Name: Kathleen Woodcock     Date Submitted: November 20, 2018

Name of Conference: 2018 Principals’ Conference

Sponsoring Organization: WRDSB

Theme (If any): Maximizing Potential

Conference Dates: September 27 – 29, 2018

Location: Oakwood Resort, Grand Bend, ON

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

Team Building & Networking Activities
- During the networking activities, I had a chance to talk to representatives from Pearson regarding their research overview, Mathematics Success for All. This comprehensive document provides an overview of the topics that educators told Pearson were crucial to high-quality mathematics instruction.
- In addition to topics around planning and assessment, the document includes a section on the math learning community/environment.
- This resource and the conversation helped me get a better understanding of the ‘how’ of teaching math and relates to the WRDSB operational goal of improving performance in math.
- Attendees participated in team building exercise and networking opportunity

Dean Huyck, presenter
- Through very interesting stories, Dean provided insight into how he changed, over time, and the impact that those changes had on his life and attitude towards life
- Spoke about brain function and development; suggested oral traditions have better brain development than written cultures
- Referred to educators’ role with kids as ‘neural sculptors’
- He referred to the publication, ‘Investigating the Links to Improved Student Learning’, oftentimes during his presentation.
- He assisted participants in an exercise to help put focus on what you need to; mediation; ‘self-regulation of attention'
- https://mindup.org/ During the Q & A, Dean referred to this program as a positive tool for teachers and parents.
- Dean spent some time talking about social media and the impact on kids
- His message of ‘putting focus on what you need to’ connected for me to the conference theme of maximizing potential in yourself and others.

Attending this conference is a valuable way for me as a trustee to build relationships with the principals and vice-principals in attendance. Face to face discussion of issues at their respective schools helps me understand how they are implementing Board policies and where some of the pain points are to reaching our goals as outlined in the WRDSB Strategic Plan.