



Board Meeting
Director's Update - Pino Buffone
25 September 2018

School Year Start-Up!

As the new school year is well underway, I would like to take this opportunity to share a brief update on activities, events and initiatives that have taken place this first month of the school year...

- first and foremost, our sincerest thanks to the entire staff, including the dedicated employees of the Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium, for their care and commitment in ensuring our schools and school buses were ready for the start of the new school year! We had a very smooth start up for our students in schools and central sites this September;
- a number of our schools, including Fellowes High School and Whitney Public School, are capitalizing on the beautiful weather to enhance their outdoor learning spaces...from growing gardens that produce fruits and vegetables for their programs to exploring natural play areas that 'leverage digital' through the use of drones, for instance; and,
- it is great to see extra-curricular activities are up and running once again across the system, including the fall football season and environmental sustainability clubs, for example.

Professional Activity Day - 14 September 2018

On Friday, September 14th, 2018, all staff took part in our first professional activity day of the school year. The foci for this day included health and safety protocols and processes, as well as the launch of our 'Pathways to Thrive' framework, system-wide.

Of note, the focus of our next professional activity day on Friday 05 October 2018 will be school improvement planning processes, including effective instructional practices in the area of mathematics.

Meeting with Algonquin College - 24 September 2018

On Monday, September 24th, 2018, senior staff met with Dean of Algonquin College-Pembroke Campus, Karen Davies, and members of her staff to discuss the enhancement and refinement of our partnership. Topics discussed during this fruitful meeting included: sharing resources (professional development opportunities and space), student placements, and programming needs at both the secondary and post-secondary levels.

Visiting Delegation from l'Académie Clermont-Ferrand - 24 & 25 October 2018

As part of the launch of initiatives related to international education, staff is very pleased to host a delegation from l'Académie Clermont-Ferrand in South-Central France on October 24th and 25th, 2018. The delegation will visit the county to explore options for student exchanges, staff exchanges and governance partnerships between the two jurisdictions.

Please note: Due to unforeseen circumstances, Dr. Jean Clinton's session 'Supporting Caregivers in Healthy Relationships' at the Ma-Te-Way Activity Centre, coordinated through the Parenting Centre for Renfrew County, previously scheduled for today has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled at a later date to be determined.