RBC Entrepreneurship Cup competition, Daivik Doshi and his team won gold developing a product based on "Zero Waste Technology". The student and his team developed a product to be used in hotels which would eliminate the use of plastic water bottles for shampoo and conditioner. After developing the product at University of British Columbia, the gold winning team also developed a prototype, a marketing plan and a website, www.mist.fx.nu. Congratulations to Daivik and the entire team.

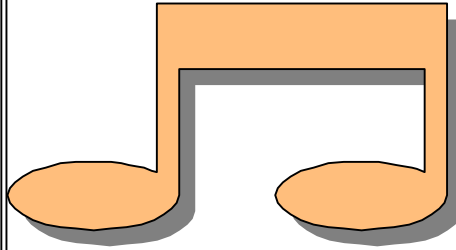
Making My Way (Success for all Students)

Parents are urged to consult the website for Making my way at www.makingmyway.ca This site gives resources offered by the Peel District School Board to:

- Support students in graduating from high school
- Prepare them to pursue their post-secondary goals



Music Department

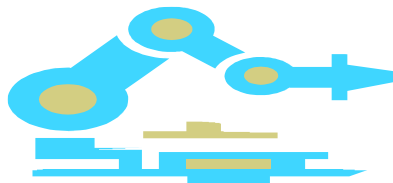


The Woodlands Music Department has been busily putting the final touches on our CD which was recorded at the Living Arts Centre. 2007: Shaken Not Stirred will be released next month, featuring the Senior Concert Band, Concert Choir, Senior String Ensemble and the Senior Jazz Band. Sixty of these students will represent Mississauga and The Woodlands at the Harrogate International Youth Music Festival next March in England. The grade nine students will be attending a concert featuring Nexus and the Toronto Symphony at Roy Thomson Hall on Thursday, November 22nd. Be sure to mark Wednesday, December 12th on your calendar for our annual Snow Show Concert!

Robotics

This year the Robotics Team will be competing in the following events: Eastern Canadian Robot conference, Micromania, and the big one, Skills Canada. Construction has already begun on these projects, and so far it looks good.

Donations to this expensive undertaking or expertise would be greatly appreciated. Contact Ms. H. Lawrie ext. 532



School Council Updates



The members of the Woodlands School Council have several projects underway. Several Committees are being formed and parent volunteers are required. The committees include:

- Fundraising for the new School Council Website
- Development of the School Council website
- Enhancing parent participation
- Creating a breakfast program

The Woodlands School Council Executive has an opening for the position of "Secretary".

If you are interested in the position of School Council Secretary or if you are interested in assisting with any of these committees, please contact Sangeeta Chopra-Charron (Co-chair) at: sccharron@rogers.com