



Some of Grimsby Secondary School's gold medal-winning Skills Technology participants stand proudly with teacher Scott Miller and Principal Jim Heywood.

Grimsby shines in DSBN skills challenge

HANDFUL OF STUDENTS WIN GOLD, LOOK FORWARD TO PROVINCIALS

BY BRANDI BURNS
FOR THIS WEEK

Competitions are an everyday part of life. You compete for many things; food, parking, time, marks, pay, and the list goes on. Sometimes this competing can be bad influences; sometimes good.

For the students of the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) the recent competitions they participated in were as good of an influence as you would want, and Grimsby Secondary School (GSS) students performed admirably.

Starting in the beginning of February and continuing on to just before March Break, the preliminarily competitions for the DSBN's Technological Skill Competition was as diverse as it was exciting. Competitions varied from hair dressing to floral arrangements to construction and more.

About 12 students from GSS participated in the preliminaries. GSS took home the gold for Robotics (Jessica Worrone, Bharat Bhaga, Arthur Ord, Nick Cook, Glenn Hannus and Bryan Wilsack), Job Skills (Connor O'Rourke), and Individual Carpentry (Mark Bones).

Teacher Scott Miller from Grimsby Secondary School explained that the purpose of the Technological Skills Competitions in general is to try to develop an awareness and new skill

levels within the students for their future. The competitions also help students develop a focus in school.

"The practical demonstration is good," said Miller of the competitions. "It gives the kids an opportunity to see what the other kids are doing. Also, if they're successful at what they're doing it's very rewarding. There's competition and in this case it's a good thing."

Miller said in his experience the students like to have hands on experience and this allows them that.

"It also measures their ability to think and perform. It's a good thing for the future workplace," he added.

At the end of the preliminaries the DSBN held a banquet April 2 in Niagara Falls in honour of all those who participated as well as the winners.

"It was like the Oscars of Tech. Education," said Miller.

Those winners who are moving to the next round will be competing at the Rim Centre in Kitchener, Ontario from May 5-7 for the provincials.

If they win there they venture on to Calgary to the Nationals, where if they win gold they go to the international stage. It will again be held in Calgary as it is Canada's turn to host the International round.