



Listowel District Secondary School

155 Maitland Avenue South, Listowel, ON N4W 2M4

Tel: (519) 291-1880 Fax: (519) 291-5590

www.ldss.typepad.com



B.D. Homewood, B.Math, B.Ed, M.Ed.
Principal

R. Simmons, B.P.E., B.Ed., M.H.K.
Vice-Principal

B. Brohman, Hons.BSc., B.Ed.
Vice-Principal

November 2010

We know that parents have an important role to play in supporting student learning. This principle, that students and parents should be kept fully informed about the student's progress, has been the driving force behind changes in the new Growing Success Document (<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/growSuccess.pdf>)

This provides a framework for a new assessment and evaluation policy for Ontario schools. One notable change in the new Secondary report card is the revision and focus of essential learning skills. There are now six learning skills: responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation. In addition you may find that teacher comments may suggest how students can improve these important learning skills. We believe that the changes will allow us to communicate more effectively with you. As always, report cards are only one method of reporting student achievement to parents and students. Teachers are available throughout the school year for conferences, telephone calls and informal reports. Please contact the school if you have questions or concerns.

Parent to Parent

On behalf of the LDSS Parent Council, I would like to extend an invitation to all parents to join us at our meetings. Parental involvement in a child's education has been shown to have a significant effect on his or her education – in fact it is one of the most significant factors contributing to a child's success in school. By becoming a school council member we are contributing to the shared goal of improving student achievement. School councils also provide a vehicle through which we can express our opinions and learn first hand what is going on in our school. If you have questions, concerns or recommendations, what better way to make yourself heard?

If you are interested in joining us, please call the school at (519)291-1880 and we will make sure your name goes on the list and you will be contacted for a reminder before our next meeting, which will be Tuesday February 1, 2011. A school is only as good as its parent involvement, so I urge you to make this commitment.

Pamela Coleman, School Council Chair

Annual Accessibility Plan

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Committee (AODA Committee) of the Avon Maitland District School Board has completed the Annual Accessibility Plan for the 2010/2011 school year. It outlines recent initiatives to remove barriers to accessibility as well as identifying barriers to be addressed during the current year.

The Plan has been posted on the AMDSB website (www.yourschools.ca) and is also available to members of the public in alternative formats (Braille, large print, electronic) on request.

We continue to welcome comments from the public and input that will assist us in identifying other barriers to address our Annual Accessibility Plan. There is a feedback form included with the plan which we invite members of the public to use. You can fax your feedback form to 519-527-0222 or 1(800)592-5437. You can also communicate your feedback directly to the AODA Chair by e-mail to davehigg@fc.amdsb.ca.

IPRC Meetings

Identification, Placement and Review Committee meetings for grade twelve and fifth year students will be taking place November 23-25 during school hours. Invitations have been sent by mail. Students/parents are asked to contact the school to book their appointment time. Meetings for identified students in grades 9-11 will be conducted in the spring.



Skilled Trades Information Night

The LDSS Technology department is hosting another Skilled Trades and

Apprenticeship information session on Tuesday, November 30 at 7pm. Come out and hear about the opportunities available to your son or daughter in the rewarding careers of trades and technology. Our special guest speaker will be Mr. Greg White, the chair of the Conestoga College Trades and Apprenticeship program. In addition LDSS will be cutting the ribbon to our brand new Lightning Tech Ed Centre. Call the school for more details.

Student Council

The grade reps have been chosen and resume responsibilities right away. Congratulations to Kennedy Service, Mitchell Kraemer, Emma Warren, Jamie Frichithavong and Taylor Chappel.

Plans are being made for this year's semi formal. December 10th the big gym will be decorated for a Caesar's Palace theme. All grades are encouraged to dress up and attend the last big dance of 2010. Tickets will be on sale at a cost of \$15 or \$25 a couple.

Celebrations are being planned for the month of December to kick off the Christmas holiday break. Stay tuned to details for each day.

Resource Centre

A new photocopier has been purchased for students to use in the Library. Also, our school website (http://ldss.typepad.com/ldss_online) has a Student Newspaper-*The Lightning Ledger*. If you have work you would like submitted to the paper please see Mr. Corbett.

Me to We newsletter

This year Me to We is off to a busy start. Our goal this year is to raise money for a clean water project in Sierra Leone. We have already completed our first successful fundraiser of taping Mr. Simmons to the wall. Next, students at the school will be taking pledges and participating in a 24 hour Vow of Silence on Friday, November 19, to raise awareness for children around the world who do not have a voice to speak up for their own rights. Stay tuned in December for our annual pie sales. Thank you for all your support!

Social Science

Grades 9s have been working on a survey and proposal to promote healthy relationships which ties in with anti bullying week. The grade 11 fashion class traveled to the Bata Footwear Museum with the German class. Some students are also helping out at Eastdale with the reading program and others are responsible for the play school here at LDSS on Fridays. A group of four grade 11 students will be attending a Leader's Conference at the University of Waterloo.

November – Flu Shot:

Influenza (or the flu) is a viral illness that can spread quickly from person to person – especially children. The flu vaccine will be available again this fall to everyone in Ontario free of charge and is recommended for everyone over six months of age. The vaccine is available from your family doctor's office, or at one of the many community clinics being held across Huron and Perth Counties. There is a Flu Shot Clinic Tuesday, November 23rd from 2:00 pm to 7:00pm at Parkview Gardens, 575 Elizabeth St. E. Listowel. For more information, call 1-877-271-7348 ex 267 or visit www.pdhu.on.ca

North Perth Community of Character

integrity, fairness, **RESPONSIBILITY**, perseverance, optimism, COURAGE,
respect, compassion, empathy, honesty, inclusion



Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear – not absence of fear – Mark Twain

LDSS Environmental Committee

The committee continues to support the Environmental Club in its campaign to encourage composting and recycling throughout the school. In particular they are promoting the recent expansion of recycled goods including all plastic items marked one through seven and the addition of the collection of all food wastes. At present all food wastes can be collected for composting or for the new food digesters. The digester will handle any and all items not typically handled by traditional composting.

The committee is beginning an energy audit to tackle the phantom load issue. The first surveyed computer room could eliminate a phantom load waste calculated to be in excess of \$500.00 annually.

Not so Scroogey

The 14th annual Not So Scroogey Christmas party for children in our community in need of extra holiday cheer will be held on December 4, 2010 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at LDSS. The committee is currently looking for both new and returning Scroogey volunteers who are interested in: being a buddy for the little ones, planning or running activities, serving and preparing the food for the feast, decorating or helping with clean up. We need as many volunteers as possible to help the day run smoothly. We are also looking for sponsors or donations of supplies for this event. Please contact Mrs. Scales, Allie Fallis, Steph Priestap, Laken Smith or Sydney Smith. We look forward to a fun filled day of crafts, games, turkey and presents!

LDSS WINTER SPORTS NOT WAITING FOR THE SNOW TO GET STARTED!

But first - hot off the press....

LDSS hosted a nail-biter girls' basketball game on November 13 in front of a packed gym. In a consolation final against South Huron, the Listowel Jr. Girls Basketball Team coached by Ms. Kaye and Ms. Bitton, took an early lead only to have it evaporate by late in the 4th quarter when South Huron had rallied and the two teams were trading points back and forth. Suddenly the Listowel squad received a renewed surge of energy when Eliza Konings tied the score. From there on, Heather Bowman lead the team to victory with 4 successful shots from the foul line followed by a final 2 pointer. The final score: Listowel 24 - South Huron 18. Hooray and congratulations to all on a job well done.

LDSS Lightning coaches have had their try-outs for the winter sports teams, made their final cuts and chosen their teams. Grade 9's were especially thrilled to be chosen and should be commended for their enthusiasm and commitment to trying out; they will create many high school memories on the courts and ice. Now the hard work begins and practice schedules start.

The teams that are getting ready to begin their schedules are Jr and Sr Girls Volleyball coached by Ms Colquhoun and Mr. Nethercott, Jr and Sr Boys Basketball coached by Mr. Cox and Mr. Flynn, Girls Hockey coached by Ms. Goody, Mr. Huggins and Mr. Corbett, Curling coached by Ms Donnelly, Mr. Nauta and Broomball coached by Mr. Geiger. All coaches and players are wished the best of luck on their seasons.

New Coop Employers for Semester 1, 2010-11

Staff and students of LDSS would like to welcome the new employers who have joined our coop program this semester:

Bed and Biscuit

BK Tire and Battery

Cakes by Hannah

Great Lakes Turkey Farm & P&G Custom Farming

John & Tiffany Voskamp Farm

Richmond Heating & Air Conditioning

RONA Cashway, Atwood

Stotesbury Transfer Limited

Sturdy Form, Brunner

Willowcrest Farms, Julie Diamond



Maddy Campbell, Grade 9
Ceramic @ 22 cm high, Paper bag Princess

Challenge Day

November 15 and 16 were incredible days with more than 300 people participating in Challenge Day. Thank you to the many community businesses, service clubs, and individuals who supported Challenge Day financially or by being an adult volunteer during the event. Thank you to our amazing senior student leaders and staff who participated.

"I really think Challenge Day taught me to be more open minded and not to judge a person. It also taught me that you are never alone." Grade 10 student

"I wish every one could be themselves every day. Challenge Day was great!"

Important Dates

November 23-25	IPRC Meetings
November 30	Skilled Trades Information Night (7pm)
November 30	Opening of the new Tech Ed Centre
December 2	Dan Williams Memorial Tournament
December 20 - 31	Christmas Vacation
January 12	University Applications Due
January 20 - 21	EQAO Grade 9 Math Test
January 27 - Feb.1	Semester I Final Exams
February 1	College Applications Due
February 3	Semester II Begins



LDSS
Attendance Line
519-291-1880
Ext. 222

Leave a message 24 hours a day.
Success starts here!