

Trinity Review

Monthly Newsletter
Issue 10, June 2011



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Program Updates

When the Peer Leaders deliver their workshops to grade 9 students on the challenges of transitioning to high school, or when they assist Student Success teachers with struggling students, or practice mediation around their school they are doing far more than conflict resolution, or helping build students' strengths and learning capabilities, or addressing the social/emotional development needs of their peers.

They become an inspiring presence for the positive growth both of individuals and their school community. They are tangible evidence that people care, that issues will not go unaddressed, that a person can take risks and excel.

Behind our Peer Leaders there are others who are achieving the same outcomes—the administrators, teachers and child youth workers and counselors who support the Peer Leaders. And as the school year has come to a close we want to thank them here for all they are doing to support Trinity's Peer Leaders.

Schools Trinity Visited in June

Sir Oliver Mowat CI

Central Commerce CI

North Albion CI

Lester B Pearson CI

Earl Haig SS

Marc Garneau CI

Norseman JMS

York Humber HS

Runnymede CI

Malvern CI

Extending Our Appreciation

A BIG THANK YOU TO...

- Sally Spofforth (Teacher) and Ricky Goldenberg (Principal) at Marc Garneau CI.
- Torie Gervais (Teacher) and Lynn Farquharson (Principal) at Runnymede CI.
- Kristen Beach (Teacher) and Denise Martyns (Principal) at York Humber HS.
- Janine Davies (Teacher) at West Hill CI.
- Christine Dickenson (Teacher) Janey Jinkinson (Child and Youth Worker) and David Buhler (Principal) at Central Commerce Collegiate.
- Peter Harrison (Teacher) and Cindy Swicker Reston (Principal) at Bendale BTI.
- Louise Boyden (Teacher) and Tom Lazarou (Principal) at Sir Oliver Mowat CI.
- Lydia Hughes (Teacher) and Renate Gonsalves (Principal) at Earl Haig SS.
- Sharmin Hasan (Child and Youth Counsellor), Jamie Yamashita (Guidance) and Peter Paulseth (Principal) at Lester B Pearson CI.
- Stephen Larratt Smith (Teacher) at George S Henry Academy.
- Mark Latter (Teacher) at Runnymede Jr. & Sr. PS.
- Carolyn Wright (Principal) at Norseman JMS.



What are Schools For?

Continued from Trinity Review—May 2011

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So some of the main ideas that have been put forward here are as follows:

A school is an intentional community

The school community's intention is academic achievement as well as the positive social/emotional development of its members

Social/emotional development is not a problem interrupting learning. Social/emotional development enables learning

Education is about knowledge and skills acquisition but also all about personal transformation, social development and community renewal

One of the greatest transformations you are ever likely to know is very close at hand—in fact it's you...picture yourself beginning school as a toddler now add a second picture of you leaving high school...what was actually going on all that time?

Is there a deeper purpose running underneath all those years? Is there a bigger idea underlying the act of public education?



Toronto Focus on Success Schools

Bendale BTI
Winston Churchill CI
Earl Haig SS
Central Commerce CI
North Albion CI
Victoria Park CI
Marc Garneau CI
Lester B. Pearson CI
Runnymede CI

What are Schools For Continued...

Is it about the deepening of personal encounter between you and other people, between you and your community, between you and the world?

other people and relate as deeply as possible?

Is it about enabling a person to stand up in their own humanity and create?

About the ones who create using their own lives and resources to make contact with another person to communicate, to inspire, counsel, admonish, entertain, share, teach, learn?



Is it about the degree of consciousness we develop to see into event and behavior—and beyond so that we stop objectifying

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What I Learned About Peer Leadership—St. Mary's Owen Sound

Sometimes you are thrown into situations that you don't expect or are uncomfortable with, you need to jump right in and take on whatever challenges that are thrown at you to the best of your ability. - **Sarah T.**

Leadership takes dedication to what you are doing and who you're leading. You have to believe in what you're saying or doing in order to lead well. - **Rachel C.**

Peer Leaders are a community of people willing to come together to help others. It's amazing to be a part of that. - **Sarah C**

In order for a group of people to let you lead, you need to be able to make connections with people in order to gain their respect so that people will listen and pay attention to what you have to say. - **Michael K.**

I have the ability to make other people go from being scared and nervous grade nines to confident people who can be themselves. - **Andrew N.**

Cooperation is more difficult than what it appears, sometimes being a leader isn't following instructions but rather making your own to be a friend and have fun. - **Laurissa C.**