



# Preparing Students for a Successful Life

**DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018**



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# Mission, Vision, Values, and Credo

The Upper Canada District School Board practices evidence-based instructional and work practices in an environment that stresses character and understanding in all our interactions. We have tightly aligned our operations with the goals and objectives of the Ministry of Education. We are guided by our mission, vision, values and credo, which show a strong commitment to student and staff achievement, and fiscal responsibility. This report demonstrates our continuing focus on these overarching principles and goals during the 2017-2018 school year.

## MISSION

We Prepare All Students for a Successful Life

## VISION

Creating Futures, Leading and Learning for All

## VALUES

Caring, Courage, Empathy, Fairness,  
Generosity, Honesty, Perseverance, Resilience,  
Respect, and Responsibility



2017 Trustee Innovation Awards

## OUR CREDO

Our credo reflects the guiding principles of our board.

**We believe our first responsibility is to our students.**

**We are responsible to our employees.**

**We are responsible to the communities that we serve.**

**We will provide environmental awareness among our staff, students and within the community.**



Fun at high school Orientation events

# Message from the Director of Education



Director Stephen Sliwa

As the [Director of Education of the Upper Canada District School Board](#), I am pleased to report on the tremendous progress we made in the 2017-2018 school year. We have advanced in several key areas that align with the overarching goals of our CREW Strategic Plan and the annual goals of the Director's Work Plan. We are moving forward in key commitments such as: increasing our graduation rate through effective instruction; ensuring staff feel valued and connected with the goals of the Board; improving communication and connections with staff, students and our communities; and enhancing student mental health by focusing on self-care.

As a district, we reached our goal for the year of improving our graduation rate by two per cent. This demonstrates the impact of our Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Wellness in enhancing students' math and literacy skills. In the last year, we increased our graduation rate to 86.4 per cent – less than four percentage points away from our long-term goal of 90 per cent. Since the figure is based on our

own board calculations, we look forward to receiving confirmation from the Ministry of Education about this important outcome.

Critical to that success was our staff's approach of reconnecting with specific students that had left school before earning their diploma, then designing learning experiences and providing academic-support strategies that addressed each student's distinct learning needs, interests, and life circumstances. We realize the next two per cent gain will present new challenges and more work is required. Our plan is to tackle these challenges by focusing on the early identification of students in need and early intervention strategies to attain the next level.

Our most recent culture survey showed a large portion of staff felt disconnected to our board and the goals of the CREW Strategic Plan. CREW is our long-term strategic plan that is guiding our achievement in the areas of Collaboration, Resources, Educational Programs and Wellness. The Board realized that to address this problem, we needed to explain our CREW plan, its value, and how staff connected to it. We wanted feedback on ways to make it better. We approached staff through a series of roundtable discussions to hear their concerns, and explain how their valuable contributions are driving the school board's success. Exit survey data indicated staff were highly engaged and appreciated being consulted. It gave a sense of being "in the know" regarding what we are doing to address student success and improve operations.

We now see evidence among staff of becoming better acquainted with CREW. It is no longer viewed as

a topic limited to the Board room, Trustees and senior staff. Instead, it is resonating with many – if not all – schools. We see that in CREW information walls displayed at [Linklater Public School](#), [South Crosby Public School](#) and other board facilities, which have been designed to keep us focused on the elements of CREW.

We also focused on improving student wellness, particularly their ability to deal with stress while at school or in class. This was in response to data that came out of the culture survey. Schools across the Upper Canada District School Board now have wellness initiatives included in their school improvement plans. We teach our students positive ways to improve their sense of well-being by imparting healthy eating habits, mindfulness techniques, ways to foster healthy relationships with others and to gain an improved sense of belonging.

We also worked diligently to improve our connections with community stakeholders beyond what our policies mandate. We want to understand the community's needs and increase their understanding of the contributions we make to their success. We are vigorously developing partnerships with agencies such as York University, the Aquatarium, and public health units in our local area.

In the coming year, we will continue working collaboratively to ensure progress toward our key goals which we firmly believe will prepare all our students for a successful life.

Sincerely,

*Stephen Sliwa*  
Director of Education  
Upper Canada District School Board



## Message from the Chair



Chair Jeff McMillan

As Chair of the Upper Canada District School Board, I am proud of the progress we have made in the 2017-2018 school year.

Through our Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Wellness, we met our targets for graduation rate, increasing it from 84.4 to 86.4 per cent by June 2018. This number is based on Board estimates and must still be confirmed by the province, but we're confident we have reached that goal.

Through our Renewed Math Strategy, we provided students access to improved learning resources. We helped them gain a clearer understanding of different ways to find the right answers and changed their overall attitude toward math. Our Learning Partners and Literacy Teams supported our students' literacy journey by showing teachers more impactful ways to instruct.

As a public board, we worked to ensure the success of all students, including the many adults who have returned and earned a diploma through the TR Leger School of

Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education. The TR Leger program continues to provide the opportunity for so many who have taken a different path in their educational journey.

The Board made stronger connections with its staff, businesses and communities through efforts such as the Community Planning and Partnerships Annual Meetings, Roundtable Discussions, Truth and Reconciliation Commission +3 Gatherings, and special recognition days. We actively seek opportunities to show that our schools and workplaces are welcoming and inclusive environments through Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs), pink shirt days and other initiatives.

Of note was the series of information booths promoting our schools, which we hosted this past summer at community fairs in all areas of our board. The interaction with the public gave our communities a better understanding of our work and

its positive impact. Area residents connected with our staff, and discovered more about our schools and how to register their children.

The 2017-2018 school year was my last as trustee and Chair of the Upper Canada District School Board. It has been a pleasure to serve the residents of the eight counties for the last eight years. Through the collective efforts of our trustees and our dedicated staff, I believe we have created a board that truly values collaboration, a board that effectively and responsibly allocates our resources, a board that provides engaging learning environments for our young people and a system that strongly focuses on the well-being of our students and staff.

Sincerely,

*Jeff McMillan*  
Chair

Upper Canada District School Board



Trustee Innovation Awards

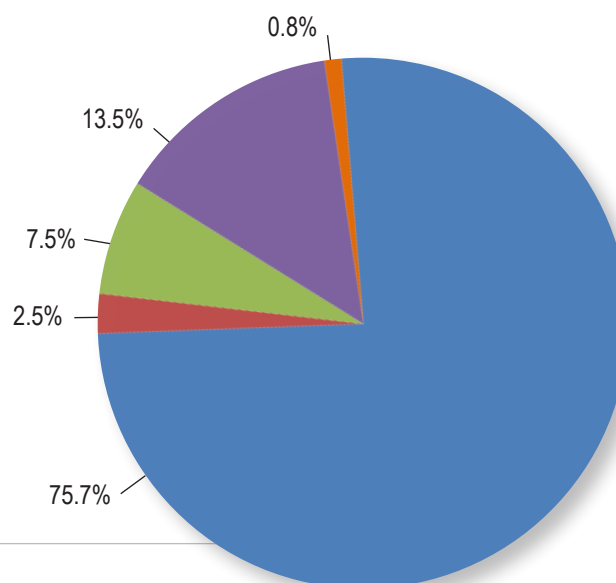
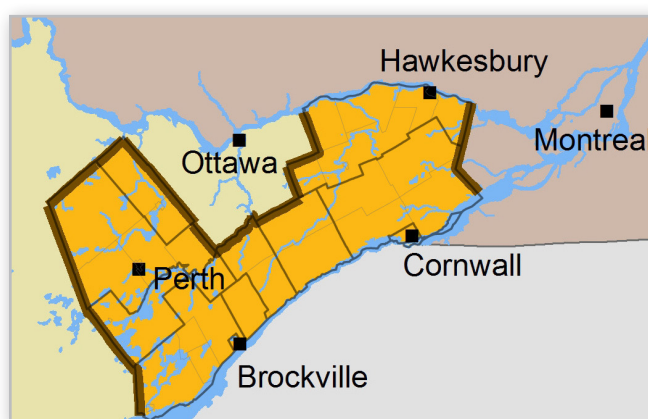
# Board Profile

The [Upper Canada District School Board](#) (UCDSB) is responsible for educating approximately 27,000 elementary, secondary, and continuing education students in Eastern Ontario. We serve the counties of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, and Prescott-Russell, and provide educational services to a 12,000 square-kilometre area. Students enjoy an education system designed to meet many different learning needs within an inclusive and accommodating environment. We offer French immersion at designated locations in all of our school families. Students enjoy innovative approaches to education such as [Flipped Learning](#), as well as a strong [Indigenous education](#) program.

## BOARD PROFILE

(as of October 31, 2018)

Number of Elementary, Secondary and Adult/Alternative Schools:	79
Number of Elementary and Secondary Students: <i>(preliminary figure as of October 31, 2018)</i>	26,361
Number of Elementary Students:	17,825
Number of Secondary Students:	8,146*
Number of Adult and Alternative Students 20 and younger:	638
Number of Students 21 and older:	390
Number of Students Enrolled in Specialist High Skills Major Programs:	1,447
Number of Students Enrolled in Day-School Online Learning:	1,530***
Number of International Students:	451****
Number of Elementary Teachers:	1,567**
Number of Secondary Teachers:	796**
Number of Permanent Principals and Vice-Principals:	149
Total Number of Permanent/Occasional Staff:	4,191
Number of Residents in District:	372,006
<b>2018-2019 Operating Budget:</b>	<b>\$370.4 million</b>



Instruction	Pupil Accommodation
Central Administration	Related Parties
Student Transportation	

\*Excluding students at T.R. Leger School of Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education and students 21+

\*\*Indicates permanent and occasional status. All employee information as of September 21, 2018

\*\*\*Total headcount semesters one and two

\*\*\*\*Total number enrolled in All-Year Program and Short-Term Program

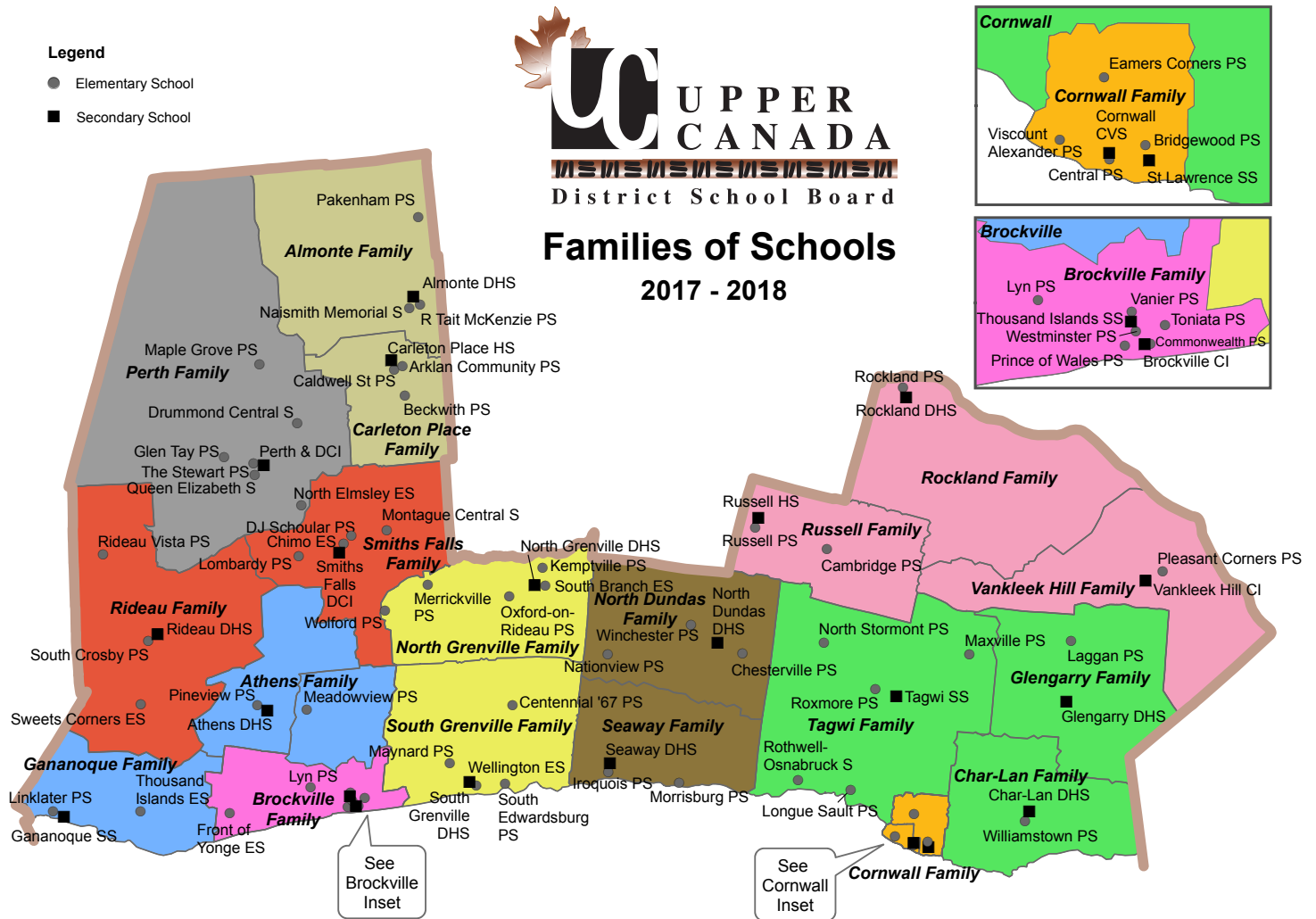


# Our 2017-2018 Families of Schools

Schools within our jurisdiction are organized into families of schools, represented by designated secondary schools and the elementary schools that transition students into them. The system promotes effective communications and operational symmetry. Under our 2017-2018 Families of Schools structure there were 19 school families covering our jurisdiction.

## OUR 2017-2018 FAMILIES OF SCHOOLS WERE:

Almonte, Athens, Brockville, Carleton Place, Char-Lan, Cornwall, Gananoque, Glengarry, North Dundas, North Grenville, Perth, Rideau, Rockland, Russell, Seaway, Smiths Falls, South Grenville, Tagwi, and Vankleek Hill.



# Our CREW Strategic Plan



The 2017-2018 school year allowed for a stronger focus on student learning and achievement, aligning our work with provincial strategies and goals to benefit our students. To accomplish this, we used our CREW Strategic Plan to focus our work on four specific critical success factors.

## COLLABORATION

To facilitate parent involvement, student achievement and public confidence, we must engage local and learning communities.

## RESOURCES

To create an engaging learning environment, support student achievement and sustain public confidence, we must carefully manage our resources.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

To provide relevant and challenging experiences, we must provide relevant and innovative programs.

## WELLNESS

For staff and students to be able to function at an effective level, we must provide caring and supportive environments.

## Director's Work Plan

Associated with CREW is the Director's Work Plan, which targets specific goals under CREW through initiatives of the Strategic Plan. In the 2017-2018 school year, these goals were:

### Graduation Rate

- Increase the graduation rate by 2 per cent in 2017-2018

### Staff Culture

- Increase to 50 per cent the number of staff who agree that there is good communication within the organization
- Increase to 50 per cent the number of staff who feel their school has the staff and support necessary for student success and engagement
- Increase to 50 per cent the number of staff who feel valued and recognized by the UCDSB

### Student Culture

- Increase the capacity of students to deal with stress

### Community

- Connect with community stakeholders beyond our policy requirements



## The CREW Compass

How our CREW Compass is guiding us toward student achievement through our critical success factors

The Board attained success in our four key areas of Collaboration, Resources, Educational Programs and Wellness. On the following pages, we explore the ways we have met our goals.





# Collaboration

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH AHKWEAHSNE MOHAWK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Trustees with the Upper Canada District School Board and members of the Ahkweasne Mohawk Board of Education (AMBE) renewed their Educational Services Agreement in November 2017 during an official signing ceremony in Brockville. UCDSB Chair Jeff McMillan and Grand Chief Abram Benedict of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne signed the five-year agreement during the UCDSB Board meeting, while AMBE Director of Education Donna Lahache and other AMBE representatives looked on. The agreement contracts the UCDSB to continue providing a quality education to high school students from Akwesasne who attend UCDSB schools in Cornwall. It enhances opportunities to serve students, including encouraging UCDSB and AMBE teachers to: engage in joint professional development opportunities, pursue community outreach events, and promote Mohawk-as-a-Second Language programs.



Officials from both boards sign the AMBE-UCDSB service agreement

**PURPLE PINKIE EVENT AT CHAR-LAN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL:** Char-Lan District High School collaborated with the Sunrise Rotary Club to organize a Purple Pinkie event at the school in October 2017.

Rotarian Sharon Miller brought the idea to the school's Interact Club. The campaign is part of a Rotary International campaign called "End Polio Now." Students

hold a Purple Pinkie fundraiser under the guidance of local clubs. Students are encouraged to donate \$1 toward the campaign to raise money to vaccinate children against polio in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. With matching donations from the Canadian government and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the school event raised \$700, enough to vaccinate 700 children. Miller later travelled to India with a Rotary team to vaccinate children.



Char-Lan District High School hosted a Purple Pinkie event

The campaign was part of an ongoing collaboration between the school and the Sunrise Rotary Club of Cornwall. Miller attends Char-Lan Interact meetings once monthly where she shares ideas for fundraisers and other Rotary information. Through the Interact club and Miller's efforts, students learn to take action and make a difference in their school and community, discover new cultures and promote international understanding. They become leaders and make new friends from around the world.

**REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL MEETINGS:**

The Board hosted its third round of Community Planning and Partnership Annual Meetings in June 2018. Under the Board’s Facility Collaboration Policy, the UCDSB is promoting stronger working relationships with area municipalities and service organizations, in part by identifying the potential leasing of surplus space within the district. The meetings discussed a variety of issues including demographics, school information profiles, enrolments, and facility projects. The decision process gives priority to proposals that are fully cost recoverable, beneficial to students, appropriate for a school setting, support the Board’s student achievement strategies, and consider the health and safety of students.

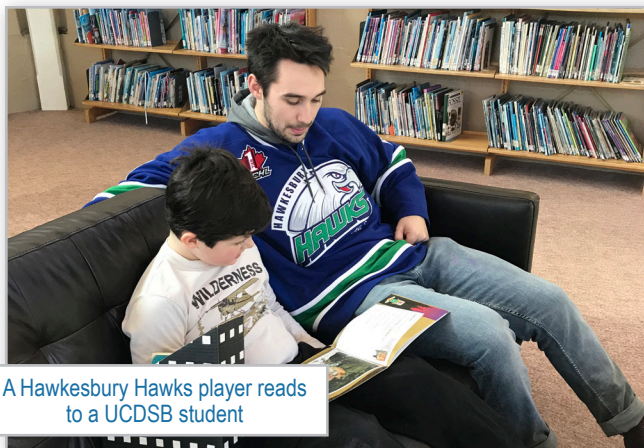
**CANADIAN FOLK ARTIST VISITS SOUTH CROSBY PUBLIC SCHOOL:**

Award-winning Canadian folk artist [Dave Gunning](#) shared his reflections on East Coast life with 200 students at [South Crosby Public School](#) in September 2017. During a morning concert, students sang along to original tunes penned by the 44-year-old artist from Lyons Brook, Nova Scotia. The show centred on the heritage of the Maritimes, with songs such as *Coal from the Train*, *These Hands* and *A Game Goin’ On*. The show was brought to the school through a collaboration with the Ontario Small Halls Festival.

**PLEASANT CORNERS PUBLIC SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH HAWKESBURY HAWKS:**

[Pleasant Corners Public School](#) welcomed the Hawkesbury Hawks into the classroom over the winter to improve students’ reading. Under the Hawks Reading Program, the Junior A players visited the school each Wednesday from 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. They read to students from a book of their choice, either in groups or individually. Students read to their guests as well, and players corrected pronunciation. The program ran from November to March.

**PROJECT KITES CAMPAIGN** – Students at [Smiths Falls and District Collegiate Institute](#) continued their Project KITES (Kids in Tough and Extraordinary Situations) Campaign during 2017-2018.



A Hawkesbury Hawks player reads to a UCDSB student

The program is a fundraising and awareness campaign for the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario Pediatric Intensive Care (PIC) Unit. Grade 12 students from Breanna Bedor’s English classes adopt a medically fragile child who has been treated at the unit. The project raises awareness about the struggles each child faces, and organizes fundraisers in their name to support the unit’s work.

The program held two fundraising concerts in December 2017 in the name of Maverick Jonkman of Brockville. The toddler suffers from a rare chromosomal syndrome. The condition has resulted in several health issues such as holes in his heart, a hernia, breathing problems, moderate hearing loss, mobility problems, and the need for a feeding tube in his stomach.



Maverick Jonkman



Two classes a week, students split into teams to support the toddler, learning practical skills such as how to write fundraising letters, how to write scripts for emcees as well as oral communication skills to prepare for the concerts. The two fundraising concerts held in Maverick's name raised \$2,778 for the PIC Unit.



Stay on Course 4  
Communities golf program

**STAY ON COURSE 4 COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AT MORRISBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL:** The Stay on Course 4 Communities Program was back for its fourth year at Morrisburg Public School (MPS). The five-week program, which took place in the fall of 2017, took Grade 6 students to driving ranges and golf courses once weekly. Once there, seniors mentored them on the skills needed for the game. All green fees for the students were waived and each student received a program shirt. In turn, students mentored the adults in digital skills, teaching them how to use iPads to run apps, take pictures, or make videos. Students learned lessons in character education, physical education, literacy and math. Through the program, golf is used to teach students perseverance, resilience and respect, both for the game and for the mentors teaching them. Each week students filled out a form for their teacher reflecting on how they demonstrated respect on the golf course, at school, their

home and in the community. They were also required to keep journals about their experience. The program is a partnership between Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SDG) Crime Stoppers, the SDG detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, MPS, the Morrisburg Golf Club and Archie's Family Golf Centre in Cornwall.

#### **NORTH DUNDAS DHS STUDENTS HELP LOCAL REFUGEE FAMILY:**

Working in partnership with the Dundas Coalition for Refugee Support and local businesses, North Dundas District High School students repaired a donated vehicle in the spring to give to a Syrian refugee family. Community partners donated the car and covered the cost of parts, while students in the transportation technology program repaired the vehicle. The vehicle was later given to the family to enhance their lives.

#### **UCDSB COLLABORATES WITH CATHOLIC BOARD TO OBTAIN NEW TR LEGER CORNWALL SITE:**

The Upper Canada District School Board took ownership in March of a new site for the [TR Leger School of Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education](#) Cornwall campus. The site is located at 600 McConnell Avenue in Cornwall, previously owned by the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario.



Board obtains new TR Leger site

The Board took ownership of this property as part of a memorandum of understanding between the two school boards. Under the agreement, the public board took control of the former Immaculate Conception School site and the public board sold its property holdings for the former General Vanier Intermediate School site to the Catholic board.

**NORTH DUNDAS STUDENTS BEAUTIFY COMMUNITY:**

[North Dundas District High School](#) partnered with the [Township of North Dundas](#) to research, design, develop and then deliver garbage receptacles and a bike rack for the township to use in the community. Accessible benches and picnic tables are also part of the project and will be produced during the 2018-2019 school year. The items were built under the guidance and mentorship of the school’s two manufacturing teachers, Ray Bougie and Andrew Whitton. The project has been funded through an Experiential Learning Project grant of \$11,500, provided by the Ontario Government. As part of the process students gained practical construction experience by building the structures. They also learned about building codes – specifically the required standards for accessible benches and picnic tables – and how to take orders, price projects and order materials.



A North Dundas DHS student in shop class



Glen Tay Public School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**GLEN TAY PUBLIC SCHOOL HOSTS 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:**

The school and the community came together to celebrate the school and its impact on the area during the Glen Tay Public School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The golden anniversary event, held in May, attracted 250 visitors. The event allowed current families to celebrate the value of a Glen Tay education, while permitting alumni to reminisce about their childhood. Highlights of the event included an address by former principal David Crowley; student performances of songs from the school’s recent production of *The Lion King Junior*; a memorabilia display in the school library, a chance for visitors to post pictures of their visit on the school’s [SPAN wall](#), and a display of a primary student exercise in which students used a computer program to age their portraits.

# Resources

**TRUSTEES APPROVE 2018-2019 BUDGET:** Trustees with the Upper Canada District School Board passed the 2018-2019 budget in May. The budget details \$370.4 million in operating expenses and outlines \$44.75 million in capital expenses. It also includes a projected operating deficit for Ministry of Education compliance purposes of \$1.8 million. For the 2018-2019 year, the UCDSB is set to receive supplemental funds to better prepare students and staff for the realities faced in today's classrooms. Some of the key investments focus on Ministry of Education initiatives such as addressing waitlists for assessments and increasing services in special education, mental health workers in schools, preparing for success in high school in relation to Grades 7 and 8 students, and expanding the experiential learning component of the Highly Skilled Workforce Strategy.

## THIRTEEN SCHOOLS GAIN ECOSCHOOLS

**CERTIFICATION:** Thirteen UCDSB schools gained certification under the EcoSchools program in the 2017-2018 school year. The certifications symbolized our board's commitment to environmentalism and our goal of empowering our students and communities with the knowledge, skills, perspectives and desire to

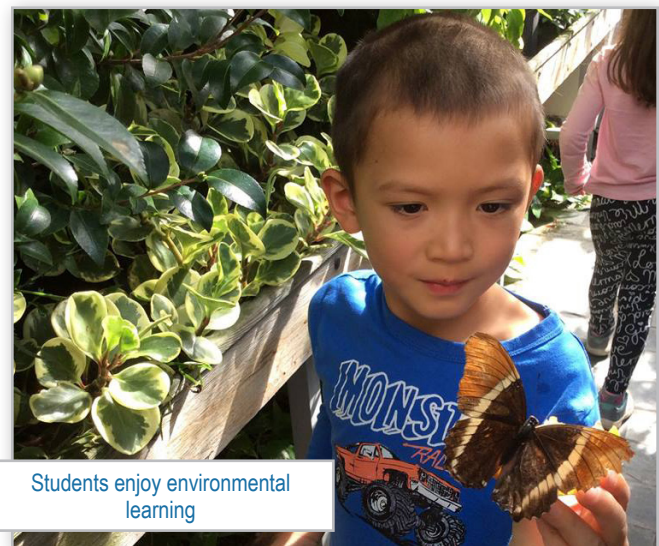


Board approves 2018-2019 budget

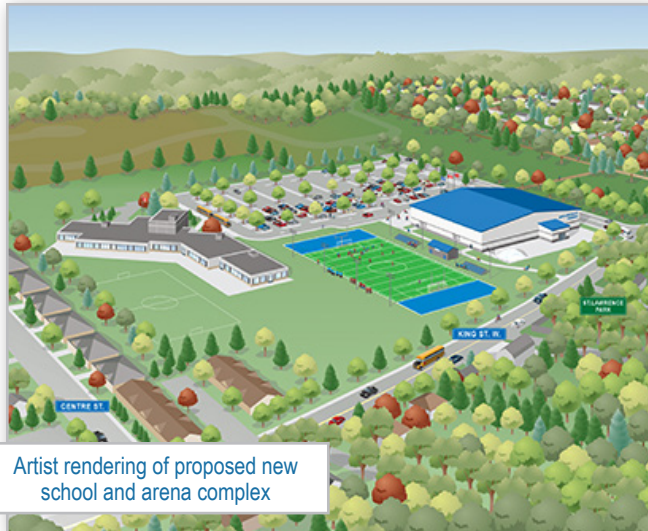
act as environmentally responsible citizens. Schools that certified were: [Caldwell Street Public School](#), gold; [Centennial '67 Public School](#), gold; [Drummond Central School](#), silver; [Front of Yonge Elementary School](#), silver; [Lombardy Public School](#), bronze; [Lyn Public School](#), platinum; [Meadowview Public School](#), platinum; [Merrickville Public School](#), gold; [Montague Public School](#), gold; [Rideau Vista Public School](#), gold; [Rockland Public School](#), bronze; [Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute](#), gold; and [Williamstown Public School](#), silver.



Students savour EcoSchool award



Students enjoy environmental learning



Artist rendering of proposed new school and arena complex

**PLANS FOR NEW PUBLIC SCHOOL IN BROCKVILLE:**

In June 2018, the Upper Canada District School Board and City of Brockville announced plans to purchase 26.6 acres of land to build a new public school in Brockville, and a twin-pad arena complex. The Board is taking steps to secure the purchase, and is awaiting Ministry of

Education approval. A new Brockville Public School is part of the UCDSB’s long-term vision to build for the future. The new school will be built on 14.3 acres of land located in the city’s west end and is part of a joint project to enhance the community’s educational and recreational infrastructure to accommodate long-term growth and sustainability. If approved by the Ministry of Education, the new state-of-the-art school will replace Commonwealth and Toniata Public Schools.

**BOARD REFURBISHES TRACK AT SWEET’S CORNERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:**

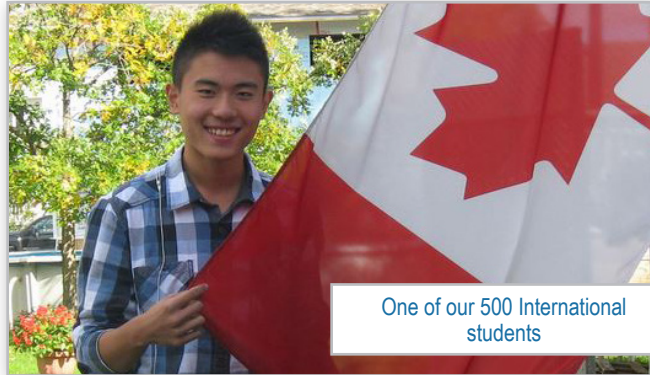
Sweet’s Corners Public School officially unveiled its refurbished track facility in October as it held its 2017 Terry Fox School Run. The track was the product of fundraising by school council, as well as funding from the Township of Leeds and Thousand Islands and the Upper Canada District School Board. The project, completed over the previous summer, includes a granular track, as well as new long jump and triple jump pits. It has allowed the school to host athletic events as well as provide training opportunities for students at the school.



Opening of track at Sweet’s Corners Elementary School



# Educational Programs



One of our 500 International students

**INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM:** [Our International Education Program](#) welcomed more than 500 students from over 20 different countries in 2017-2018. In partnership with Canada Homestay Network, the program provides a truly Canadian experience while ensuring students enjoy world-class UCDSB educational programming and the wonderful opportunities available in local communities. Different cultural activities were organized for students and their host families including a tour of a maple syrup farm, a boat cruise on the 1000 Islands, Halloween and Christmas parties, and watching a local hockey game. Students also experienced some of Canada's most famous tourist attractions including a visit to Niagara Falls, a tour of the CN Tower followed by a Toronto Raptors basketball game, and a visit to Montreal to learn more about our French Canadian history. The program helps local students by enabling them to embrace a wider world through friendships with students from other countries.

**INNOVATIVE CIVICS EXERCISE:** Students at [Rideau District High School](#) raised more than \$530 for the Kingston Youth Shelter in November through an innovative civics exercise. Students in Katherine Day's Grade 10 civics class researched charities and voted on the ones they felt most deserving of support. After selecting the shelter, students organized a cake auction and toiletries drive. They made posters, issued daily announcements, and delivered decorated donation boxes to all classrooms. Students then organized a cake auction fundraiser and collected 10 boxes of toiletries to support shelter clients.

## CPHS DRAMA TEAM WINS AT REGIONAL DRAMA FESTIVAL:

The [Carleton Place High School](#) Drama Team was one of two that claimed the top prize of an Outstanding Production Award at the Ontario East Regional Drama Festival held in Perth from April 11-13, 2018. The CPHS squad won for their performance of *Appropriate Audience Behaviour* by playwright Ian McWethy, earning a spot in the Provincial Showcase the following month in Cambridge, Ontario. Students gained practical skills at the Showcase, attending workshops offered by professionals in areas such as acting and screenwriting. In addition to the Outstanding Production Award, Student Director Shamus Merkley earned an Award of Excellence for his work. Kristian Johnson received an Award of Excellence for his acting skills in three different roles in the show.

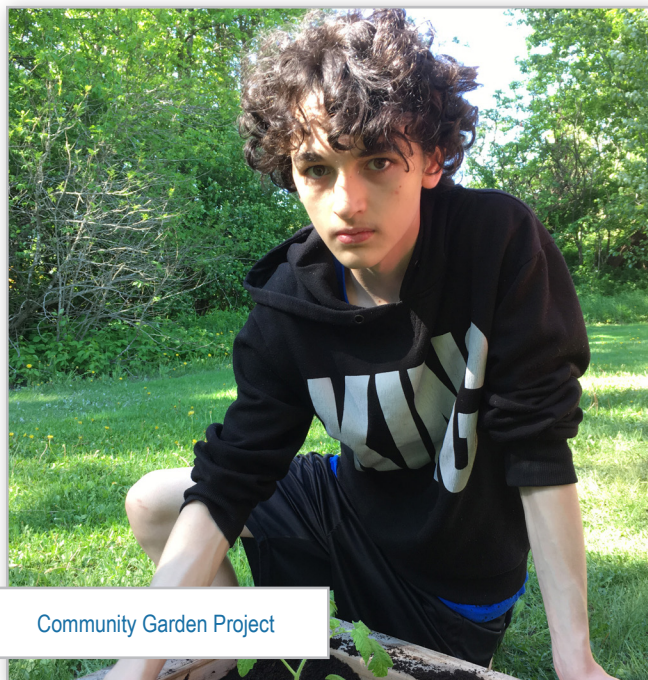
**EASTERN ONTARIO SKLZ COMPETITION** – About 180 Upper Canada District School Board students participated in the 2018 Eastern Ontario SKLZ Competition in February 2018 at the St. Lawrence College campus in Cornwall. Students competed in 19 skilled trades events including: aesthetics, hairstyling, auto service, small engine repair, welding, home building, individual construction, cabinet making, prepared speech, photography, TV/video production, journalism, job interview, team of two carpentry, and



Eastern Ontario SKLZ Competition

health and safety. Preparation for the competition allowed them to gain valuable trades skills that could either be used as a launching pad to adopt the trades as a career, or provide practical skills they can use in their personal lives. The program is also in line with the UCDSB Character Education initiative that teaches skills such as perseverance, resiliency and responsibility.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT:** Students from Glengarry District High School created a community garden in the spring of 2018 that benefits area residents while teaching students new skills. The Communities in Bloom Project created and planted five vegetable garden boxes at the Community Living Glengarry Day Centre in Alexandria. The new gardens are being used to grow tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, beans, peppers, onions, broccoli, and lettuce – some of which were grown by students from seed. Intermediate students devised and planned the garden as part of a multidisciplinary project involving math, language arts, and science skills. Grade 12 construction technology students built the boxes.



Community Garden Project

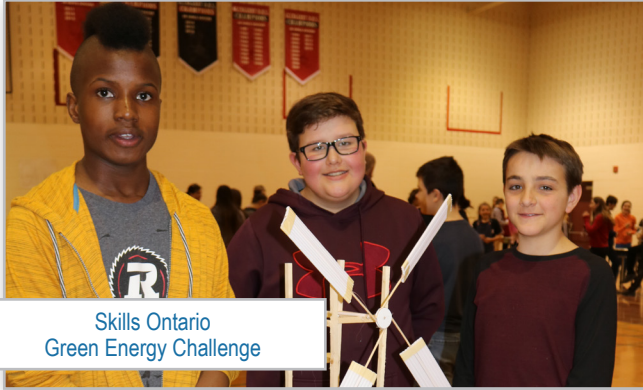
Community Living clients will have access to the garden. They will maintain it as part of their programming, and will enjoy freshly grown food in their meals.

**ILEAD DAY TEACHES MÉTIS CULTURE:** Students in the Board’s iLead program learned about Métis culture during their [iLead Day](#) in Kemptville in December 2017. Jaime Koebel of Ottawa spoke to the students about Métis history, how the Métis culture came into being, the Métis language known as Michif, and the significance of Métis artistic practices. The Métis culture grew from the historic fur trade, when European men involved in the trade intermixed with Indigenous women, and their offspring eventually formed a new Indigenous nation that controlled territory in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia. Those in attendance learned how Métis art related to that nation’s history and accomplishments. The address relayed how intricate vests worn by Métis men on special occasions bore flowered patterns that were actually maps of Métis territory. Students learned about the Métis art of birch bark biting, a technique in which artists can form detailed patterns in birch bark using only their teeth, as well as the Métis practice of [tufting](#) and [Métis finger weaving](#) techniques.



Crafts at iLead Day





Skills Ontario  
Green Energy Challenge

### SKILLS ONTARIO GREEN ENERGY CHALLENGE:

[Glengarry District High School](#) (GDHS) hosted the Skills Ontario Green Energy Challenge, which encouraged 130 UCDSB students to build and test model windmills. Students from two schools, GDHS and Tagwi Secondary School, participated in the multidisciplinary project. The windmills were produced following weeks of collaborative research by students into Green Energy. Community representatives and officials from agencies, including Ontario Hydro judged the entries on design, quality of construction, voltage output and an assessment of each teams' report on their project. The challenge helped students learn about the value of green energy, as well as important skills in mathematics, geography and science. It allowed them to make the connection between what they are learning in class and how it applies to life outside school.

**INDIGENOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:** The Board's Indigenous Education Program improved the achievement and well-being of more than 520 Indigenous students during the 2017-2018 school year. Indigenous students enjoyed improved opportunities, and all students increased their knowledge and awareness about Indigenous histories, cultures and perspectives. That awareness was increased through enhanced access to programming. In fact, the 2017-2018 school year marked the first year when all secondary schools in the UCDSB were teaching a mandatory course in First Nations, Metis, and Inuit studies, as part of students achieving their secondary school diploma.



Indigenous Knowledge Keeper

The program helped close the achievement gap and remove barriers for Indigenous students in their learning, supported Indigenous culture and created opportunities to collaborate with Indigenous partners. Most importantly, it allowed our system to take active steps to apply the model of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people – promoted by the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada](#) – in our schools and classrooms.

**BOARD HONOURS ORANGE SHIRT DAY:** The [Upper Canada District School Board](#) recognized [Orange Shirt Day](#) on Friday, September 29, 2017. Staff and students at schools and workplaces across the school board wore an orange shirt or other attire to remember those who



Orange Shirt Day



Indigenous crafts workshop

suffered under Canada’s residential school system and to mark the need for reconciliation and healing. The day has become an opportunity to keep alive the discussion on all aspects of residential schools and for healing between non-Indigenous and Indigenous Canadians.

**BOARD IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELLNESS:** Staff updated the board wide improvement plan in 2017-2018 to create the [Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Wellness](#). Adding a focus on wellness reflects one of the Board’s strategic commitments and a genuine interest in our students’ health and happiness. The plan established a collaborative, precise approach for supporting student achievement in math, literacy and well-being based on their learning needs. The plan calls for increasing the number of students achieving level three or four in primary and junior EQAO reading and writing by 3 per cent across the UCDSB by the end of 2018. Over the same period, the goal is to increase the number of first-time eligible students achieving the provincial standard on the OSSLT by 3 per cent over the previous year as compared to their Grade 6 EQAO reading and writing results. In numeracy, the UCDSB goal over the same period is to close the achievement gaps and improve student outcomes in problem-solving for all students, by moving students up at least one level as evidenced by classroom and provincial/system assessments.

**TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION +3:** The UCDSB hosted the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission +3 Gathering](#) in May 2018 for students in Grades 5 and 6. The third annual event gave students the opportunity to learn about the history and legacy of residential schools in Canada, as well as the traditions and culture of Inuit, Métis, Ojibway, Mohawk and Algonquin peoples. Over four days, 13 schools participated with close to 1,000 students. On the first day at each location, the Board hosted an evening feast for the hosting communities and dignitaries. Each day saw approximately 250 students move through five different presenter sessions. Each session had students and their teachers interacting with knowledge keepers and the artifacts they brought to share.

**WOMEN IN TRADES DAY** – In May 2018, the Upper Canada District School Board and its partners offered young women a window into the horticultural industry during the Women in Trades day held in Kemptville. About 150 young women from nine high schools across the UCDSB got a taste of the industry to see if it interested them as a career. Students learned about hardscaping and tried their hand at laying interlock; learned plant identification and developed their planting skills; as well as taking a turn at landscape design for mock clients. Student volunteers from Algonquin College’s horticulture program were group and station leaders for this two-day, experiential learning event.



Woman in Trades Day



# Wellness

**MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY OVERVIEW:** The Upper Canada District School has a three-year mental health strategy (2017-2020) that focuses on tiered interventions to support student mental health and wellness. The mission is to create a culture of wellness so that all students are prepared for a successful life. The board's strategy is aligned with work across several departments, CREW, and the Director's workplan. Yearly plans summarize how our work is focused in four core areas: mental health promotion and early intervention programming; programming that develops mental health literacy in students and staff; initiatives that articulate pathways to care (how and where students can access support); and initiatives that enhance accessibility of evidence-based mental health information. The activities for 2018-2019 are posted on the board website under District Plans.

## Highlights from 2017-2018:

- Training and delivery of evidence-based programs and interventions continued to expand over the 2017-2018 school year with a focus on stress and coping, suicide prevention, and building educator capacity to identify and provide in-school support to students experiencing mental health problems.

- System coordination and collaboration were enhanced through a revitalized Living Well table that brings together community stakeholders (including parent and student representation), and board staff. Initiatives articulating pathways to care and accessibility of mental health information were strengthened through collaboration at this table.
- School improvement planning included a wellness goal along with goals in literacy and numeracy (School Improvement Planning for Student Achievement and Wellness – SIPSAW).

The [Upper Canada District School Board](#) is working hard to continue to celebrate wellness as a daily focus in schools. We do this through helping school staff to create mentally healthy classrooms, reducing stigma related to mental health, promoting early identification of students who may be struggling with mental health issues, and supporting student pathways to supports in the board, and to and from community treatment. Our board's focus is on providing access to scientifically proven programs for classrooms, including Roots of Empathy, Mindmasters, Stress Lessons, Friends for Life, and Stick to the Facts / My Health Magazine.

## WILLIAMSTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL LEARN TO RUN

**PROGRAM:** This wellness initiative built students' fitness and confidence. The program started in May 2018 and was incorporated into gym classes and other parts of the school day. The goal was for students to complete either a one mile or half-mile run, depending on their age. At

Canadian Mental Health Association 100 years of service

UCDSB schools supported Mental Health Week

Get ready to  
**#GetLoud**  
about what mental health really is.

CMHA Mental Health Week  
May 7-13, 2018

Visit [MENTALHEALTHWEEK.CA](http://MENTALHEALTHWEEK.CA) for info and tools!



the onset, students alternated between one minute of walking and one minute of running, gradually building up their running time. The program culminated in a race day in which all 369 students participated. Organizers of the Cornwall Triathlon lent the school an inflatable start structure and banners to create an authentic race atmosphere.

**ALMONTE AND DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL CROSSFIT PROGRAM:** Almonte and District High School (ADHS) offers a CrossFit program to improve student health and instill lifelong fitness habits in its students. The program, run by teacher Steve Dalgity, is based on a [Wendler](#) strength program and CrossFit conditioning.

ADHS has a three-room fitness facility. A CrossFit area, a strength and conditioning area and a multi-purpose area that allows students to perform daily in an uncrowded space. The rooms are well equipped with cardio equipment such as C2 rowing machines, steppers, spin bikes, and C2 ski ergometers as well as CrossFit racks, bench presses, Smith machines, multi-functional units, and all necessary CrossFit equipment to provide variety in the daily workouts students enjoy.

Students report the CrossFit program has helped them increase their fitness levels, given them the tools to continue a fitness program after graduation, and increased their confidence, focus and happiness.



Almonte DHS CrossFit Program



The TISS Relay for Life raised \$17,154

**THOUSAND ISLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL HOSTS RELAY FOR LIFE:** [Thousand Islands Secondary School](#) (TISS) hosted its first Relay for Life on May 31, 2018 to raise money for cancer research. The 12-hour relay, organized by student council, began with a survivor walk followed by the relay. TISS also hosted a spring carnival with a bouncy castle, dunk tank and other activities on site. Students from elementary feeder schools were invited to participate in a mini-relay on site that afternoon. Memorial candles or “luminaries” were also sold. About \$17,154 raised in the event went to cancer research.



Thousand Islands Secondary School Relay for Life

# Valuing Equity and Inclusion

Under the leadership of Superintendent Ron Ferguson the Board continued to meet its commitment to equity and inclusion under terms of [Ontario's Education Equity Action Plan](#). The three-year plan sets direction and goals for publicly funded boards and schools to increase their focus on equity. It covers: school and classroom practices; leadership, governance and human resources practices; data collection; integration and reporting, and organizational cultural change.

The Board showed its commitment in several ways over the 2017-2018 school year, including: See My Voice, Equity Forums, We All Belong initiatives, Indigenous partnerships and Educational Initiatives, Gay-Straight Alliances, the UCDSB Equity Network and the Virtual Learning Commons.

While the Board has shown its dedication to the cause, senior staff realized more could be done. In 2017-2018, Ferguson led a broad-ranging review of the UCDSB's commitment to equity and inclusion with the help of the UCDSB Equity Network. The review considered general areas of governance, planning, instruction and celebrations to determine how our policies and practices align with the Action Plan. Staff conducted more than 20 Equity Walks or tours of schools and offices to determine

how Board policy and procedures have improved instructional practice, as well as the classroom and work climate. The group also networked with other districts and groups to find ways to make our schools more inclusive and welcoming to staff, students and the public.

Staff used the data from the Equity Walks and other sources to better understand how to enhance the accepting environment enjoyed by UCDSB staff and students. They looked at classroom practices, how the school board is keeping classrooms safe, staff training to promote an inviting and inclusive workplace culture, the creation of advisory bodies to support the Board's efforts, and the design of a school year calendar with regards to special celebrations and faith-based observances.

Staff are now beginning to respond to several recommendations from the review including: to form an Equity and Inclusion Steering Committee; strengthening inclusive and culturally responsive and relevant teaching, curriculum assessments, and resources; supporting student pathway choices; addressing suspension, expulsion and exclusion rates; increasing parent engagement in equity and inclusive education; enhancing diversity in hiring and promotion; and celebrating diversity in our classrooms and administration.



# Measuring Student Achievement and Tracking Progress

## UPPER CANADA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD EQAO PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT SCORES SHOWED IMPROVEMENT IN MULTIPLE AREAS IN 2017-2018

The latest results show that our Grade 9 applied mathematics scores are up a significant 8 per cent to 43 per cent of our students achieving the provincial standard. For Grade 9 academic mathematics, 77 per cent of students have met or exceeded the provincial standard.

Over the past five years Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test results for UCDSB students have fluctuated, with scores as high as 75 per cent in 2014-2015. In 2017-2018, 69 per cent of our students successfully met the provincial standard; a decline of 5 per cent from the previous (2016-2017) year.

Mathematics scores at the Grade 3 level have improved over last year's results by 2 per cent with 54 per cent of our students meeting the provincial standard, whereas mathematics scores at the Grade 6 level have remained the same at 39 per cent.

Elementary students in Grade 3 and Grade 6 are also progressing well in their abilities to read at the provincial standard, with assessment scores up 4 per cent to 71 per cent and up 3 per cent to 80 per cent, respectively.

The success of our students is largely the result of the Board's precise planning for improvements through the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Wellness (BIPSAW). The BIPSAW lays out several steps for improving student achievement, in response to the EQAO results, including:

- engaging teachers and administrators in regular learning teams that explore mathematics and literacy learning goals that are tied to individual school improvement plans and student achievement data;
- building teachers' knowledge of assessment practices and content, based on the Ontario Curriculum expectations, to help students gain better understanding;
- implementing a variety of teaching strategies in all classrooms to meet the needs of all students, and;
- developing rich, relevant and engaging classroom learning tasks for students.



Literacy instruction

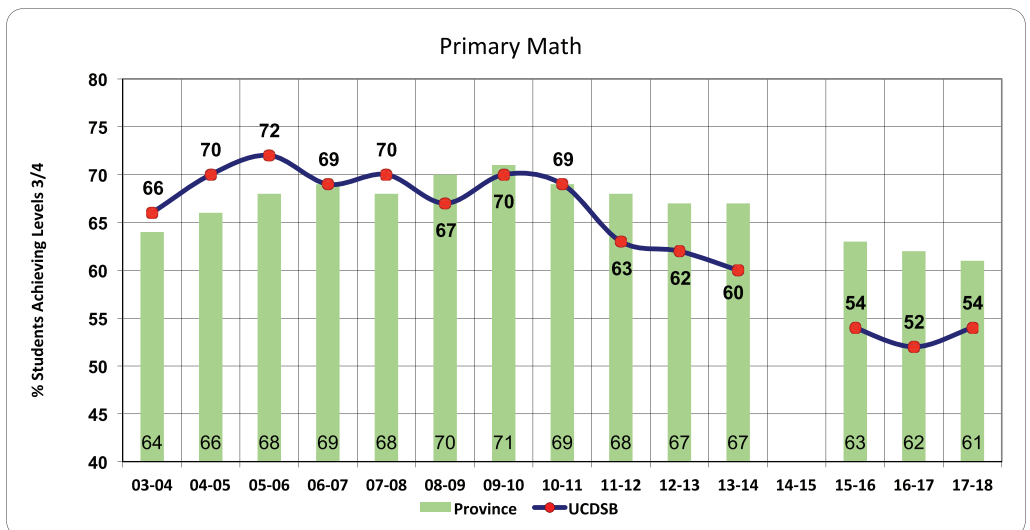
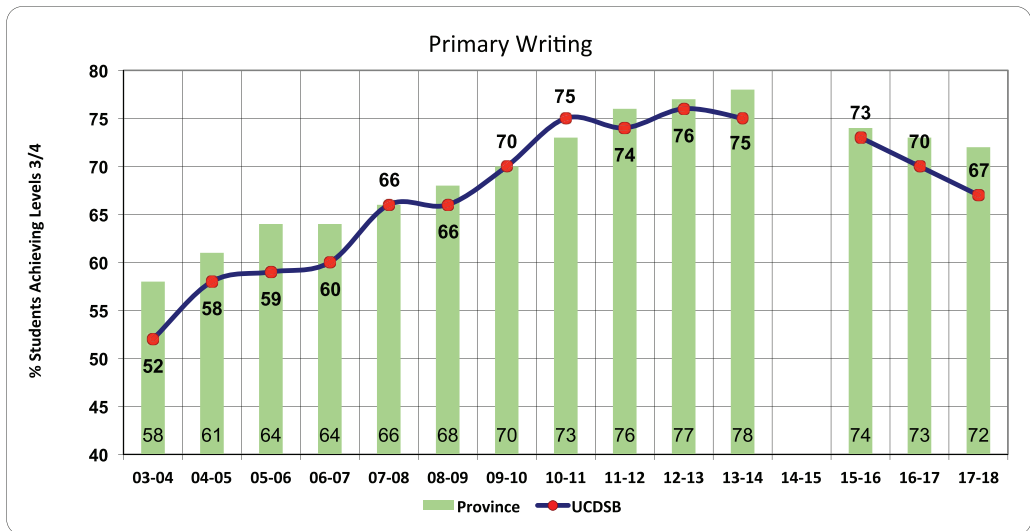
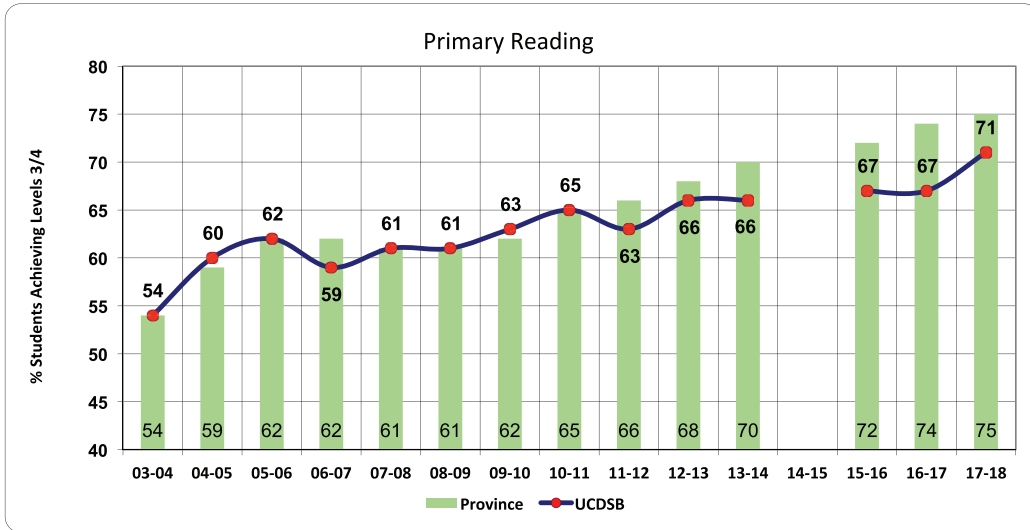


Teaching math in new ways

*Please see details of our EQAO success on the pages that follow.*

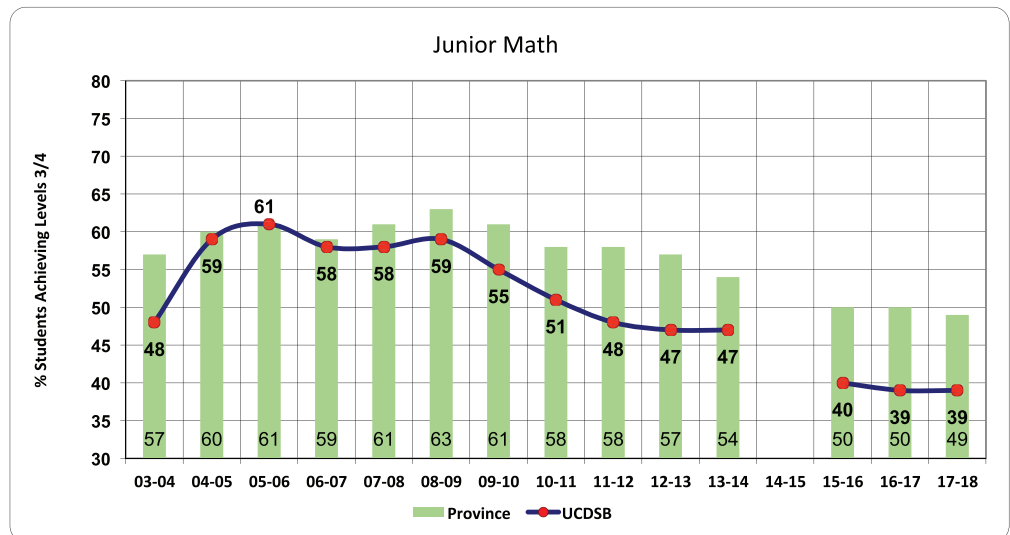
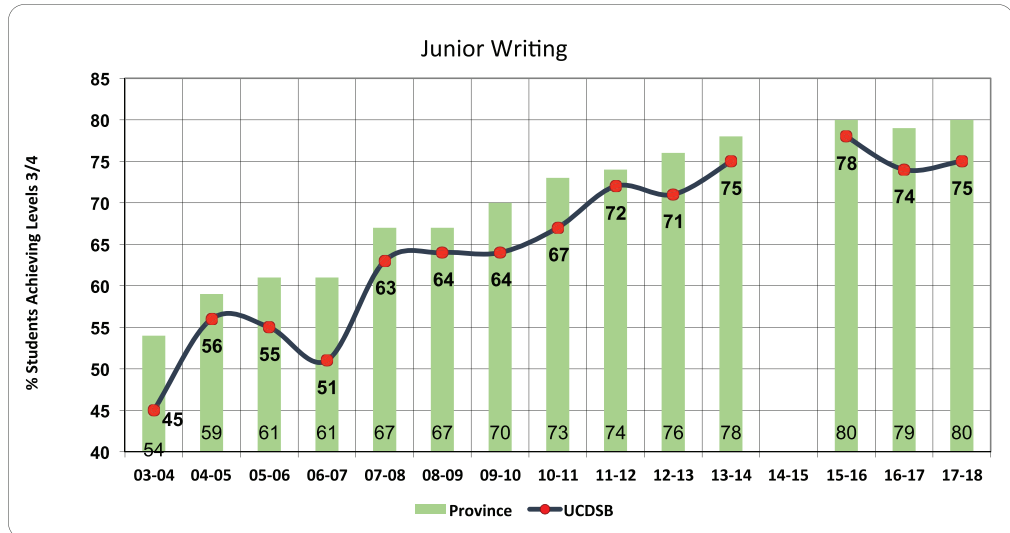
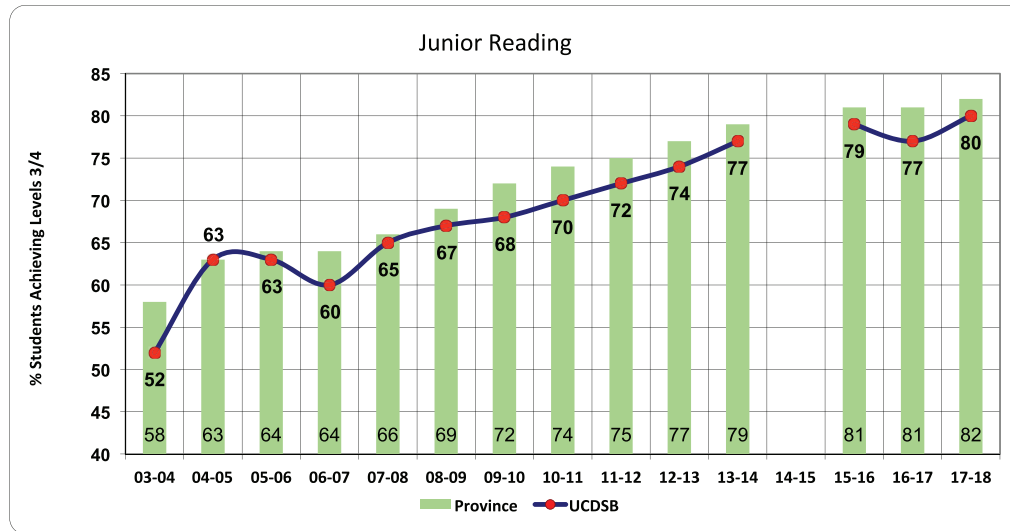


Grade 3 EQAO – UCDSB Compared to the Province as a Whole; 2003-2004 to 2017-2018





Grade 6 EQAO – UCDSB Compared to the Province as a Whole; 2003-2004 to 2017-2018

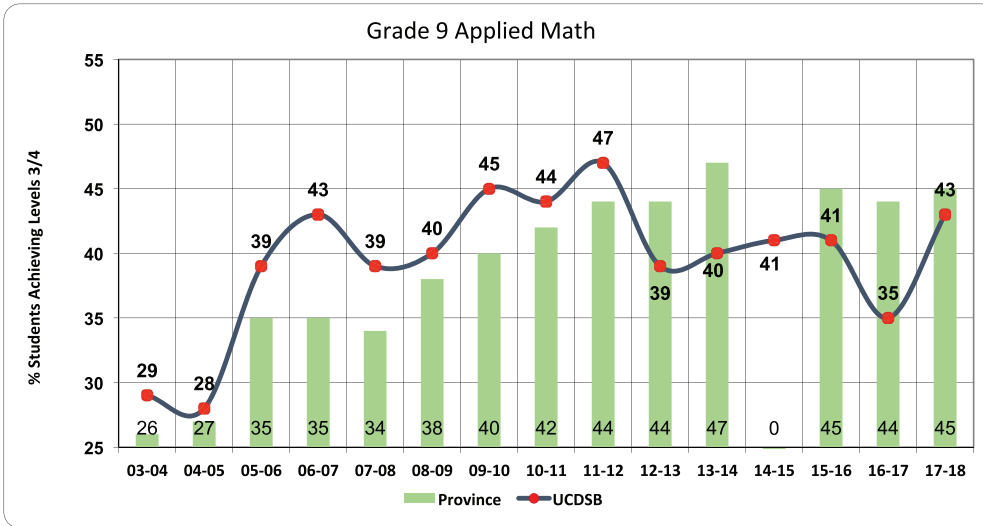
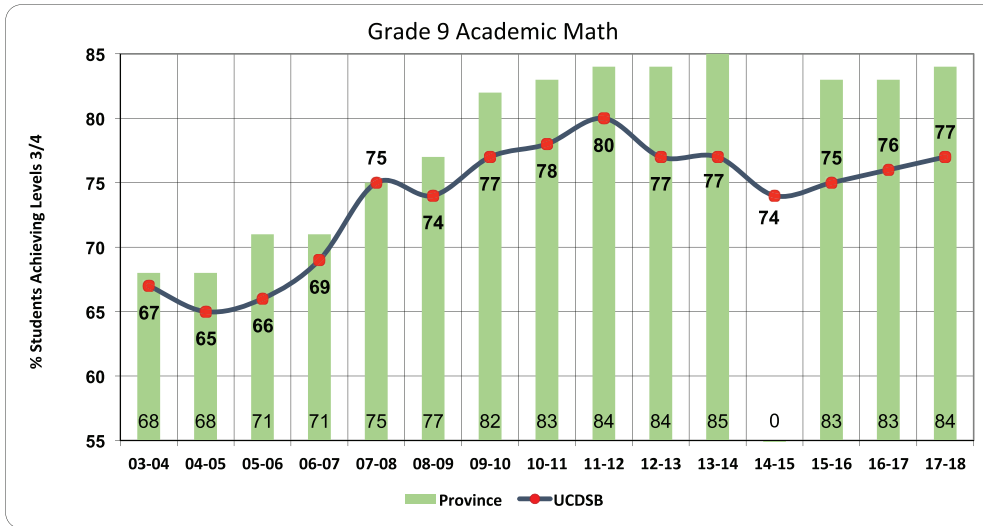




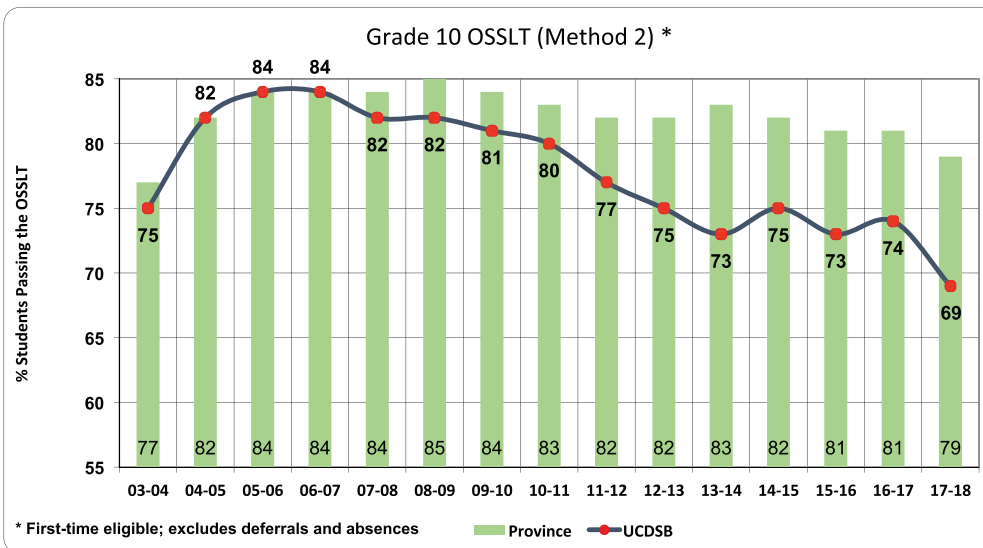


**Grade 9 EQAO – UCDSB Compared to the Province as a Whole; 2003-2004 to 2017-2018**

Note: There are no provincial results for Grade 9 EQAO Math due to labour actions in the Spring of 2015 and not all students completed the test.



**Grade 10 OSSLT – UCDSB Compared to the Province as a Whole; 2003-2004 to 2017-2018**

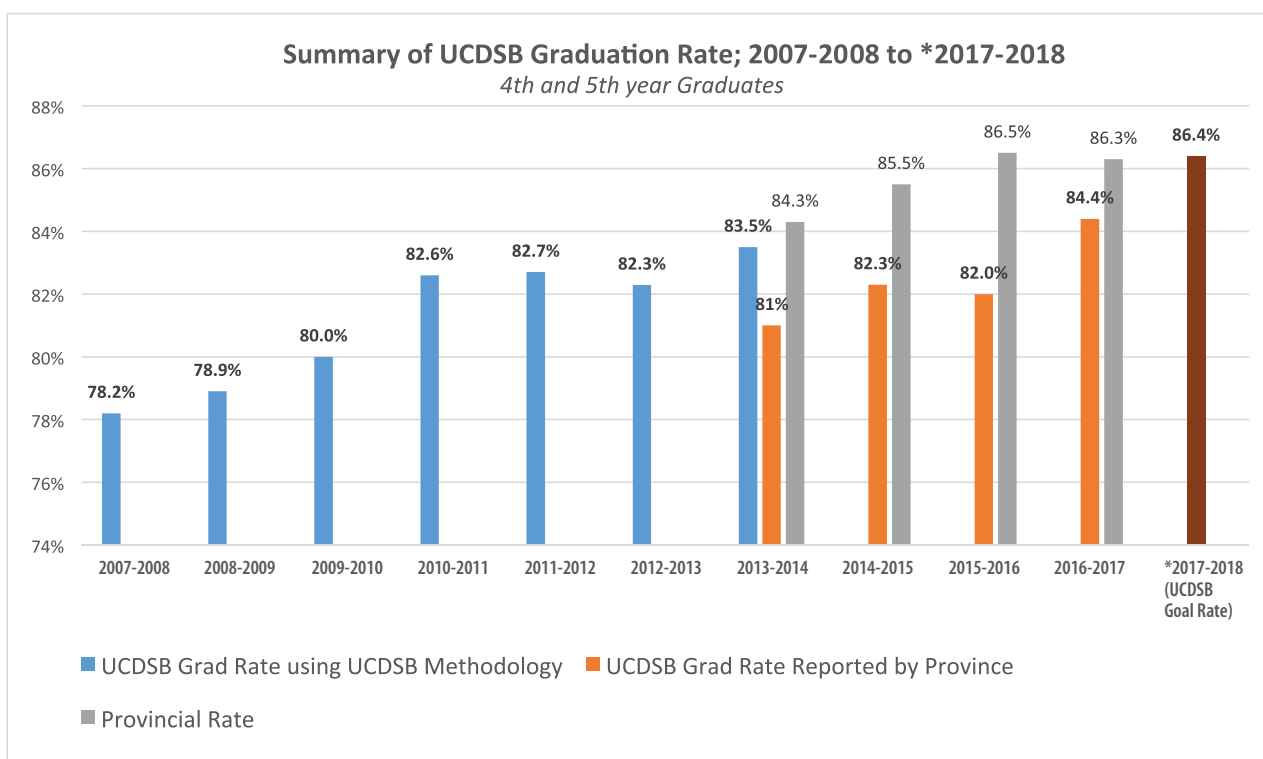




## GRADUATION RATES

The Upper Canada District School Board tracks system achievement by monitoring our annual graduation rates. Planning staff track Grade 9 students over a four and five-year period to determine, based on the provincial graduation rate methodology, how many graduate with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Our preliminary, provincially reported graduation rate for the Upper Canada District School Board increased by 2 per cent to 86.4 per cent in 2017-2018\*. This indicates that our strategic planning process, and the supports we have in place to advance student achievement, are having an impact.

*\*Figures are based on board methodology. Calculations to be verified by the province.*



*\* The 2017-2018 4th and 5th year grad rate was not published at the time the report was prepared. The UCDSB goal rate represents the objectives of the “2017-2018 Director’s Workplan” Goal #1, to increase the graduation rate by 2%.*

Updated November 5, 2018

Notes:

*Beginning in the Spring of 2015, the Ministry published board graduation rates with a methodology that was very closely aligned with the calculation that was being used by the UCDSB to track our progress with our goal to reach 90% by 2020.*

*Moving forward starting with 2014-2015 rates, the board will continue to analyze school by school achievement that accounts for the Provincial methodology.*

*The variation in the rate does not alter the exceptional work being done with the leadership of Student Success and our principals to identify students at risk even in the first year they start high school.*



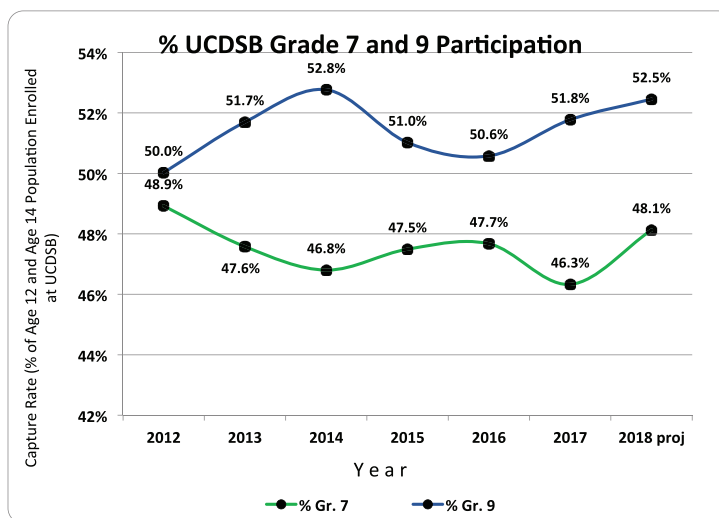
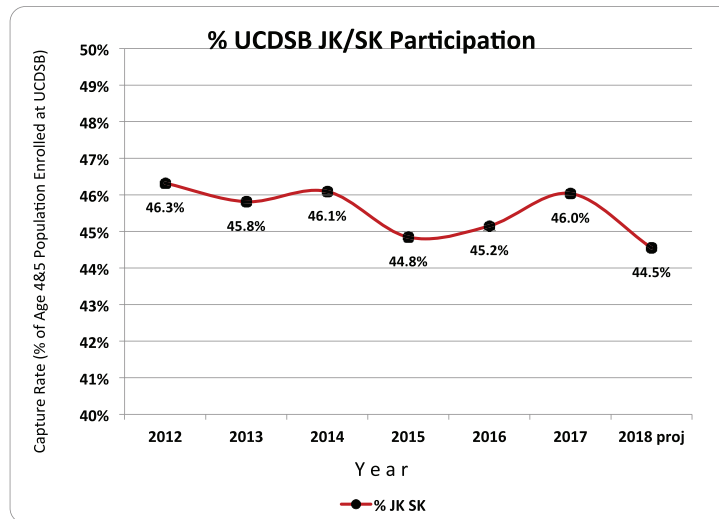
## ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY PARTICIPATION RATE

We at the Upper Canada District School Board are extremely proud of the quality, research-based programming that we offer. Our Kindergarten programming helps our youngest learners increase numeracy and literacy skills, develop their natural curiosity, socialization skills, and problem-solving skills to inspire a life-long love of learning.

Our secondary programming helps prepare all our students for a successful life intellectually, physically and socially so they can face the challenges ahead. We measure the success of our programming through our participation rates. These Key Results Indicators are calculated from the number of JK/SK, Grade 7 and Grade 9 students attending UCDSB schools as a percentage of the corresponding age populations living in the catchment area.

In 2017-2018, our system-wide Kindergarten participation rate decreased slightly to 44.5 per cent. The projected rate for Grade 7 high school-aged registrants jumped to 48.1 from 46.3. The Grade 9 rate increased to 52.5 from 51.8 in an area served by four school boards and a number of private academies. (Rates for 2018 are projected.)

The following graphs show Kindergarten, Grade 7 and Grade 9 participation rates in recent years.



# Profiles in Excellence

## PROUD OF OUR GREAT STUDENTS



**ANGELICA PAYNTER, SCHULICH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, NORTH GRENVILLE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL (NGDHS):** In the spring of 2018, Angelica was the first in our Board’s history to win a prestigious \$100,000 Schulich Leader Scholarship. She is attending the University of Ottawa, where she is studying software engineering.

Schulich Leader Scholarships are the largest STEM scholarships in Canada. Fifty outstanding students are selected in Canada each year. The scholarships were founded by Canadian businessman Seymour Schulich to aid the development of Canada’s best and brightest by allowing them to focus on their studies. With expenses covered, the hope is that they will eventually use their knowledge and

skills to make society better, both on a national and global scale.

Angelica earned the scholarship by posting a 96 per cent average in Grade 12, over a course load that included physics, advanced functions, calculus and vectors, computer science, chemistry and English. She attained that average while actively participating in sports. She plays competitive soccer in the summer and house league hockey in the winter. At NGDHS, she ran cross country in the fall, and was a member of the school’s track and field team in the spring.

**EMMA REIJMERS, 2018 GOVERNOR GENERAL’S ACADEMIC MEDAL RECIPIENT, GLENGARRY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL (GDHS):** Emma graduated from GDHS in June 2018 with a 94 per cent average, earning the Governor General’s Academic Medal on graduation. During her final year, she grew academically, but also came out of her shell through school activities. She was a member of student council, the yearbook committee, Envirothon team, senior volleyball team, school musical and the prom committee. She and her friends also organized the annual Inside Ride to raise money for children with cancer and their families. These activities, particularly the Envirothon, yearbook committee and musical, pushed her to express her opinions, making her a more independent person. She says staff prepared her for success by always standing behind her, pushing her to do better, and guiding her on how to improve.



At GDHS she fed a passion for learning about the human body, and is now studying biomedical science at the University of Ottawa. She plans to specialize in neuroscience during her second year. She wants to learn more about the brain and conditions that affect it.

Her long-term goal is to contribute to research on Alzheimer’s Disease and other life-threatening conditions. She also hopes to teach part-time at a university while carrying on her research.



**ANDREA KOCH, VALEDICTORIAN, NORTH DUNDAS DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL (NDDHS):** Andrea posted a 91 per cent average in Grade 12 and graduated from the Agricultural Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program. The accomplishment earned her the Christ Church United Award, Dundas Federation of Agriculture Award, Compass Canada Award, and Kelly Durant Award.



She also earned a Red Seal on her diploma after successfully passing the SHSM program. She currently attends the Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus in Truro, Nova Scotia and is studying animal science. After graduation, she hopes to take over the family dairy farm.

**RILEY O'FARRELL, GRADUATE, CHAR-LAN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL (CLDHS):** This accomplished young woman won the Governor-General's Academic Medal in 2018, after posting a 95 per cent average over a difficult course load that included all three university math courses, chemistry and biology.



Other awards she collected were the Char-Lan Minor Soccer Association Award, Char-Lan Staff Scholarship, Char-Lan Williamstown Reunion 1978 Scholarship, Hugh Douglas Memorial Scholarship, Lancaster Masonic Lodge 207 Annual Bursary, MacDonnell-Barrett Scholarship, Marion McWhinnie-McNaughton Memorial Award, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest C. Ross Memorial Scholarship, Msgr. Rudy Villeneuve Foundation Award, Munro Agro-Mart Award, Rhodes Grant Bursary for English, Ross Scholarship and the Royal Canadian Legion Claude Nunney V.C. Memorial Branch Award.

During her time at Char-Lan, she was active with her school's Interact Club, volunteering with the Shelter Box and Polio Days fundraisers. Additionally, she was a peer tutor, coached minor soccer and, as a MacCulloch Dancer, entertained seniors in retirement residences.

She is enrolled in the nursing program at Queen's University and hopes to become a nurse practitioner.



**CONNOR WILLIAMSON, 2018 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ACADEMIC MEDAL RECIPIENT, PERTH AND DISTRICT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE (PDCI):** This 18-year-old graduate won the 2018 Governor-General's Academic Medal at PDCI. With a 94 per cent average, he also won the Studio Theatre Arts Award, the Character Always Award, and was the Valedictorian of his graduating class.

Connor was heavily involved in school dramatic productions. In Grade 9, he had a role in *The Aristocats*, and in Grade 10, *The Jungle Book*. In Grade 11, he wrote an original screenplay called *The Bachelors* and won an award of excellence for writing. In Grade 12, he directed *Aladdin Jr.* for the Sears Drama Festival district level competition. He also served as master of ceremonies at four talent shows over his high school career.

He is currently studying theatre and psychology at York University. He plans to go into the film or television industry as a producer, director or screenwriter.



**ALLISON MACINTYRE, ILEAD/PRIDE ALLIANCE MEMBER, RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL (RHS):** Allison is one of her school's top academic students. She serves as a leader on the school's Pride Alliance.

With the Pride Alliance, Allison helped host a Transgender Day of Remembrance in the fall of 2017 to talk about transphobia and issues experienced by the transgender community. The group also hosted a display at RHS in May 2018 to mark International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. Students were encouraged to become "allies" by wearing buttons or writing notes about why they support the LGBTQ+ community. The notes were posted for all to see.

As member of the Moose Cree First Nation, Allison is active with the school’s Indigenous Leadership (iLead) program as well. She serves as the iLead Student Senate Representative for the 2018-2019 school year. She has self-identified as a member of the Indigenous community and regularly attends iLead sessions, which teach students about Indigenous culture and to celebrate it.

Allison is now in Grade 12 with a full timetable of courses and taking a heavy course load comprised of Grade 11 and 12 chemistry, Grade 12 English, French, biology, advanced functions, calculus and vectors. After graduating she hopes to attend the University of Ottawa in the fall to study nursing, and plans to become a nurse practitioner.

**SHABRINA CHOWDHURY, GRADUATE, VANKLEEK HILL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE**

**(VCI):** Shabrina graduated VCI with an 86 per cent average in the spring of 2018, while juggling many roles that helped those in her school and the wider community.

The 18-year-old was a member of the school’s Eco Club, which during her time at VCI raised money for a water fountain at the school. Members also helped plant trees in the schoolyard to combat soil erosion and provide shade. Along with other club members, she participated in a fundraiser by volunteering at a municipal hazardous waste collection day in May 2017. The club earned \$1,500, and part of the money generated will help fund a growing wall at the school. She helped promote vegetarian weeks at the school, a lights-out competition between VCI classrooms, and a contest challenging students to make Christmas wreathes out of recyclables.



Outside of school she volunteered at the Hawkesbury General Hospital and with the local branch of the Canadian Cancer Society.

At Commencement, she earned the Excellence in Native Studies Award and the Lions Club Bursary.

Shabrina is currently studying international development and globalization at the University of Ottawa. She hopes to work at either the United Nations or a non-governmental organization dedicated to international relief and human rights advocacy.



**EMMA CLARK, STUDENT, SOUTH CROSBY PUBLIC SCHOOL (SCPS):**

This compassionate young girl did her part on March 31, 2017 to make the Park it with Parker Pavilion a reality.

The pavilion was built on the schoolyard at SCPS in memory of 8-year-old South Crosby student Parker Simpson, who died of cancer in February 2017. Construction began on the 16 by 18-foot structure in the spring of 2018, and it was officially dedicated in September 2018. It is decorated along a Star Wars theme in homage to Parker’s love for the franchise, complete with Star Wars art and a carved statue of a Stormtrooper. The school and community raised \$28,800 to build the structure in Parker’s memory.

Emma was part of the first major fundraising event for the pavilion in March 2017. As a friend of Parker’s, she pledged if the school raised \$500 through a “Toonie Toss,” she would shave her head. Teacher Carrie Nolan chipped in by promising to cut off her

braided pigtail and donate the hair to Wigs for Kids. Students responded by raising \$1,200 toward the \$22,800 cost. When Carrie and Emma cut off their hair, it prompted donors to give a further \$1,250.

The young student’s efforts helped kick off a successful fundraising campaign that included a community carnival, a collection jar at the school’s Canada 150 event, many personal donations, and proceeds from the 2017 Bryan Burtch Memorial Dance.



**KEATON WAGENSVELD, STUDENT, LONGUE SAULT PUBLIC SCHOOL (LSPS):**

This young athlete personifies character. Keaton has raised more than \$4,200 for the Terry Fox Foundation by joining ultramarathoner Ian Callan on portions of two [150-kilometre runs](#) between Williamstown and Ottawa to benefit the Foundation.

The LSPS student ran 25 kilometres with Callan on his first journey in November 2016, meeting the LSPS teacher at 4 a.m. in Ottawa as he ran the final stretch to the Terry Fox Memorial. Keaton raised \$4,000 that year. In the fall of 2017, he ran 15-kilometres as Callan completed the feat another time, generating another \$200.

This student is involved in many sports in both his community and at school. He plays for the South Stormont Selects Atom B Rep Hockey Team, and enjoys house league soccer and competitive baseball.

At school he is a member of Longue Sault’s cross country team, marathon club, track and field team, basketball team and Spec Ops fitness program.

Keaton plans to complete a half marathon with his father (UCDSB principal Jason Wagensveld), in September 2019 at the Canadian Army Run in Ottawa.



**ABBI WHITELAND, CANADIAN POWERLIFTING U17 NATIONAL CHAMPION, SOUTH GRENVILLE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL (SGDHS):**

This South Grenville graduate is one of the strongest women in the world! Nicknamed “Wonder Woman,” the 17-year-old set four world records for her weight class in July 2018 at the Canadian Powerlifting Federation National Championships in Barrie. Competing in the 16-17 year-old category in a weight class of 82.5 kilograms, she squatted 248 pounds, pressed 137 pounds, and dead-lifted 358 pounds for a total weight of 743 pounds. The feat recertified her as Canadian champion after winning the title in her class in 2017 at the same competition.

Abbi, who graduated in 2017 as an Ontario Scholar, is currently completing an additional year of study at the high school while she figures out which college to attend. The extra year is giving her more time to grow in her sport. She trains three to four times a week for three to four hours a day consisting of cardio, stretching, lifting in one of the four power categories, and then weight training for supporting muscles for that lifting event.

For the first time, she competed at the World Powerlifting Championships in November 2018 in Orlando, Florida.

**ABIGAL KUNKEL, SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHAMPION, BROCKVILLE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE (BCI):**

This 16-year old Special Olympics athlete won four medals at the 2018 Special Olympics Provincial Championships in Peterborough, representing the Brockville Collegiate Institute team. Abi came home with a silver in standing long jump, bronze in 100-metre dash, and golds in 4 x 100 relay and unified team.

The Brockville teen has been a Special Olympics athlete since the age of 9, when her parents first enrolled her to increase her wellness and provide her with social opportunities. Since then, she has participated in Special Olympics swimming, basketball, bowling, floor hockey, track and field and bocce ball.



Abigail is a supporter of Special Olympics as an ambassador at events such as local galas and breakfast fundraisers. Her long-term goals after finishing at BCI is to continue competing with Special Olympics for decades to come.

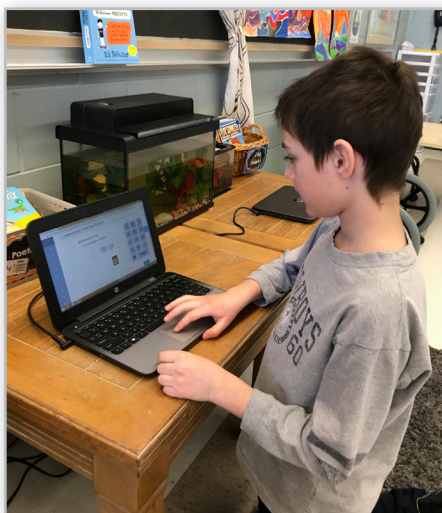
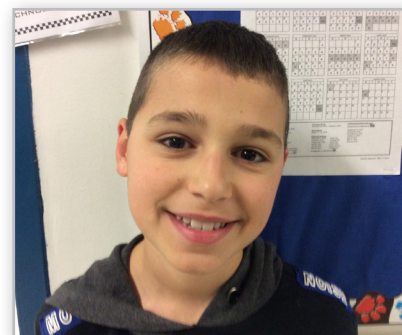


**JUNHO KIM, GOVERNOR GENERAL’S ACADEMIC MEDAL WINNER, ROCKLAND DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL (RDHS):** This international student topped his graduating class in June 2018, posting a 93.5 per cent average and winning the Governor General’s Academic Medal.

Junho also won the Character Always! Award, OPC Principal’s Award for Leadership, the Serge Payer Scholarship for sports leadership, and a \$2,000 entrance scholarship to Waterloo University, where he is studying mechanical engineering.

Junho attended RDHS for four years and during that time he was a team leader on the school’s rugby, soccer, volleyball and hockey teams. He served on the school’s Tell Them from Me student committee, and helped implement many student-led initiatives. The Ontario scholar sat on the graduation committee and helped organize the annual RDHS Sports Grind. Junho also served as a student mentor and often tutored students in math and science.

**ZACK THEOCHAROUS, GLOBAL KIDS CLUB MEMBER, WILLIAMSTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL (WPS):** Zack is a caring student who helped with the 2017 Agape Centre Winter Clothing Drive at Williamstown Public School in December 2017. Along with other members of the school’s Global Kids Club, Zack worked with the Agape Centre to organize a successful drive that collected 200 items of all sizes including: winter boots, mitts, scarves, snowsuits, and winter jackets. Through the exercise, Zack demonstrated worthy character traits such as caring, empathy and responsibility. He also helped run the Christmas Child Star Campaign to raise money for the Children’s Aid Society, and the World Colouring Day fundraiser, which encouraged families to come to WPS and colour together in the gym, asking only for a small donation. The event generated \$500 for the Champions for Kids Foundation.



**LINCOLN LALONDE, MATHLETICS MARCH MADNESS CONTEST, VANIER PUBLIC SCHOOL (VPS):** This [Vanier Public School](#) student ranked first in Canada on March 14, 2018 during daily competition in the Mathletics March Madness Contest. He earned 10,000 points that day while using the math instructional program. He was so excited by Mathletics and the ongoing contest that he spent time competing, and learning, over his March break.

The program was purchased by Vanier as part of the Upper Canada District School Board’s ongoing efforts to improve student math scores by providing new ways to learn. Students are engaged in the contest by testing themselves on groups of 10 questions in areas such as number order, addition, multiplication, subtraction and division. Students earn points for each correct answer, encouraging them to participate and learn through completing age-appropriate math questions. Lincoln’s success in mathematics has him thinking about a career designing computer portals for video games.





**GILLIAN KIPPEN, HONOURS STUDENT, TAGWI SECONDARY SCHOOL (TSS):** Gillian posted an 85 per cent average in Grade 12 at Tagwi Secondary School. She graduated with a Red Seal on her diploma after successfully completing the Specialist High Skills Major Program in Agriculture. During her high school years she played school soccer, hockey, volleyball and basketball, and served on the school’s Link Crew. At commencement, the 18 year-old won the Barry Brownlee Memorial Trophy and Award, the Glengarry Curling Club Award, the J. Irwin Coulthart Award for history and social science, the Maxville and District Horticultural Society Bursary, and the Society for the Promotion of Bilingualism Bursary. She is currently attending St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia studying Human Kinetics and is considering becoming a physiotherapist.

## PROUD OF OUR GREAT STAFF



**DONNA LAFRANCE, LEARNING RESOURCE TEACHER, RUSSELL PUBLIC SCHOOL, 2018 SERVICE EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT:** Donna seeks the best in each child academically and socially, and inspires confidence in her students to do their best. She is a highly accomplished educator who loves to integrate technology into her lessons and is eager to share her knowledge and resources with others. Donna provides relevant professional development for the educational assistants at Russell Public School, and her leadership style and professional conduct ensures continuous growth and skill development of both staff and students.

**KEVIN GRAY, MATH TEACHER, THOUSAND ISLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL, 2018 SERVICE EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT:** Kevin is a “lifesaver” for students struggling with online mathematics classes and Grade 12 calculus and vectors. Despite a heavy class schedule, he offers extra help for students outside class hours to help them understand. He uses technology tools such as Desmos, and ensures students know exactly what they are doing. He employs techniques and visuals students can relate to – including making YouTube videos of calculus lessons as a resource for students.



**RON HOLLA, UCDSB CO-OP TEACHER, CADETS CANADA COMMANDING OFFICER’S COIN RECIPIENT:** Upper Canada District School Board co-operative education teacher Ron Holla received the Commanding Officer’s Coin in October 2017 from Cadets Canada. The citation honours an individual whose service to Cadets goes above and beyond their expected duties. Holla, a Cadet Instructor Cadre Officer, was recognized for developing the [Upper Canada District School Board Cadet Co-operative Education Program](#), which is run by the [TR Leger School of Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education](#). It allows students to benefit from military and leadership training, while gaining two cooperative education credits. Depending on their branch of Cadets – Sea, Air, or Army – students take three or six-week summer training courses such as marksmanship, basic and ceremonial drill, basic aviation, sailing, seamanship and band.

Apart from the specialized training students enjoy, the program emphasizes physical fitness, responsibility, devotion to duty and other skills that will benefit them for years to come. Working with the military and the school board, Holla first piloted the program in 2012. He started with just seven students. Since then the program has grown with approximately 270 students participating during the summer of 2017.



**JENN BURKE, INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT, TR LEGER SCHOOL OF ADULT, ALTERNATIVE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION, 2018 DIRECTOR'S AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENT:**

This instructional assistant and secondary teacher is known for her dedication, which inspires and motivates her students to succeed. Her caring attitude and attention to detail helps students at TR Leger overcome nervousness and anxiety about returning to school to get a secondary graduation certificate. She helps students set flexible learning schedules that are adapted to their personal challenges. Jenn is known for keeping a caring eye on her students, following up with them to provide guidance – even on her own time. What makes her so special is that she believes in her students, giving them the self-confidence to follow their dreams. Jenn is currently working at the TR Leger School of Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education campus in Brockville.

**LINDSAY CASSELMAN, ELEMENTARY TEACHER, PINEVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL, 2018 DIRECTOR'S AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENT:**

Lindsay is a constant source of inspiration and motivation, not only to staff at [Pineview Public School](#), but within the community. She is an instructional leader at the school and her innovative outlook on teaching in her Kindergarten/Grade 1 class can be seen on her class Facebook page. Prior to a class visit last school year to a local pizzeria, a discussion with students involved accessibility to the restaurant for a classmate in a wheelchair. The real situation of whether a student's wheelchair would fit through the restaurant doors was presented to the students. The class had taken a measurement of the student's wheelchair and this led to a discussion that if the student could not visit the pizzeria with his peers, they would not go without him.



The discussion offered endless curriculum ties involving measuring, problem solving and oral communication, it also helped instill an understanding among the students that inclusion and kindness are traits that should be emulated. A Facebook posting about the lesson attracted 4,000 viewers. It is one of the countless innovative lessons conducted in the classroom, including encouraging a junior kindergarten student to lead a class discussion on 3D shapes.

She is a source of knowledge, guidance and inspiration to her peers. In the past, she has led professional development workshops and taught additional qualification courses. She also goes above and beyond to guide new teachers.



**TERESA DOLAN, EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT, BROCKVILLE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, 2018 DIRECTOR'S AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENT:**

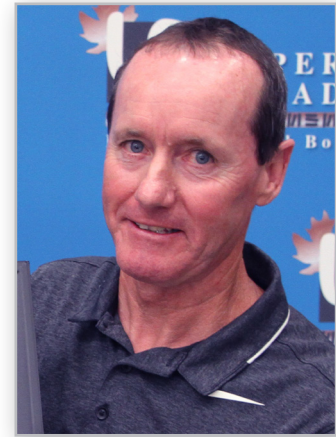
This veteran educational assistant has spent 28 years caring for students at various UCDSB schools including [Maynard Public School](#), [South Grenville District High School](#), [Thousand Islands Secondary School](#) and now [Brockville Collegiate Institute](#) (BCI). She is known for caring for the whole student. She moves about a classroom and instinctively recognizes the students most in need of help. She gets to know the students she works with and integrates their interests into class lessons. She once had a struggling math student use fractions in a productive way by making cupcakes with her to share with the entire class. It is moments like this that can change a student's outlook and how others see them in return. She has built self-confidence in her students, as she truly believes in them. In the past, Teresa has worked with the Nutrition for Kids Program, ensuring students have

enough to eat to assist in their learning. If she notices a child in need of clothing, she will work with other staff, friends and family to ensure that child's needs are met. She has also used her sewing skills to alter costumes for dramatic productions at BCI.



**GARY KENNEY, HEAD CUSTODIAN, RIDEAU DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL, 2018**

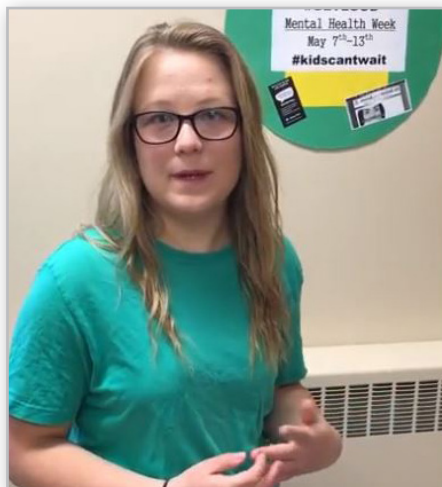
**DIRECTOR'S AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENT:** Gary has been recognized as an exemplary employee who exhibits excellence and caring every single day. As the head custodian at Rideau District High School (RDHS) he is kind to all students and they have great respect for him. He is a strong community member and his love of RDHS is obvious. He is always positive and actively seeking ways to help improve things at the school. Through his diligence, Gary ensures a pristine and safe environment for all. RDHS underwent significant construction over the summer of 2017. The school's parking lot was redesigned causing changes to bus pick-up and drop-off. During the first week of school, Gary came out for bus duty (without being asked) to assist bus drivers with the line-up and students in finding their buses. Gary has mentored students who have been placed with him for co-op, too. They enjoy working with him because he provides important work for them to do, and because he strives for excellence while maintaining a fun approach.



**PROUD OF OUR SCHOOLS**

**BOARD OFFICIALLY OPENS KEMPTVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL:** The Upper Canada District School Board hosted an official opening in October 2017 for the new Kemptville Public School. The ceremony included an official ribbon cutting, student performances, as well as speeches by dignitaries marking the occasion.

The new 44,390 square-foot, air-conditioned building represents the Board's commitment to the Kemptville area. It was constructed with \$13.3 million in funding from the Ministry of Education. It features modern classrooms including digital interactive display units, an open Learning Commons with a stage, project/resource rooms adjacent to classrooms, a modern gymnasium, and a large green space with new play structures and a soccer field.



**RIDEAU DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZES MENTAL HEALTH WEEK:**

Staff and students at Rideau District High School wore green on May 9, 2018 to celebrate Mental Health Week, and to publicize that help is available for those struggling with mental illness. Green represents growing in a healthy way.

The day was part of a larger campaign at Rideau that week. Staff and students provided helpful messaging on outdoor signs and on bulletin boards. They placed student-made signs in bathrooms explaining ways to access mental health services. The effort was part of a Canadian Mental Health Association campaign designed to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and timely care.

**NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS WITH SEAWAY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS:**

The [Upper Canada District School Board](#) signed an agreement in September 2017 to enhance a unique partnership with the [Municipality of South Dundas](#), [Ross Video](#) and the [Code Heroes](#) program. The partnership provided additional programming, state-of-the-art laptops and funding for the new equipment, and expanded the benefits of the Code Heroes program for students at [Seaway District High School](#), [Iroquois Public School](#), and [Morrisburg Public School](#). Code Heroes is an innovative local program based out of Cornwall that is designed to engage young students to innovate and learn through fun educational opportunities. Their workshops include digital literacy, coding, graphic design, game design, and digital marketing. This innovative program has been part of the local curriculum since February 2017, when the Township of South Dundas partnered with several local schools to enhance programming after student interest was identified within Seaway DHS.



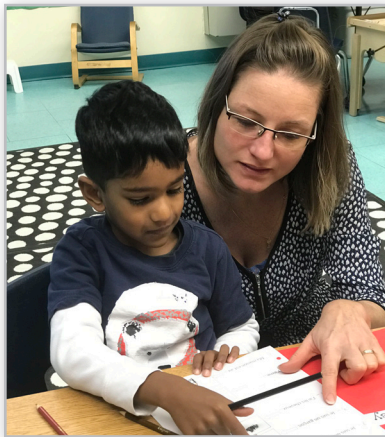
**CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL HOSTS BICENTENNIAL:** Hundreds enjoyed a year-long [bicentennial celebration](#) in 2017-2018 at Central Public School. The event, designed to celebrate the history of the school and its positive impact on the community, included an open house, an art show, spaghetti dinner and a family barbecue. The Open House provided historical displays and a pizza dinner. The Art Show offered images of the school in year's past created by students as well as other celebratory images. At the Family Barbecue, guests enjoyed a barbecue, the Pizazz Magic Show, Zumba dancing led by Zumba Kids with Adele and Jasmine, a giant inflatable soccer dart game, face painting and another historical display.

**VANIER PUBLIC SCHOOL, WILLY WONKA KIDS PRODUCTION:** The spring production of Willy Wonka Kids at [Vanier Public School](#) was a true example of our schools collaborating with their communities. The set, choreography and vocal delivery during the school production were the product of generous support from the theatrical community and many other partners who helped make the show a success. Harold Hess, a former UCDSB principal who now works for the [Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence-Rideau](#), connected the production with local actor Drew Morley, who choreographed the production, and the [Brockville Operatic Society](#). Support also came from local set designer Guy Wales, and set builder Thomas Harder, and Pretty Dreams Photography, while the stairs and props were lent to the production by [Brock Cartage](#), [St. Lawrence College](#) and [Four Season Dance Academy](#). All these groups provided professional advice to help make the production a quality show.





**LINKLATER PUBLIC SCHOOL MARATHON CLUB:** Students at this Gananoque school are learning positive attitudes toward physical fitness through the school’s Marathon Club. The club is open to students from Kindergarten to Grade 6. Over an eight-week period each fall, they run 500-metre laps around the school yard during the 40-minute lunch break. The goal is to run 84 laps by the end of the season – or the 42-kilometer approximation of a marathon. Some students also run during their gym classes. In previous years, participants have completed up to 250 laps over the course of the program. As an incentive, students receive a club token for every 10 laps that they complete, which they wear on necklaces as a source of pride. The school hosts a big Marathon Club finale at the end of the eight weeks, which coincides with the Parent Council Family BBQ. Parents are invited to witness their children run their last kilometre in front of all their friends and family members. As they cross the finish line, those who complete the full 42 kilometres receive a marathon medal.



**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR INTERVENTION STRATEGIES (PBIS) FRAMEWORK:**

This framework is designed to create a culture of caring and respect at Rockland Public School (RkPS). PBIS teaches students what is expected behavior and rewards them for displaying it. The goal is to create a safe, predictable school environment, which will lead to improved learning outcomes.

It is directed at all students within the school and based around the four core principles of being Respectful, Kind, Proud and Safe. A school team has developed a list of explicit behavior they are teaching students to adopt such as keeping their area tidy, throwing away garbage after lunch, and treating others the way they want to be treated.

The idea is to “catch them being good” and avoid negative student behavior through positive reinforcement. Teachers who spot students displaying traits such as kindness and respect congratulate the students and explain how their positive behavior impressed them. They enter the student’s ticket number into a draw for prizes.

There is still discipline for bad behavior, though it is to be done tactfully and privately. Staff keep records of student behavior and use the data to identify problem areas and make the program better.

The framework has already yielded results at RkPS, including better classroom behavior with more students waiting their turn and putting their hands up to ask questions.

**ATHENS DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL COUNTRY FAIR:**

Athens District High School (ADHS) hosts [a fair](#) each fall to embrace and celebrate the rural nature of their community. The event is a way for students to have fun, celebrate their school, and to take pride in their rural roots. As part of the fair, there is an annual pep rally and students drive their tractors to school to display on school grounds. They also enjoy fun rural activities such as cow patty bingo, a hay bale toss, caramel apples and apple cider, apple bobbing, wheelbarrow racing, and student entertainment.



## PROUD OF OUR ALUMNI

**DR. PETER STANGEBY, PHYSICIST:** This Brockville Collegiate Institute (BCI) graduate is an internationally recognized physicist who has been working more than 40 years at the University of Toronto. The engineering professor, pictured at centre, is a leading authority on most aspects of the boundary physics of magnetic fusion energy research devices. His research helps scientists better use magnetic fields to contain the potentially damaging heat of plasma fusion reactions in present research devices and future electricity plants – preventing reactions as high as 100 million degrees from damaging the reactors containing them. He has had a major influence on the field of fusion energy both through his own scientific work and through inspiring and mentoring the next generation of researchers in the field.



He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He has authored more than 300 scientific research papers as well as the definitive, world-recognized book *The Plasma Boundary of Magnetic Fusion Devices*.

Dr. Stangeby attended Brockville Collegiate Institute (BCI) from 1957 to 1962 and during his time at the school he was student council president, a member of the drama and Key Club, and an Ontario Scholar. After graduating from BCI, the professor attended the University of Toronto earning his bachelor and master of science degrees in physics followed by a doctorate at the University of Oxford.

Since his formal retirement from the engineering faculty at the University of Toronto, Dr. Stangeby has continued to teach undergraduates on a pro bono basis, sharing his love of learning and his passion for physics.

**RICK GRAHAME AND DEBBIE WILSON, OWNERS, GRAHAME'S BAKERY, KEMPTVILLE:** North Grenville District High School (NGDHS) graduates Rick Grahame and sister Debbie Wilson operate the historic Grahame's Bakery in Kemptville. The pair have owned the business since 2003, but it has been in their family for three generations. They still use the original circa 1885 wood-fired baker's oven to cook bread, donuts, buns, tarts and other delectable treats for residents in the community.



Rick was a trucker and hay factory worker for many years, and Debbie worked as a designer in the fashion industry, before family and the business drew them back to Kemptville.

Rick and Debbie graduated from North Grenville District High School in 1982 and 1978 respectively. Debbie was an honours student and spent her high school years playing on the school's fastball, basketball, volleyball, badminton and track and field teams, representing her school as a sprinter at EOSSAA and OFSAA. Rick was heavily involved in intramural sports and helped in the family business while in high school.

They both say NGDHS showed them the value of a strong community and the importance of connecting with others. They still socialize with many high school friends and old teachers often visit the bakery.

That strong sense of community has led them to carry on a family tradition of supporting the community and caring for others. Their father and mother volunteered to cook turkeys, bread and other food to keep shelters supplied during the Great Ice Storm of 1998. Today, Rick and Debbie do the same, baking turkeys for an annual Thanksgiving Friendship Dinner run by local churches. They regularly donate baked goods to service club fundraising dinners, the community hospice, and other community events. Debbie also chairs the Old Town Kemptville Business Improvement Area.



**ELLEN WHEELER, DIRECTOR OF SALES, ALIVE MAGAZINE:** This graduate of Gananogue Intermediate and Secondary School is director of sales for Alive Publishing, a corporate publishing chain that produces [Alive Magazine](#), as well as four other magazines, an online academy, a retail and consumer choice awards event, as well as various digital productions. Ellen has worked for the company for nearly 20 years in various roles. Before that she worked in the commercial pharmacy industry managing cosmetics departments for various chains.

During her time at GISS in the 1980s, she was a member of Student Council, a peer counsellor, and a member of the track and field and soccer teams. The experience helped her to develop the social skills and drive to be successful in sales.

She now lives in Delta, British Columbia with her husband Miles, and sons Taylor, 11 and James 10. The family enjoys an active lifestyle including kayaking, paddle boarding, skiing, and swimming.

**KIM SYTSMA, BEEF FARMER, GRADUATE, ATHENS DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL:** This veteran beef farmer is a prominent member of the Leeds County farming community. Kim and her husband, Charlie, live in the Athens-area and have a 1,500-acre farm where they raise 600 Angus cattle.

A graduate of ADHS in 1977, she credits her service on the ADHS Student Parliament for developing an interest in lobbying for change. Kim sits on several farm organizations and is dedicated to enhancing the lives of the farming community. Organizations she works with include: Ontario Association of Community Pastures; Leeds Federation of Agriculture; Leeds Community Pasture; Ontario Cattlemen’s Association; and the Provincial Nutrient Management Advisory Committee.

She has undertaken watershed rehabilitation projects on both the community pasture and her farm. The couple planted 3,000 trees along a 1.5 mile stretch of creek bed along their own property. They also invested in five solar-powered water pumping stations to provide water to cattle as well as a mobile unit to take to different areas where cattle congregate.



Over 40 years of service to her community, she has won several awards including: induction into the ADHS Hall of Distinction; Angus Breeder of the Year, Angus Association of Ontario; Leeds County Family Farm Award, Leeds Federation of Agriculture; Leeds Cattlemen’s Award of Merit; 2010 Environmental Stewardship Award, Royal Bank, Beef Farmers of Ontario; and the Mark of Excellence Award, Beef Improvement Ontario.



**TARA MACWHIRTER, VANKLEEK HILL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, FOUNDER GARDEN PATH HOMEMADE SOAP:** This Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute (VCI) graduate is the founder and owner of [Garden Path Homemade Soap](#) – a popular tourist attraction that creates homemade bath, body and cleaning products just outside Vankleek Hill.

Tara attended VCI from 1986 to 1990, and played on the soccer and volleyball teams. She achieved an 87 per cent average in Grade 13 while juggling a number of community commitments including 4H, Junior Farmers, and step and highland dancing. At commencement, these accomplishments helped her win the Principal’s Trophy. She also won the Art Award and Geography Award.

She later obtained a teaching degree from Queen’s University and went on to teach at VCI, Pleasant Corners Public School and then with a private academy.

Ten years ago, after a friend got her interested in soap making, she created Christmas gifts for friends and family. She later sold the products at fairs and other events prompting her to take the business full-time seven years ago. She operates a shop in Vankleek Hill and has an online business that sends products throughout Canada.

Many of the ingredients used in the products are grown in her vast gardens. A conservationist, she also uses the gardens as a Monarch Butterfly rearing area.

## PROUD OF OUR VOLUNTEERS



### JOY KEHOE, 2018 LANARK SOUTH FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER

**OF THE YEAR:** Joy has spent a quarter century volunteering at Drummond Central School. She is a hard-working, dedicated and kind individual. A devoted supporter, she ensures most items used in fundraising are donated, so the majority of funds generated go to students. She has worked with the breakfast program for 15 years, has been treasurer on the parent council at Drummond Central School, and organizes fundraisers such as the Halloween Fun Night Haunted Room, and Trivia Night. Every event she organizes is run with passion, focus and a love for students. In 2017, she was a main organizer of the school’s Canada 150 celebration. A passionate environmentalist, she organizes the Used Book Sale at Drummond each year giving children a chance to read a good story, while keeping used books out of the waste stream.

### MOIRA SANDERS-DOREY, 2018 HIGHLAND FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:

Moira volunteers daily at Rothwell-Osnabruck School and has done so since 2014. She organizes and runs the hot lunch program, reads to students, helps with fundraisers and special events, is active on parent council and never denies a request for help. She goes out of her way to thank everyone for their efforts, and always supports and encourages the people around her.



### In Memoriam...



### ROBERTA MCCORMICK, 2018 LANARK NORTH FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:

This super volunteer, known as “Nanny Bobbie” in our schools had volunteered for 27 years. She started at the old G.L Comba school, then moved to [Almonte and District High School](#) to work with special needs students, and read to Grade 1 students at R. Tait McKenzie Public School. The children loved working with her and she had an amazing impact in the classroom. At the time of our writing this report in November 2018, we learned that Roberta passed away. We will certainly miss her presence in our schools but are comforted by the fact that she has left a long and lasting legacy about care and kindness for our students and former students.





**REV. JAMES DOUGLAS, 2018 PRESCOTT-RUSSELL FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** Reverend Douglas has volunteered for seven years at Pleasant Corners Public School (PCPS). He has worked extensively with primary classes at PCPS, reading to them one-on-one or in small groups, and helping them tie their shoes or practice pencil grip. He is a strong grandfather figure who accompanies classes on field trips, and provides a supportive ear to vulnerable students.

**CLAUDETTE LAZZARI, 2018 CORNWALL FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** Claudette is active with the hot lunch/snack program at Viscount Alexander Public School. She suggests ways to improve the program, has a great rapport with staff and students and never misses a chance to provide food for Viscount students. We all know a full stomach leads to greater focus and greater learning in the classroom. If the breakfast program has bananas that are past their prime, she removes them and takes them home to make fresh banana bread for the students. She also volunteers as a scribe during EQAO.



**FLORA FRANCIS, 2018 BROCKVILLE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** Flora has volunteered at Vanier Public School for many years. In 2017-2018 she worked with the Grades 1/2 class, helping with reading, baking, math activities or anything else asked of her. She also judges at the annual student speech contest, and helped with an Early Act project to quilt a blanket for Ronald McDonald House.



**LISA MAGEE, 2018 UPPER CANADA DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:** This outstanding volunteer has been selected as the overall Upper Canada District School Board Volunteer of the Year for her 15-year effort at Duncan J. Schoular Public School. For many years, she was the sole member of parent council at the school. Despite being a one-woman show, she always ensured the council had an active role in fundraising for the school through various initiatives and events. She has served the breakfast program, helps with the Scientists in the Classroom program, and has been an ever-present defender of the school. Lisa's dedication, passion and commitment to the school is second to none. She is a true advocate, having stood up for the school to counter ill will in the community during the process of expanding French immersion to all grades. She has attended countless meetings to be a positive voice for her school. She also volunteered with the Wolford School Transition Committee to ease the transition of Wolford students to Duncan J. Schoular in the fall of 2018.





# Recognizing Our Staff



**TRUSTEE INNOVATION AWARDS:** The Upper Canada District School Board distributed the 2017 Trustee Innovation Awards in September. The awards program boosts wellness among our staff by recognizing them for finding new ways to better serve our school communities and move students forward. Recipients must have demonstrated creativity and innovation in devising a technique, tool or other resource that has increased student or peer achievement. In doing so, they must have demonstrably worked beyond their job expectations. The 2017 recipients included a custodian known for his innovative solutions to addressing problems at his school from broken eyeglasses to the need to conserve water; a principal helping advance student understanding of mathematics; and the creative Kindergarten team that led the [Toniata Happiness Project](#).

**DIRECTOR'S AWARD OF MERIT:** Director of Education Stephen Sliwa presented a number of Awards of Merit over the course of the school year, for a range of accomplishments from innovative physical education programming to a community garden project that showed staff members' professionalism and caring for their communities. The [Director's Award of Merit](#) is presented

quarterly to employees who bring the best of themselves to the workplace on a regular basis throughout the year, contributing to a positive, productive, and caring workplace in which employees support each other to achieve important goals for serving and supporting our students and schools. Through their actions, these employees inspire students and colleagues alike, by demonstrating the spirit of the UCDSB's mission, vision, and values.

**TED KENNEDY LEGACY AWARDS:** Superintendent David Coombs presented the 2017 Ted Kennedy Legacy Awards in October 2017 to the two UCDSB schools that raised the most money (per pupil) during the 2016 Terry Fox National School Run Day. [Longue Sault Public School](#) was the top elementary school, raising \$7,245 or \$27.24 per student. [Char-Lan District High School](#) was the top secondary school, generating \$3,489.80 or \$11.08 per student. During 2016, UCDSB schools raised a total of \$85,450 for the Terry Fox Foundation. The legacy awards are given annually by the school board in memory of the late Ted Kennedy, a UCDSB superintendent who died in 2011 who was a big supporter of the Terry Fox School Run Day. The 2016-2017 school year marked the sixth time Char-Lan District High School has won the award.





## Our Dedicated Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a link between the community and the school board. Trustees responsibilities are:

- Setting UCDSB policy;
- Governing the curriculum and overseeing budget management;
- Communication of policy with key UCDSB stakeholders, including parents and community members; and
- Advocating for stakeholders.

### UCDSB 2017-2018 Board of Trustees

Jeff McMillan  
Chair / Ward 5  
(613) 340-5515

Caroll Carkner  
1st Vice Chair / Ward 10  
(613) 222-7332

David McDonald  
2nd Vice Chair / Ward 8  
(613) 360-5083

Donald Cram  
Ward 1  
(613) 802-8202

William MacPherson  
Ward 2  
(613) 285-5520

Susan Richards  
Ward 3  
(613) 284-6420

John McAllister  
Ward 4  
(613) 213-4094

Lisa Swan  
Ward 6  
(613) 213-2818

Jeremy Armer  
Ward 7  
(613) 340-7565

Wendy MacPherson  
Ward 9  
(613) 340-7311

Ryan Jacobs  
Indigenous Representative

Marshall Wilson  
2017-2018 Student Trustee



#### The 2017-2018 Board of Trustees for the Upper Canada District School Board

Back Row (Left to Right): Trustees Wendy MacPherson, Jeremy Armer, Donald Cram, John McAllister, Susan Richards and Ryan Jacobs (Indigenous Representative)

Front Row (Left to Right): Trustees Caroll Carkner, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair; Jeff McMillan, Chair; and David McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

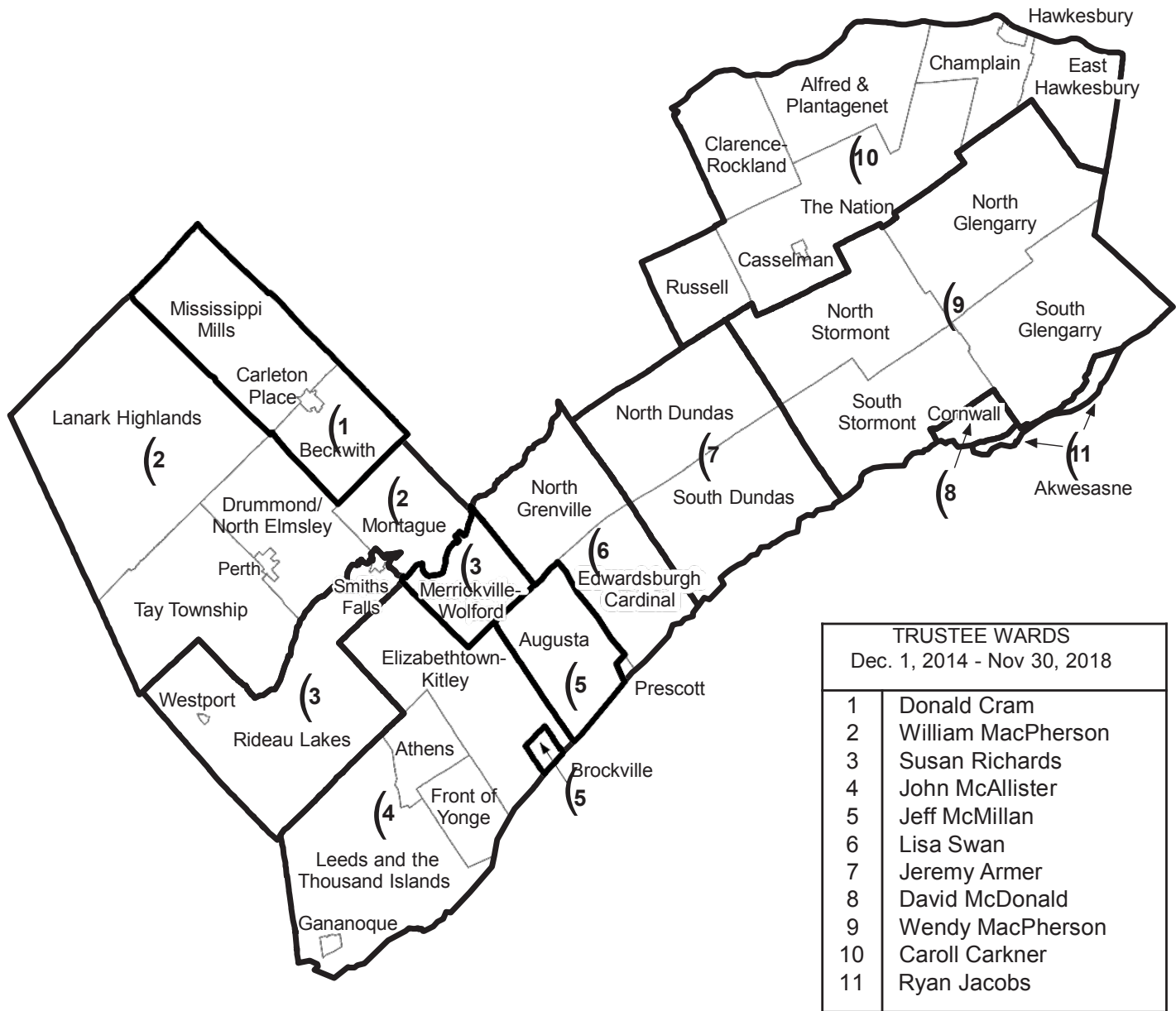
*\*Missing from photo: Trustees Lisa Swan and Bill MacPherson*

Student Trustee  
Marshall Wilson



## Trustee Wards Map

December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2018



TRUSTEE WARDS Dec. 1, 2014 - Nov 30, 2018	
1	Donald Cram
2	William MacPherson
3	Susan Richards
4	John McAllister
5	Jeff McMillan
6	Lisa Swan
7	Jeremy Armer
8	David McDonald
9	Wendy MacPherson
10	Carroll Carkner
11	Ryan Jacobs

## *UCDSB Senior Staff Leadership Team*

Under the leadership of the Director of Education, the senior team of the Upper Canada District School Board is charged with implementing the policy of the Board of Trustees in accordance with the regulations and legislation laid out by the Ontario Ministry of Education.

This team is comprised of experienced educators and administrators who lead all instructional and administrative functions of the UCDSB, including Schools, Program, Special Education, Finance, Human Resources, Facilities Services, and Communications and Relationship Management.

In response to the Board of Trustees' efforts to design its strategic plan and its annual work plan, senior staff have designed and developed their own work plan, featuring concrete commitments in the form of key work during the coming years. In total, 18 separate actions are part of the Director's Work Plan, which will direct and define the efforts of senior staff to support the priorities identified by the Board of Trustees. In general, those priorities include; improving the quality of the educational experience for students; improving internal communication among staff, and; taking concrete steps to maintain a purposeful presence as an organization within our local communities.



### **The 2017-2018 Senior Team for the Upper Canada District School Board**

Back Row (Left to Right): Superintendents Ron Ferguson, Phil Dawes, Tim Mills, Jeremy Hobbs, Valerie Allen, and Jodie Barrett  
 Front Row (Left to Right): Superintendent Nancy Barkley, Director Stephen Sliwa and Superintendent David Coombs  
 Missing from photo: Superintendent Robert Backstrom, who replaced Superintendent Nancy Barkley in January, 2018

# *Preparing Our Students for the Successful Life to Come*

We invite you to join us as we prepare every student for a successful life. We will continue to educate the hearts and minds of our students. We will develop resilient citizens of character, who are adaptable to future challenges to ensure a better future for us all.

