

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

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

Name: Carol Millar

Date Submitted: October 21/2019

Name of Conference: 2019 Principals Conference

Sponsoring Organization:

Theme (If any): “Moving Forward”

Conference Dates: Sept 26-28th/2019

Location: Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre - London, Ontario

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended:

This conference was an opportunity for collaborative learning and networking. Thursday evening began with a team building activity where groups of staff networked and explored the Leadership Centre.

On Friday, the first keynote speaker was Frank Deangelis the former Principal from Columbine High School. His sharing of the tragedy at Columbine and the impact it had on his own life, the students and the community was powerful and emotional. Frank stayed at Columbine until every student who had been in class that day had earned a diploma. The focus of his talk was on how he has moved forward. He talked at length about what he did personally to cope, how he supported staff and students in the aftermath and how he continues to work with schools and communities that unfortunately, share a similar tragedy.

The second keynote speaker was Dr. Beth Veale. The title of her presentation was “Contagious Awesomeness: Keys to personal/professional wellness” She is a retired superintendent from TDSB. Dr. Veal gave empowering words of advice to educators and trustees. She focused on the importance of positivity, shared her real life experiences in the educational area but mixed it all in with a wonderful sense of humour and laughter.

On Saturday, the keynote speaker was Orlando Bowen. Orlando is a previous CFL linebacker that endured a savage beating at the hands of local corrupt police. His presentation focused on overcoming adversity and finding your passion. He talked about his work in empowering youth to use their talents and skills to better themselves and their community. He is now the founder and executive Director of One Voice One Team Youth Leadership.

I also had the privilege of attending several workshops focused on Traumatic Events System Response and Work to Rule/Job Action Realities.