

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Please attach to your Professional Development/Conference Expense Reimbursement Form.
Thank you.

Name: Kathleen Woodcock Date Submitted: November 6, 2017

Name of Conference: 2017 Principals' Conference

Sponsoring Organization: WRDSB

Theme (If any): Perspective

Conference Dates: September 28 - 30, 2017

Location: Oakwood Resort, Grand Bend, ON

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended:
(Include a brief Summary)

"No man has the right to dictate what other men should perceive, create or produce, but all should be encouraged to reveal themselves, their perceptions and emotions, and to build confidence in the creative spirit." - Ansel Adams

"The task is...not so much to see what no one has yet seen; but to think what nobody has yet thought, about that which everybody sees." – Erwin Schrödinger

Top 20 Training: Willow Sweeney

Ms. Sweeney delivered an engaging workshop about helping others to achieve their potential, through social and emotional skills development. Her examples, taken from her years as a high school teacher, resonated with participants, most of whom had experienced similar situations over their careers. Her sense of humour and enthusiasm for people provoked thoughts about the many perspectives that educators face in their work – their students, their parents, their own, their colleagues, their supervisors, their family and so on.

Ms. Sweeney encouraged all of us to strive to live our lives 'above the line' as much as possible. "Above the line" is when our thinking is serving us in our best interest. "Below the line" is when our thinking is NOT serving us in our best interest. It is important that we check where our thinking is at as often as we need to so we can develop mental habits that develop "above the line" thinking most of the time. Developing our social and emotional skills will help us to 'keep our day' in perspective and focus on the positive conditions that make our lives great.

G-Suite Training

WRDSB staff from Information Technology provided various tips and tricks to get acquainted with the G-Suite tools available in this platform. The skill level of the attendees varied and that provided an interesting perspective on how people approach technology – some welcome it and others resist it. Participants were provided with some hands-on assistance by staff and instructions for follow-up.

Mark Tewksbury & Debbie Muir, Great Traits

Olympic champion Mark Tewksbury and Olympic coach Debbie Muir provided stories, activities, and lots of humour to engage the participants and demonstrate how different perspectives on the same activity, such as becoming an Olympic athlete and champion, can drive achievement.

The theme of perspective was brought to life during the evening dinner event where participants were asked to attend dressed in clothing that represented the decade in which they were born. The result provided a reflection of the multi-generational perspectives of the group.

Materials Taken Away:

☐ General Distribution

☐ Trustee Distribution

☐ Staff Distribution: Name of Staff Member: _____