

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MYSTERY LAKE



District Newsletter

Issue 01 - February 2013

Welcome to the School District of Mystery Lake

TRUSTEE TALK

by Janet Brady

On behalf of the school trustees, I'd like to welcome you to the first District newsletter. The trustees look forward to working on your behalf to provide an excellent public education system to the diverse student population residing in the Thompson area.

The trustees will continue to participate in a wide range of activities such as Science Fair, Mini Winter Festival, Knights of Columbus, and I Love to Read month. Since becoming a trustee in November 2011, one of the highlights for me was observing the grade 6 students at Deerwood School construct robots as part of their science curriculum.

The Board of School Trustees invites parents and members of the public to attend the District's budget consultation meeting to be held in late February. As elected officials, trustees are here to work on your behalf to provide your children with a relevant and high quality public education. The Board of Trustees looks forward to working together with you to achieve this goal. Please feel free to contact us with your concerns. Thank you!

RDPC 50th ANNIVERSARY

On the weekend of September 28-30, 2012, R.D. Parker Collegiate held a reunion to celebrate its 50th birthday, also being referred to as "one of the biggest parties Thompson has ever seen." Approximately 300 attended the weekend festivities. Most of those individuals travelled back to Thompson for the event, some of whom have not been in Thompson for over 40 years. One of the first teachers at Thompson High School in the early 1960s, Menno Enns, attended. The weekend's itinerary consisted of a meet and greet on Friday, parade, car rally, breakfast at the school cafeteria on Saturday and Sunday, tours of the schools available throughout the days, and a gala dinner held in the gymnasium at the Rec. Center.



IMAGE COURTESY OF VOLKER BECKHANN

Thank you to those staff that attended the Honour Roll Evening celebrating the success of 116+ of our students! Awards were given to last year's grade 9-10-11 students who achieved Honours and Honours With Distinction. In addition, Waterloo Math Contest awards were given along with the School District Board of trustees Student Awards for Academic Excellence. Special thanks to Susan Horvath for taking the lead in this successful event celebrating success. Thanks also to: Susan Abel, Tracy Hanson, Matthew Allard, Amy Ricketts-Slack, Paul Fricker, Cathy Neziol, Sandra Crawford, Edith Steeves, Kelli Bastow & Bobby Ellis.



Congratulations to Danielle Shymanski, a Grade 12 student at RDPC on being selected as a regional semi-finalist for the 2012 Loran Award. The Loran Award is open to every graduating high school student from coast to coast. To be eligible for this award, students

must be in their graduating year of high school, and present a minimum cumulative average of 85%. The Loran Award recipients are people of strong moral character who have demonstrated academic excellence and potential as leaders. They are curious by nature, interested in a wide range of subjects and willing to take meaningful risks.

SDML Bursaries were granted to the students with the highest academic average as follows:

Grade 9 SDML

Bursary - Morgan Hanson-Oliveira

Grade 10 SDML

Bursary - Isha Ralhan

Grade 11 SDML

Bursary - Leah Derksen

Off-Campus Program Recipients -

Rhonda Anderson for FUTURES and Alycia Cook for the ECHOES Program

Waterloo Math Contest Winners:

Nick Haney for Grade 11 and Almahir Choudhury for Grade 9



RDPC HONORS WITH DISTICTION 85% and above

GRADE 9

Baker, PARKER
 Bhagria, VISHAL
 Brass, KYLE
 Bryan, BRAXTON
 Cober, BRENT
 De, AJANTA
 Dew, GABRIEL
 Dnistransky, DANIELLE
 Forest, EVAN
 Johnson, ALI
 Hanson, KENDRA

Hanson-Oliveira, MORGAN
 Hatley, MICHAEL
 Hykawy, RHYS
 Khawar, NOMAN
 Kim, SAMMY
 Kipling, CASEY
 Lutz, EVAN
 Magaji, VATINEH
 Neziol, CASSANDRA
 Olson, TAYLOR
 Patel, SNEHIT
 Ralhan, SHIVANI
 Scaddan, KIMBERLEY
 Shahbaz, SUBANA
 Singha, MIA
 Toporowsky, DEPREECE

GRADE 10

Ajao, SARAH
 Belanger, MACKENZIE
 Bonner-Proulx, SARAH
 Choudhury, AL MAHIR
 ASEF
 Ellsworth, KAYLA
 Fitzner, ALEXIS
 Franko, TORI
 Howard, DEANDRA
 Kapoor, CHHAYA
 Kooragayala, SAI
 ABHIGNA
 Larock, RYAN
 Maini, SHIVAM
 Miscavish, LORI
 Ralhan, ISHA

Ralhan, VANYA
 Robertson, ASHLEY
 Robertson, NICOLE
 Shumka, CHANEL
 Taylor, CAYLIN
 Turton, ALLISON
 Williams, KRYSTIN
 Van De Kerckhove, DANIELLE

GRADE 11

Brown, LAURISSA
 Campbell, ERIK
 Choudhry, KHALIL
 Derksen, LEAH
 Fisher, CATHARINE
 Friedrichsen, GUNNAR
 Ghai, SUMIT

Kelly, CHRISTINA
 Kreuger, SHERISE
 Labossiere, ALEXIS
 Mole, VICTOR
 Pandey, ANITA
 Patel, SHIVANI
 Paulic, JUSTIN
 Proulx, ASHLEY
 Ralhan, TUSHAR
 Ryan, EMILY
 Sawna, JASMINE
 Shahbaz, MAHEEN
 Shymanski, DANIELLE
 Soni, HARSH
 White, SHAYLYN



MARIANA'S TRENCH

In early October the Junior (Grade 9) Choir at R.D. Parker Collegiate was hand-selected by Marianas Trench to perform alongside them on stage at the MTS Centre in Winnipeg. The choir was chosen after having arranged, rehearsed, and submitted a video recording of themselves performing the band's song "Stutter". After being chosen the choir was given the task of raising funds and organizing a trip to Winnipeg in a very short

period of time. The Thompson Community came together to help fund the trip, especially the Thompson Music Parents Association, USW Local 6166, the Thompson Teachers' Association, Arctic Radio, and many individuals. On October 21st the choir sang "Stutter" and "Fallout" with Marianas Trench as part of their "Face the Music" cross-Canada tour. Please feel free to follow the link to the YouTube video Mr. Allard pieced together about the concert: http://youtu.be/S_w_dqqMp4s

SENIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Senior Girls Volleyball team had an exciting season. With lots of hard work and dedication the girls won the top spot in Zone 11. Off to provincials they went, where they had the opportunity to compete at an elite level. They improved every game they played gaining valuable experience. The girls were excellent representatives of R.D.Parker athletics on and off the court. We are very



proud of their sportsmanship. Thanks to Monica Munro, the whole P.E department and administration (Kelly Scallion and Sandra Crawford) for all their help and support. A special thanks to the parents for their support this season and especially for taking the time to drive our team to provincials. I would also like to send a very special thanks to Marnie Krentz for all the extras she did this year.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb. 13- District Professional Development Day- No School
- March- Mini Winter Festival Month
- March 25-29- Spring Break
- April 17- K-8 Student Led Conferences
- April 26- Knight of Columbus track meet
- May 9- District Professional Development Day- No School
- May 10- RDPC Prom
- May 21-24- Aboriginal Awareness Week
- June 26- RDPC Graduation
- June 28- Last day of school

Science Fair Dates

- Burntwood Science Fair – February 28, 2013
- Deerwood Science Fair – February 12, 2013
- Juniper Science Fair – February 26, 2013
- Riverside Science Fair – February 12, 2013
- Westwood Science Fair – February 19, 2013

City Wide Science Fair

- Friday, March 8, 2013 - set up
- Saturday, March 9, 2013 is for judging and public viewing

On December 14th, the School District of Mystery Lake held a Christmas party for district employees' children. Approximately 40 children attended this event to make crafts such as Lifesaver trains, Santa ornaments, and jingle bell bracelets. They also had the opportunity to decorate Christmas trees, using icing, M&M's, chocolate chips, and marshmallows. This station was a hit for all the children-big and small. During the evening, parents and children were welcome to go outside and roast hot dogs in the fire pits. Christmas carols could be heard in the air which helped warm the evening outside. To end off the wonderful event, a special appearance was made by Santa who brought huge smiles to the children's faces. A special thank you goes out to all District employees who helped out to make this event such a huge success for our children.



November was "Movember" Many gentlemen – staff and students – took up the challenge. On November 30, it was time to get rid of the efforts whether distinguished or scruffy. The honours of shaving off a 'stache' were raffled off by Student Council in the forum. The results, \$1212 dollars was raised for Prostate Cancer. Mr. Itson's alone went for \$150!



The students in our L2 class had a great time at the Fur Tables. This field trip was a follow up to activities and lessons which had been taught in their classroom by Loretta Dykun and Manitoba Conservation Representative, Ryan Koppchuk and local trappers, Solomon and Doreen Pronteau.

They received VIP treatment when they were allowed to go behind the Fur Buyers' table and have a group picture taken with Bruno De Cesco, an experienced local fur buyer. The students recognized Bruno from the Sharing Circle video on the 2004 Fur Tables. He gave them a warm welcome and thanked them for coming. Some of the students were happy to see friends and relatives. The students also enjoyed a beaver skinning demonstration put on by two experienced trappers, one from Alberta and one from British Columbia. Our field trip was a successful and positive event.





REMINDERS

Last day to change class is Thursday Feb 22nd.

Last day to drop class is Friday March 22nd.

For more information please contact Student Services at (204) 677-6228.

ATTENTION RD PARKER COLLEGIATE PARENTS OF GRADE 12 STUDENTS

Please remind students to see their counselor or to make an appointment to have their Grad Check done as soon as possible. You can call Student Services secretary at (204) 677-6228 or email her at: atimmons@mysterynet.mb.ca to have an appointment set up. Thank you.

Lots of fun and practical work is being done in Mr. Siddle's grade 11 major carpentry course. The first term revolves around concrete and all its applications. Since concrete can be a bit "dry", to make it more exciting the theme and practical were geared towards the Halloween theme. The students decided to make tombstones for a school display. First off, the students needed to learn different types of concrete used around residential construction. They then had to draw what their tombstone was going to look like with measurements. The students then had to construct their forms using the various machines; band saw, table saw, jointer and planer. Once the students' forms were complete they had to mix and pour concrete in their forms, add rebar for strength and, thanks to the Thompson weather for holding off just long enough for the concrete to cure, the students had great success with their tombstones. The students then built the picket fence and platform and set up the display at RD. Parker High School's forum.



A job well done by the students.

NBA basketball is back this year! About 100 students are participating in this intramural league Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school. This league gives students the chance to compete wearing the uniforms of NBA teams. It also lets students connect with adults outside the classroom. Twenty teachers, counselors and community coaches have stepped up to cheer on and ensure equal floor time for their teams. Playoffs took place the last week before Winter Break.

Local artist Jasyn Lucas has been at Parker conducting art classes with students in Ms. Moose's traditional knowledge classes and Mrs. Hart's Cree classes. They have been producing wonderful charcoal drawings of eagles, wolves and other animals.

H3 – Hands, Hearts and Hope

is our Social Justice Group that grew out of our trip to We-Day in Winnipeg. The group has been actively fundraising. October was "We Scare Hunger", which was actually Parker's second food drive of the year. The group has been selling popcorn and collecting pennies for "We Create Change". Anyone is encouraged to clean the pennies out of their change jars and drawers to bring them in. The group will be actively raising money for a village in Sierra Leone in Africa.



Congratulations to Paige Krentz, Jessica Paulic & Savannah Szocs who have successfully disassembled and reassembled a small engine! They are the first group to finish this year during Mr. Dave Caldwell's Small Engines class. Way to go, girls!

In December, all grade 7-12 students participated in the Manitoba Health Survey (YHS). The purpose of the survey is to provide a snapshot of youth health for health planning and programming with the schools and the community.

Thank you to the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba for inviting our students to hear motivational speaker, Matt Bellace. The event took place during Addictions Awareness Week. His message was well received by our students and staff.

Dr. Mary Hall, the Director of Safe Schools presented in the district for three days in November to staff and students. The sessions were on bullying and bullying prevention. There was also a free parent session in the evening of November 21.

MILE 20

The camp partnership program between UCN, the School District of Mystery Lake and Elders from Northern Manitoba is designed to promote cultural awareness and aboriginal perspectives for students and pre-service teachers. The Elders provided three days of traditional knowledge and land based teachings to students in Grades 5 & 6 from three elementary schools and two classes from RDPC.



Bring Creative Ideas to Life!

Noman designed a creative Toronto Maple Leafs logo in Computer Drafting and it was then machined!



DEERWOOD SCHOOL

Mr. Landers' Grade 7 class raised \$117.05 in the "Canadian Tire Homeless Shelter Money Drive". Items were purchased from Canadian Tire, delivered to the shelter and a tour was given to the students. Thanks to everyone that helped out by donating their Canadian Tire money....we couldn't have done it without you!



Our Dragon Welcomes our students and Guests
(Local Artist/Frank O'Donovan)



Grade 6 class built robots with Ms. Johnston



Terry Fox Walk.....all students and staff participate in an afternoon walk to help raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation. A grand total of \$458 was raised for the foundation.

WESTWOOD SCHOOL

Jen Armitage and Symphony Bradburn, grade 8 students at Westwood School, recently raised \$500 for the Canadian Cancer Society. The students and staff at Westwood School helped the girls raise the money through a bake sale and a Halloween dance. Jen made a promise that she would dye her hair pink if the school could raise \$500. Jen had to fulfill her promise and now has pink hair. The girls wanted to make a difference after family members lost the battle to cancer. Well done, Jen and Symphony. Westwood staff and students are proud of you.



Ben Spates in Ms. Bettess' grade 3 class won Fire Chief for a Day during Fire Prevention week. He is being presented with his prize by Rick Morris and Steve Molley from Thompson Fire and Emergency Services.



Mr. Murray Kissick has received the Queen's Jubilee Medal for his work with Vimy Foundation. Murray has led two school tours from Parker to Europe, passing on to his students the importance of remembering the contributions of Canadians in the World Wars.

Well done, Murray.

BURNTWOOD SCHOOL

Burntwood is offering a variety of extra-curricular programs for students after regular school hours. Some of the clubs include: writer's guild, art club, crib, intramurals, zumba, and yoga club. This is an excellent opportunity for staff and students to continue to build and strengthen a strong sense of school community.

Burntwood junior high has been keeping active during the volleyball season. Congratulations goes out to the Burntwood Bobcats volleyball teams. The girls' team won the 2012 District tournament and the boys' team came in second. Way to go BOBCATS!

Burntwood Music program has successfully raised money to purchase a number of Cajon drums to enhance their already exciting music program.

Bobcat Read a thon..... Excellent participation from grades 2 to 6. Although the contest only allowed for 2 winners; in primary 3 Moody and intermediate- 6 Brolund, we consider all who participated winners for your increased reading efforts.

Burntwood Student Council has been excellent role models for the student body in organizing projects which focus on goodwill and empathy. Students along with the Burntwood School Community have participated in shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child (filling over 25 boxes for underprivileged children) and food hampers for the Salvation Army (collecting over 700 non-perishable food items for the hampers). Just before Christmas an intermediate student council was created. They had a very successful Spirit Week and have lots of plans for the New Year.

This year we were very fortunate to have a student teacher from UCN in the junior high area. She had her students create professional brochures for different cities across Canada. The colourful brochures entice you to travel across our wonderful country.

The message of giving is also evident in the primary section of the school where three Grade 2 students have independently taken an initiative to organize a fundraising event, "Pennies for Cancer" in honour of one of their classmates. In a very short time, they raised over \$500. All monies raised will be donated to the Children's Hospital Foundation to help support the Supportive Play Program.

Grade 5's had their famous egg drop; however, this year Ms. Einarson dropped the eggs off the lift. The whole school waited in anticipation to see which grade five egg baby would survive after being carefully wrapped up for safety. However, needless to say not all eggs survived the fall. The grade 5's also had an exciting trip to the weather station.

Along with honoring academic success during monthly assemblies, the Burntwood team is also organizing a monthly activity which focuses on proactive measures to enhance a sense of school community- where we help one another, learn from one another and care about one another.



WAPANOHK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

LAND BASED EDUCATION

This 3 month program is incorporated into physical education and Cree classes and is designed to support the integration of traditional knowledge into the curriculum. Students from kindergarten to grade 8 participate in this program.



ANNUAL MAKOSEWI-KISIKAW CHRISTMAS FEAST

This annual community feast celebrates both Christmas and the Winter Solstice. It is an evening of entertainment and family bonding. Staff members, parents and students eat together and celebrate our community. This event brings in over 400 people.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Wapanohk has been very fortunate this year to have been awarded the RBC after school programming grant. This will allow us the opportunity to have after school programming for our students from 3:30 to 5:00, Monday to Friday.



LIGHTHOUSES

Lighthouses is a fund designed to help support recreational, educational and pro-social programs after hours for young Manitobans, launched by Manitoba Justice. It is a community-based crime prevention program designed to develop partnerships among youth, police, justice personnel and the community in order to promote opportunities for youth to get involved in pro-social, recreational, and crime prevention activities. Wapanohk Community School has been a Lighthouses site for two years! Approximately 35 – 40 youth attend our program from 6:00 – 9:00 two nights/week.

SHAVING

Mr. JJ challenged the students to raise \$1000.00 for The Terry Fox Foundation. When the students met and exceeded this challenge the principal, Mrs. Rempel, shaved his head and wrote \$1000.00 on the back of his head with a permanent marker.

Wapanohk Community School with staff and community volunteers are pleased to announce that they have served 2,414 breakfasts to students in the months of September & October.



ÉCOLE RIVERSIDE SCHOOL

École Riverside School celebrated its 50th Anniversary on September 28th and 29th, 2012. The 28th was the very same day School # 2 (now known as École Riverside) opened its doors 51 years ago! We were very pleased to have a well-attended assembly and tea in the afternoon. Our guest speakers included Phillip Chaddock who attended Riverside School in 1961 when it opened. He is married to Guyanne Chaddock who taught at Riverside School and their children also attended here.



Our second speaker was Ginette Poulin who attended École Riverside in the French immersion program. Ginette was a practicing physician in Thompson for the past few years.

Amy Portey and Martin Vermette scanned hundreds of pictures and Amy put together an amazing slide presentation which can be viewed on Riverside's website.

There were many past students and teachers visiting and it was wonderful to see those students from the 1960's on. Those who attended our barbeque in the afternoon had a great time. The weather couldn't have been nicer.

We would like to thank all of the volunteer parents, staff and students who helped make our celebration the success it was. We would also like to thank the businesses who donated money and prizes to help us cover the costs of our event. They were instrumental in keeping us out of the red. Remember – buy local is not just a slogan; it's what we should do!



We still have t-shirts for sale if anyone would like one. Call Marion at 677-1398

Mme. Gagne's Students Presented at International Wolf and Carnivore Conference.

On Tuesday, October 23rd, Mme. Gagne's students presented the work they have been doing with students in Babbitt, Minnesota and Mexico. They have also been working with the international wolf center in Eli, Minnesota and the Spirit Way here in Thompson. The students were very honored to share their views with the adult participants at this conference. If you would like to see a video that was recorded immediately after their presentation go to <http://socialcam.com/v/7gqcYTKg?type=email>

Gangnam Style Flashmob a Big Success.

On Friday, November 30th the grade 3-7 students from École Riverside, along with the Music Students Association of RDPC, participated in a flash mob during afternoon break in the forum at RDPC. Artist in the school Brenda Gorlick choreographed the entire event and judging from the post-mob reaction it was fun for the participants and the high school students and staff who passed by the forum during this event. Thank you to everyone who made this event a success. If you want to see what happened check out our school website at riversiderams.wikispaces.com or check our YouTube channel (search for Ecole Riverside).

JUNIPER SCHOOL

The Juniper Jaguars Boys Volleyball team defeated the Burntwood Bobcats by identical scores of 25 - 22 to win the School District of Mystery Lake Boys Volleyball Championship on Saturday, November 24th, 2012 at the RD Parker Collegiate Gym.

The boys opened the tournament playing the Westwood Vikings. They won the first game 25 - 22, but lost the second game 23- 25. This was the boys' only loss of the tournament, but on the bright side of the ball, they did win the split. They then defeated the Deerwood Dragons (Team 1) by scores of 25 - 23 and 25 - 21. This win gave them 1st place in their pool, and the right to play the Deerwood Dragons (Team 2) in the semi- final where they won: 25 - 22 and 26 - 24. This set up a repeat of last year's final with the Burntwood Bobcats. This time, our Jaguars prevailed and were victorious!



As coach, Mr. Williams wants to congratulate the boys on their perseverance and dedication this year. You have practiced hard, learned with enthusiasm and won & lost together as a team. Mr. Williams is so very proud of his "boys" and looks forward to coaching them next year as they attempt to defend their CHAMPIONSHIP!



Wear Pink and Blue Day for bullying awareness at Juniper School



Roots of Empathy Class- grades 4 and 5 with Baby Jace and mom, Alysa



D.A.R.E. completion program with CST. Cleveland

Thank you to O.N.E. for their generous donation of computer equipment to the School District of Mystery Lake.

The School District of Mystery Lake would like to welcome our new Assistant Secretary Treasurer Mrs. Kelly Knott.

GET CONNECTED

Sign into Parent Connect for a chance to win an iPod touch!

Starting February 1 through March 15, 2013, log into Parent Connect, answer the web form question and your child will receive an entry for a chance to win an iPod touch.

The winner for each school will be announced Wednesday, March 20, 2013. There is a limit of one entry per student.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the School District of Mystery Lake website. The browser's address bar shows www.mysterynet.mb.ca. The website header includes a search bar, navigation links for Home, Contact Us, and Email, and a top menu with Staff, Students, and Parents. A callout box with an arrow points to the 'Parents' link, containing the text: "Go to www.mysterynet.mb.ca and click on Parents."

The main content area features the "Parent Connect" logo and a login form. A callout box provides instructions for first-time login:

For first time login:

- * use your child's MET number
- * password will be your child's first and last name initials & date of birth (MMDDYY)
- * enter your postal code all lowercase with no spaces

For assistance, contact your School Office.

User Name and Password are case sensitive

PC-0000

MET#

Password [Forgot My Password/MET#](#)

Postal Code

Browser must allow popups - [click here to find out how to allow popups](#)

Additional text on the page includes: "Welcome to Parent Connect, the tool that helps parents communicate with teachers and schools." and "Review courses, marks and attendance together with your children to make the most of their education."