

STUDENT VOICE and STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

K-12

- Students, staff, schools and Indigenous Community Members led and contributed to Orange Shirt Day and Treaty Awareness initiatives.
- 463 elementary students and 295 secondary students have self-identified as First Nations, Métis or Inuit descent.
- 200 students attended the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre Youth and Elders event at the Scotia Centre.
- DSBN supported Always Vessels exhibition that ran from January 20 to March 10 at Rodman Hall Art Centre. It featured the work of nine Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee artists, whose subjects and media range widely from glass beads to photography and from language to land.

 DSBN Indigenous Education Facebook and Twitter Accounts created to promote all opportunities and workshops to students and families.

ELEMENTARY

- There were 20 teachers and 49 students who attended an Indigenous Youth Symposium at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre. During this day together, students deepened their connection to culture, strengthened leadership skills, built positive relationships, and experienced cultural teachings. Students also participated in a lacrosse and traditional sports workshop. Students' feedback from the fall Indigenous
 - Youth Symposium was considered and is being implemented in the planning of the Part 2 Youth Symposium this spring. 6 schools received an Iroquois Lacrosse demonstration with a focus on traditional sports and Lacrosse skills.
- Glynn A. Green, Forestview and Prince of Wales South students had an opportunity to hear more about treaties, living documents that represent a relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.
 Students examined a Two Row Wampum Belt. This agreement is known as the Guswenta or Two Row Wampum. When Sheila Maracle and Ronda Menard visited the schools, Sheila also explained the Hiawatha Belt.
- 6 schools received a Tribal Vision presentation, First Nations powwow style singing and dancing with cultural and historical information.

- Students and teachers attended the Louis Riel Day event hosted by Métis Nation of Ontario and took part in a Métis flag raising ceremony, a traditional meal, dance and games.
- Prince of Wales Thorold held an Indigenous Treaty
 Awareness community/school event. Pro-grant and
 Speak-up Grants were received. The focus was on
 Wampum Belts, We Are All Treaty People Kit activities,
 Traditional Art, Music and Food.
- An Indigenous tutor from Brock University was hired to help support Indigenous elementary students.



SECONDARY

- Students in the Courage to Soar Indigenous program organized a variety of learning opportunities for students and staff including: lacrosse clinics and a full day event entitled "Igniting Knowledge and Nurturing Our Wellness" with over 130 participants.
- In November, over 300 students from all schools participated in the Student Voice Forum. 41 students acted as facilitators to organize the day, create the themes and guide the questions. Participants and facilitators represented DSBN's diverse student population including students that identify as FNMI.
- Students participated in community events and activities supported by the DSBN Indigenous Team, e.g.,
 Celebration of Nations, viewing of Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World, and viewing of Angry Inuk.
- The DSBN's Indigenous re-engagement effort supported 43 grade 9 and 10 students during semester one to successfully achieve their credits.



Giidaajunadaad (Nancy Rowe) sharing Anishinaabe teachings of the natural cycle and the moon cycle and how we are connected to the moon and Mother Earth with NAC20 class First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies History Course students.

- Indigenous community members and Indigenous team members provided Indigenous teachings and perspectives to over 135 groups of students in semester 1:
 - Residential Survivors Roberta Hill and Dawn Hill.
 - Students engaged in Indigenous self-esteem and mental-health activities with Elder Jackie and Oliver Nobosin.
 - Jennifer Harper from Cheekbone Beauty, an Anishinabe social entrepreneur visited several Business and First Nations, Métis and Inuit Classes.
 - Students visited the "Walking With Our Sisters" Installation at Six Nations.
 - Nancy Rowe shared teachings of how we are connected to the moon, the water and Mother Earth and supported experiential learning opportunities for Grade 11 Environmental Science students at Balls Falls and Grade 9 Geography Students at DSBN Walker Living Campus.
 - Cindy Biancaniello visited several First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies classrooms.
 - Students visited Woodland Cultural Centre exploring the museum, learning about the Mohawk Institute Residential School and had the opportunity to hear and meet Survivor Geronimo Henry.
- 84 students participated in The Moccasin Project where students learned about Indigenous Children in Care in Canada and had an opportunity to make baby moccasins facilitated by DSBN Indigenous Education Team.
- Indigenous Advisor Sheila Maracle collaborated with teachers to bring traditional teachings and Indigenous perspectives connected to their subjects in over 100 classrooms in semester 1.
- Offered updated Mohawk language eLearning course for 30 participants in semester 2 with support of Elder Fran Hill, using Six Nations Grand River dialect.
- Continued our successful Courage to Soar program in partnership with FENFC.
- New Indigenous Focused classroom established for grade 9 and 10 students in St. Catharines.



Elder Fran Hill teaching our Mohawk Language Learners the pronunciation key at the Courage to Soar classroom at FENFC. (Feb 27, 2018)

- 20 sections of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies Courses are being offered in a variety of schools this year including 2 new courses:
 - 8 sections of English: Contemporary Aboriginal Voices, Grade 11 (NBE3E/C/U)
 - 7 sections of Expressing Aboriginal Cultures, Grade 9 (NAC10)
 - 2 sections of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada, Grade 10 (NAC2O)
 - 1 section Mohawk Language Course (LNMAO)
 - 1 section Current Aboriginal Issues in Canada (NDA3M) new
 - 1 section Aboriginal Governance: Emerging Directions (NDG4M) new



Métis Artist Brian Kon teaching the Laura Secord Art Club about Métis Culture and Métis Dot Art. (Feb 13, 2018)



Greater Fort Erie Secondary School and Courage to Soar Students participating in Lacrosse Skills Development through Iroquois Lacrosse's Kevin Sandy, and Right to Play at FENFC.

Letters mailed home to all students who qualified for NPAAMB's Youth Stay in School Initiative in the fall
and to all potential graduates with information about scholarships and bursaries and DSBN team member
contact information to support funding applications.



Drumming circle with Jackie and Oliver at Laura Second Secondary School. (March 8, 2018)

- A representative of the Canadian Armed Forces Indigenous Training Program met with interested Indigenous students to share summer and post-secondary opportunities.
- Students participated in Indigenous Post Secondary Career planning with Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program (APSIP) at Niagara Native Regional Centre (NRNC) and Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (FENFC) in November.



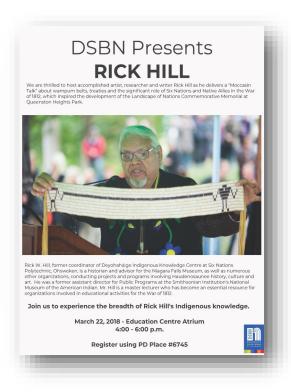
Students from Eastdale Secondary School enjoying some dancing at Youth and Elders. (March 9, 2018)

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

K-12

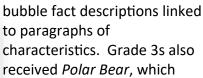
- DSBN Indigenous Education Team attended:
 - FNMIEAO and Inspire Conferences
 - the opening of "Vessels" at Rodman Hall
 - Youth and Elders
 - several events at Celebration of Nations, NRNC POW WOW, Roberta Jamieson talk at Sheridan College
 - Six Nations and Mississauga New Credit reserves to explore future professional development opportunities for DSBN Secondary Staff
 - Ministry of Education Regional Indigenous Leads meeting
 - Ministry of Education Curriculum Roll Out
- DSBN attended and supported the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre as they hosted their 23rd annual POW WOW on March 3rd.
- 68 new teachers and mentors gathered together to listen to a guest presenter from the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre speak about the history of Indigenous treaties.
- On March 22nd at the Education Centre, we were thrilled to host accomplished artist, researcher and
 writer Rick Hill as he delivered a "Moccasin Talk" about wampum belts, treaties and the significant role of
 Six Nations and Native Allies in the War of 1812, which inspired the development of the Landscape of
 Nations Commemorative Memorial at Queenston Heights Park.





ELEMENTARY

- 58 Indigenous students were supported by the Indigenous Education Resource Teacher, with First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) culturally embedded support across all curriculum areas.
- 33 elementary educators received the OFIFC First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultural awareness cycle 1 training.
- 22 elementary educators received the OFIFC First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultural awareness cycle 2 training in 2017-18.
- 43 elementary educators attended the Residential School Survivor Series at Woodland Cultural Centre.
- 33 elementary teachers deepened their understanding of First Nations, Métis and Inuit culture, struggles
 and identity by participating in Indigenous Education after school sessions on Orange Shirt Day, Métis Dot
 Art, Inuit culture & resources and Treaty Awareness.
- 79 Treaty Awareness kits and 9 additional French kits were distributed to schools.
- 79 elementary schools have the Grade 6 Residential School Kits and 100 teachers attended an in-service.
- Each school received a package of library books as a read aloud and a starting point for discussions with students on topics pertaining to residential schools. Teachers attended a workshop and learned how to use the Orange Shirt Day Mentor Texts and other resources in their program.
- Prince of Wales Thorold held an Indigenous Treaty Awareness community/school event. Pro-grant and Speak-up Grants were received. The focus was on Wampum Belts, We Are All Treaty People Kit activities, Traditional Art, Music and Food.
- As part of the EQAO/Mid-Year workshops, participants had an opportunity to preview Indigenous books. They discussed how to use the books to model reading strategies, as discussion starters and as part of an exploration of curriculum expectations around graphic text. Grade 6 teachers received poems from Indigenous authors and the book Ojibway Clans Animal Totems and Spirits, which presents information about animals and provides a helpful page about Woodland style art. Grade 3 teachers received Animals of the Salish Sea which has



contains first-hand accounts from authors who live in the Arctic, along with interesting facts on the behaviours and biology of each animal.

 Sheila Maracle, Indigenous Advisor, facilitated in 10 elementary classrooms between September and March.



- A book entitled *Powwow's Coming* was sent to each elementary school to use with primary students.
 Students who attended the Powwow were encouraged to contribute their experience to a classroom conversation during the read-aloud.
- Indigenous students were provided with the national Aboriginal Arts & Stories contest package which provided an opportunity for them to explore the heritage, society and politics of Indigenous civilizations in Canada by reflecting on the meaningful cultural elements of their lives.

SECONDARY

- November's professional development sessions included 16 Indigenous Education workshops facilitated by Indigenous community members with over 300 teachers participating in the Indigenous Education workshops of subject specific leaders:
 - Exploring Indigenous Rights: Blanket Exercise Karl Dockstader and Kelly Davis
 - Two Row Wampum Teachings Sheila Maracle
 - Métis Dot Art Amanda Pont-Shanks, MNO
 - Inuit Culture Past and Present Cindy Biancaniello, Inuit Council
 - Bridging Cultures and Indigenous Ways of Knowing Science and Nature Nancy Rowe
 - Drumming Circle and Teachings Jackie and Oliver Nobosin
 - Lessons from the Earth Rattles Jackie and Oliver Nobosin
 - Braided Bracelets Gifts from Mother Earth Jackie and Oliver Nobosin
 - Three Fires Justice Celeste Smith, NRNC
- Principals and Vice-Principals participated in teachings with Sheila Maracle on the Treaties, The Two Row Wampum Belt and Land Acknowledgement.
- Consultants and Instructional Coaches participated in teachings of Treaties, The Two Row Wampum, Land Acknowledgement, and traditional teaching of the importance of beading with Sheila Maracle.



- Program leaders representing the varied subject areas in secondary schools had Indigenous learning opportunities that linked to their curricular areas:
 - Business Indigenous Social Entrepreneur Jennifer Harper from Cheekbone Beauty
 - Drama Drumming Circles and teachings with Jackie and Oliver Nobosin
 - English Importance of literature by Indigenous Authors and Indigenous Perspectives

- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies Indigenous Ways of Knowing with Nancy Rowe, The Moccasin Project, an afternoon with Rick Hill
- French Métis History and Culture, Métis Finger Weaving and Mischief Language Lessons with Amanda Pont-Shanks
- Health and Physical Education First Nations Games and Lacrosse Clinic with Dallas Squires
- Geography Medicine Walk and Indigenous Ways of Knowing Geography with Nancy Rowe
- History Indigenous History with Nancy Rowe and preparing for the new grade 10 History curriculum with Rick Hill
- Math Importance of Beading and Indigenous Ways of Knowing math
- Music Drumming Circles and teachings with Jackie and Oliver Nobosin
- Social Studies and Humanities First Nations foods and resources from Indigenous Diabetes Health Circle and The Moccasin Project
- Science Indigenous Ways of Knowing Science and Water Teachings
- Visual Arts Métis Dot Art with MNO Amanda Pont-Shanks at Rodman Hall and sculpting with clay with Doug Maracle
- Sixty-three secondary teachers participated in Cultural Awareness training in semester one and an additional 14 participated in a visit to the Mohawk Residential School visit.
- For Treaty Awareness Week, each Secondary School and Alternative Education location received a Secondary Treaty Kit, Guswenta Two Row Wampum belt and plaque explaining its significance now at each main entry area of each school.
- 1,480 books from Indigenous authors distributed to secondary schools.
- Veterans Week Resource Package shared with all schools providing information to teachers recognizing Indigenous Veterans contributions.



Jennifer Harper is a First Nations Anishinaabe woman and DSBN Parent, talking to students about social entrepreneurship, giving back to FNMI Communities by sharing her story. Gary Parker speaking at the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre's third annual Youth and Elders Conference.





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DSBN INDIGENOUS EDUCATION TEAM

Ronda Menard (1.0 FTE) Indigenous Education Lead (K-8)

Erica Zombolas (1.0 FTE) Consultant of Indigenous Education (9-12)

Sheila Maracle (1.0 FTE) Indigenous Education Advisor (K-12)

> Tyler Marr (1.0 FTE) Indigenous Re-engagement Teacher (9-12)

JoAnna Roberto Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (K-8)

> Lorraine Giroux Student Achievement Leader (K-8)

Helen McGregor Superintendent of Curriculum and Student Achievement (9-12)

> Paul Taylor Student Achievement Leader (9-12)



