

District School Council / Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 16, 2020 7 p.m.

Lindsay Education Centre – 300 County Road 36, Lindsay

Haliburton County Education Centre – 12 Vintage Crescent, Minden

Muskoka Education Centre – 1271 Cedar Lane, Bracebridge

MEETING NOTES

- **Welcome and Introductions - Grand Boudrault, Kawartha Lakes area DSC-PIC Chair**

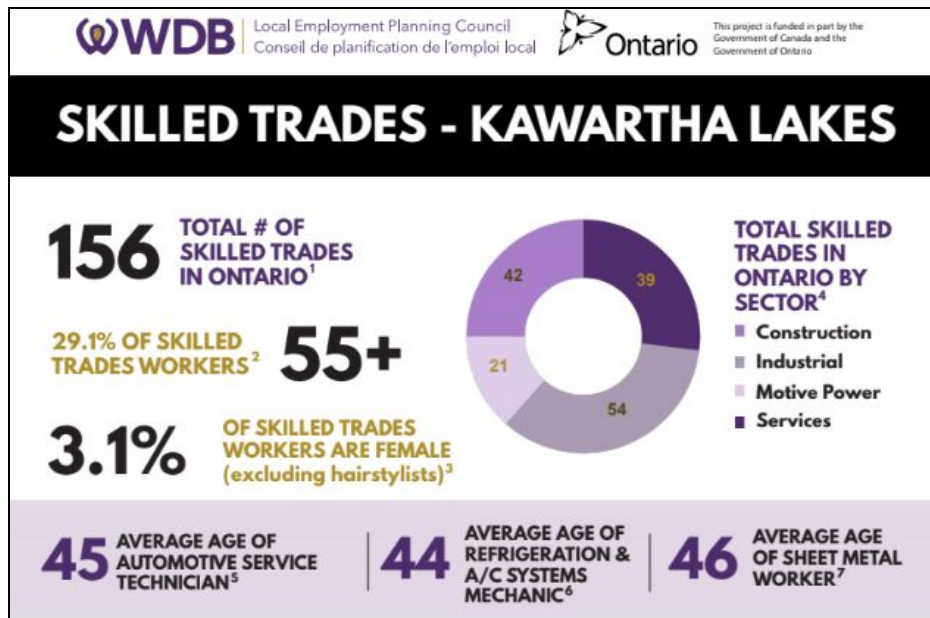
- **TLDSB Update - Larry Hope, Director of Education**
 - Labour update - escalating action by teacher unions in the province at this point in time
 - Relationship between TLDSB and local union leadership is very good, we continue to work very closely with local leadership. We are doing everything we can possibly can and keep this dispute between the provincial government and the provincial leadership of the unions.
 - We are doing everything we can to keep students in school and keep students safe. While there are concerns about report cards and extra curriculars, it is safety that is the priority
 - Next Tuesday, all schools will be closed to students because elementary and secondary students will be on strike for one day.
 - There will likely be an escalation in elementary teacher job action activity. Secondary teachers are about 3 weeks ahead of ETFO
 - Daycares will remain open at schools during the one day strike
 - There will be some things that will start to be cancelled. We are recommending that any programs that involve the collection of money are to stop. Our principals cannot manage this on our own as support staff will not do the work that other bargaining units normally do; there will be a cessation of extra curricular activities away from schools - sports, winter electives, etc.;
 - Secondary students will have a bare bones report card for semester 1 - just marks without comments; we are in the process of making a final determination about elementary report cards and it is a possibility that we might not be able to process report cards.
 - SEcondary school teachers will not do the work of other teachers who are absent and we do not have a quantity of secondary supply staff. This means that if a teacher is

absent and is responsible for an extracurricular activity during the day, the practice or event will be cancelled.

- We appreciate the ongoing support from families as we work our way through this challenging time

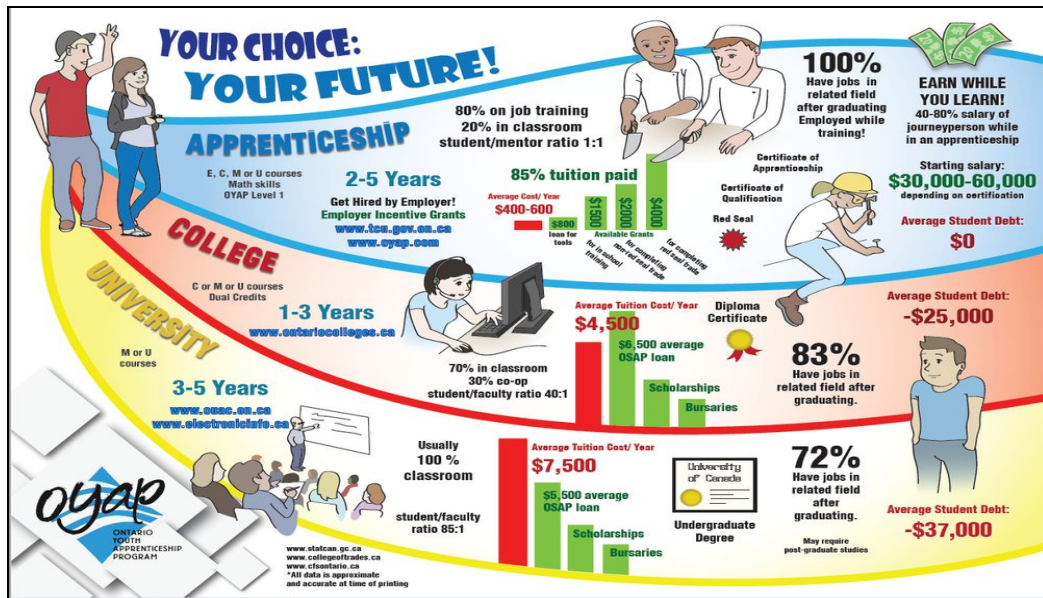
- **Experiential Learning and Skilled Trades - Katherine MacIver, Superintendent of Learning**

- What is experiential learning - it is hands-on, real world learning that may include career fairs, classroom visits/career talks from skilled tradespeople, cooperative education, job shadowing, one-on-one career mentorship
- Project-based learning, workplace tours.
- Leaders of experiential learning work closely with industry partners and the community to create experiential learning opportunities



- **Skills Ontario competitions** with students from grade 4 to college take place each year and can range from a 4-person build to a graphic design, fashion design, welding, and more - the Ontario competition this year is on May 6th. Local competitions are held in TLDSB called “Best in TLDSB” to determine who will compete at the provincial competition
- In high schools there is a half credit course called Career Studies that all grade 10 students must take - there is a strong financial literacy program in the course
- **Cooperative education** is available to all students in all different pathways where they can work in placements for credits towards their diploma.

- **Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)** programs are clusters and bundles of credits that give students a specialization while they are in high school. Students take specific credits as well as specific certifications. Cooperative education is a part of every SHSM program.
- **Dual Credits** are available for grade 11 and 12 students where a high school credit and a college credit can be earned at the same time. TLDSB partners with Georgian College, Durham College, and Fleming College to offer courses at the college or with a college instructor at a secondary school.
- **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)** offers a program where students who are going into a skilled trade can start building their apprenticeship hours while they are in high school.



- **Social Networking Safety presentations - Stasi**
 - Huntsville Public School Council Chair Stasi OHare provided an summary overview of the Paul Davis Social Networking Safety presentation that took place in Huntsville on December 5th
 - Almost 200 Huntsville area parents attended the presentation and a follow up survey indicated that the information received was excellent and timely
 - School council chairs are encouraged to promote upcoming presentations in each area of the board.
 - Dates for presentations are:
 - Thursday, April 30, 2020 7 p.m. Haliburton HHS Gym
 - Wednesday, May 13, 2020 7 p.m. Fenelon Falls SS gym
 - Thursday, May 14, 2020 - IEWSS gym
 - Wednesday, May 27, 2020 7 p.m. Muskoka Education Centre
 - Thursday, May 28, 2020 7 p.m. Gravenhurst High School gym

- **Updates for School Councils - Catherine Shedden, District Manager of Corporate Communications**
 - Funding Updates
 - Parent Engagement Funding for Schools (\$500 grant) - information about the additional funding from Board Parent Engagement - a survey has been sent to school council chairs providing an opportunity for a top up of up to \$200 for parent engagement initiatives. The survey link will be sent out one more time. DSC-PIC regional chairs will review the list and allocate the funds to schools based on requests.
 - Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant Funding - being allocated to the Paul Davis Social Networking Safety. It was felt that since the reporting and evaluation required for the use of the PRO grant funding, that allocating this money to the safety networking presentations would be best.
 - School Council communication - There is now a Google Shared Drive for school council chairs. School council chairs were asked to create a Gmail address for their school council using the three letters of the school plus the words “school council”. They are then to send the login and password to Catherine Shedden, and to use catherine.shedden@tlds.on.ca as the default email. This way there will be information archived of school council emails to send to new chairs as they occur at schools.
 - Parent Communication - resources are available to parents on the board website at <https://tlds.ca/parent-resource-toolbox/>

- **Site Discussion - video conference ends, and each area holds a discussion forum led by area DSC-PIC chair**

City of Kawartha Lakes

- Bobcaygeon PS, Dr. George Hall PS, Parkview PS, Jack Callaghan PS, Langton PS, Alexandra PS, Central Senior, Dunsford DES, Mariposa PS
- Question about an opportunity to engage parents about experiential learning. Superintendent Maclver said that information is provided at grade 8 information nights. There is work being done to promote all the options available to secondary schools
- It seems common for parents to not know about skilled trades opportunities. Even students don't seem to know the programs available at their own schools.

- Request for some of the slides from the presentation to be in the meeting notes
 - please notice that two of the slides are attached. And the slide presentation is also available as an addendum to the meeting notes.
- Parents need to know before students reach grade 9 about the options available
- Parent councils would like to know when Ontario Skills opportunities are available
- Superintendent MacIver suggested that the information could be shared with principals to be able to share with parents

District of Muskoka

- Glen Orchard PS, Huntsville PS, KP Manson PS, Macaulay PS, Monck PS, Watt PS
- Question about why parents had to fill out paperwork when students are starting grade 9 in the fall. Larry will be looking into why. All information should transfer through TLDSB with parent verification each Fall.
- The rest of the time we all shared something or things are schools are doing:
 - HPS
 - Eco Fair end of May. Looking to change how they fundraise. Like that this ties to curriculum and the School Council wants to be greener.
 - Spaghetti Dinner coming up. It's donated by Hidden Valley.
 - Collecting cutlery to be used for hot lunches; no more Styrofoam & plastic
 - Collaboration with other Huntsville Chairs
 - Macaulay
 - Commit to Character Family Fun Walk/Run in September
 - Glen Orchard
 - Working on parent engagement; it's a small group and they do struggle with getting parents engaged
 - Watt
 - Winterfest
 - Monck
 - Fundraiser in the Fall- Farm to Table
 - Xmas Event (November) with focus on Family Fun was successful
 - Bringing in Science North in the Spring

- Don's Bakery fundraiser in the Spring
- KP Manson
 - Xmas Grinch event- gym was decorated as WhoVille
- Erin mentioned she saw a TLDSB post on Facebook re: Cash On Line and she was surprised to see negative comments about it. The rest of us agree that it's a great tool and saves a lot of admin time for school council volunteers especially for lunch programs.
- Louise mentioned at the end that when we have photos from our events we should send them to you to post.

2019-2020 DSC-PIC Meetings

Thursday, November 21, 2019	Thursday, January 16, 2020
Thursday, March 26, 2020	Thursday, May 7, 2020

District Chairs 2018-2019:

City of Kawartha Lakes	Grant Boudreault 705-934-3937	KawarthaDSC@gmail.com
Haliburton County	Jenn Sharp 705-457-6564	HaliburtonDSC@gmail.com
District of Muskoka	Debbie Marling 705-641-0944	MuskokaDSC@gmail.com