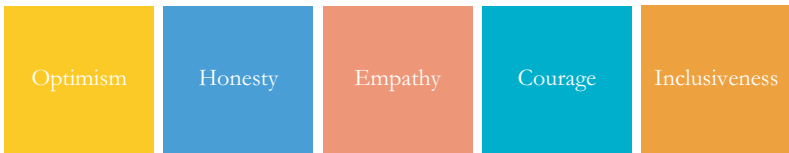




# Commit to Character

2004 - 2005 Annual Report



**Simcoe County  
District School Board**

# Table of Contents



## Integrity

1

- *Director's Message*
- *Chairperson's Message*
- *Senior Administrative Team*
- *Trustees*

### Literacy & Numeracy Initiatives

- *SCDSB Students Improving in Literacy and Numeracy*
- *Building Strong Literacy and Numeracy Skills*

## Responsibility

9

- *System Goals*
- *Financial Statements*
- *Environmental Awards*

## Cooperation

11

- *Coop Construction Program a Success*
- *1,100 Local Students Exposed to Skilled Trades*
- *LINKS Day Unites Staff*

## Caring

13

- *SCDSB's Tsunami Relief Efforts Top \$190,000*
- *Simcoe County Eats Well to Excell*
- *Banting Memorial High School Walks for Diabetes*

## Empathy

15

- *CCI Students Win Gold at Canada-Wide Science Fair*
- *Terry Fox Inspires Nantyr Shores Student*
- *Child, Youth and Family Services Coalition*



# Table of Contents

## Optimism

17

- *SCDSB Schools Get Funding to Increase Retention Rate*
- *Over 20,000 Participate in Continuing Education Programs*
- *CCI Students Perform at Walt Disney World*

## Respect

19

- *Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence*
- *CNCC Teachers Celebrated*
- *Excellence in Education Awards*
- *John F. Freudeman Excellence in Curriculum Award*
- *Peer Helper Contribution Awards*

## Honesty

21

- *2004 - 2005 Facts at a Glance*
- *Mission Statement*
- *Simcoe County District School Board Web Site*
- *Emergency Response Handbook*
- *SCDSB Emergency Phone Number and Identifier*

## Inclusiveness

23

- *Keynote Speaker Talks to Students About Affecting Positive Change*
- *Youth Forum Focuses on Human Rights, Social Justice and Environmentalism*
- *Puppies and Students Team Up to Hone Literacy Skills*

## Courage

25

- *Bus Safety Patrollers Receive CAA / Governor General Lifesaving Medals*
- *Global Education Unites Sierra Leone and W.H. Day*

# Integrity

## What's Your Trust Worth?

Be honest...each and every day  
Please, please, please...do what you say  
Be loyal, be faithful be just  
Make this world a world full of trust

### Chorus

Integrity!  
What's your trust worth  
Integrity! And justice  
Integrity! What's fair  
(1, 2) Integrity!

When you're honest, when you're true  
That's when others, believe in you  
If there's just one thing you must try  
It's to look the world right in the eye

### Chorus

(Bridge)  
Say what you mean, mean what you say  
Say what you mean, mean what you say  
Say what you mean, mean what you say  
(1, 2) Integrity!

Make the trust metre stand up tall  
And your truth and self esteem will never fall  
Be caring, be frank, have dignity  
Show honour, virtue and sincerity

### Chorus x 2

*Composed by: Mr. Oliner's Grade 6 Class\**  
*School: W.R. Best Memorial Public School*  
*Supported by: Principal Anne Arksey*  
*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We act justly and honourably in all that we do.



## *Celebrating our achievements*

It is with great pleasure that I submit the Simcoe County District School Board's 2004-2005 Annual Report. As you read through the following pages, you will notice that this year's report showcases our system's ten Commit to Character attributes: integrity, caring, cooperation, empathy, optimism, respect, honesty, inclusiveness, courage, and responsibility. Their inclusion here is fitting as our local communities selected the attributes that form the basis of everything we do.

Upon my appointment as Director in January 2005, the warmth of the reception I received in our schools, Board, and communities immediately impressed me. As I traveled throughout Simcoe County, I was further impressed by the exciting strategies, programs, and initiatives underway in our schools. This report celebrates many of these activities and highlights the successes of our students and our staff.



Gordon Campbell • Director of Education

## *Directions for the Future*

As we reflect on these accomplishments, it is also important to look forward to all that the future holds for Simcoe County students. While countless initiatives were successfully completed in 2004-2005, many others are still underway and will continue to evolve as we move into the new school year.

## *Supporting Teachers and Staff*

We will build on promising practices and continue to do things that have proven to be successful. We will continue to recognize the key role of the classroom teacher in developing and delivering programs for all students. We will also provide the support necessary for classroom teachers to meet curriculum, program, and achievement goals for all students.

As a system, we will remain focussed on building leadership capacity by supporting new teachers through formal and informal mentoring, and by finding opportunities for established and support staff to expand their professional growth. We will work collaboratively to ensure that we continue to attract and retain skilled and knowledgeable employees, and we will find ways to demonstrate that we value their contributions.

## *Facilities Planning*

Long-term planning is essential for making good decisions about school facilities and sites. Over the coming months, our facilities department will be preparing a long-term Capital Strategic Plan. It will include a long-term view of new schools, provide direction regarding potential closure and consolidation, and provide context for renewal and program initiatives. The plan will be based on the ongoing demographic projections that are changing throughout the county – including large areas of growth and decline.

## *Accommodation Area Reviews*

Elementary and secondary enrolments will require balancing throughout the system by means of attendance area changes, new schools/additions, closures, and consolidations. Task Forces comprised of local community members will be established to carry out Accommodation Area Reviews in order to assess and determine the best means of resolving these issues. Our Board of Trustees will consider their recommendations.

...continued on pg. #3





Celebrating Our Achievements continued...

## *New Initiatives*

One of our new initiatives, the Best Start program, will provide an opportunity for our Board to work with community partners in providing space for preschool children entering into our schools. The result is that infants and Kindergarten students will have greater access to on-site preschool classes, as well as child care programs that provide greater early education opportunities.

The above represent only a few of the many initiatives that the SCDSB will plan for and implement over the coming months and years. In next year's annual report, I look forward to sharing our many successes in these and other areas – all in support of Simcoe County students.

I encourage you to be in touch if you have comments or questions. I know that our staff would welcome any input that would help us continue to provide quality service to our students, staff and communities.

Sincerely,



Director of Education



## *A school year highlighted by change and renewed focus*

The 2004-2005 school year has been a significant year of both maintained stability and exciting change.

Over the course of the past year, we've welcomed a new Director, several new senior administrators, and numerous new staff members. The individuals who have joined the SCDSB have each contributed in their own unique ways to the success of our students, and we are so pleased they have joined us. The dedication, commitment to quality and work of our staff as a whole are evident in our clean, safe schools, our improved EQAO and OSSLT results, our innovative Pathways for Student Success programs, and in the hundreds of other ways they've helped support students.

We've also secured four-year collective agreements with many of our employee groups. These precedent-setting agreements will help to maintain stability in our classrooms and will ensure that we continue to provide consistent support for students through ongoing quality education.

As we move into the future, among the challenges our Board will continue to face will be accommodation issues, program considerations, and the retention of secondary students.

As trustees, our role is to represent our constituents to the best of our ability, and to help ensure that Board policy best represents and reflects that which is in the best interests of students. As Chair, I know I speak on behalf of all trustees when I urge members of our Simcoe County communities to contact their elected officials with any comments, questions, or concerns.

I look forward to another year of remarkable achievement and, on behalf of the Board, extend to all students and staff our very best wishes for the coming year.

Sincerely,  
Debra Edwards  
Chairperson





Senior Administrative Team

Table listing Senior Administrative Team members and their roles, including Director of Education, Associate Directors, and various Superintendents.

2004 - 2005 TRUSTEES

Table listing Trustees for 2004-2005, including names and districts such as Adjala-Tosorontio and Essa, and Severn, Ramara, and Tay.





## LITERACY & NUMERACY

### *SCDSB Students Improving in Literacy and Numeracy*

#### *Positive Results in Literacy and Numeracy Tests*

The significant literacy and numeracy improvements made by grade 3 and 6 SCDSB students were reflected in provincial tests administered in the spring of 2004.

Grade 3 and 6 students improved in reading (up 5% and 3% respectively) and mathematics (up 8% and 5% respectively) since the previous school year. Other significant gains were made by boys in grade 3 writing (up 8%) and by girls in grade 3 math (up 13%) and grade 6 math (up 6%).

Elementary

Secondary

#### *SCDSB Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test Results*

A total of 4,099 first-time eligible SCDSB students participated in the October 2004 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). Eighty percent of these students passed both the reading and writing components and satisfied the requirements of the OSSLT. This represents a nearly 10% improvement over the 2003 test results.

In addition, 1,332 previously eligible students took this test and 65% of the participants successfully completed the literacy requirements.

## BUILDING STRONG LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS

Literacy and numeracy skills are essential to student success both in school and outside the classroom. Following are some of the many ways the Simcoe County District School Board has worked to help students build these fundamental skills in the 2004-2005 school year.

#### *Board Invests Nearly \$450,000 in School Libraries*

School libraries play an integral role in improving student achievement and promoting strong literacy and numeracy skills. Approximately \$450,000 of combined monies from targeted Ministry of Education grants and Board-designated resources were spent this past spring on improving our system's library resources. The funds were used to purchase resources such as fiction and non-fiction books, multi-media programs, and research materials that improve student achievement.





## *Junior Math Challenge*

On April 6, 100 gifted students from 23 schools across Simcoe County participated in a hands-on mathematics competition – The Junior Math Road Rally. The competition required students to use real world mathematical skills, related to the five curriculum strands, in a team building setting. The Junior Math Road Rally was sponsored by MAC2, a local chapter of the Ontario Association of Mathematics Education.



## *Literacy Team Supports Schools*

Early in the school year, the SCDSB Elementary Literacy Team visited all schools where new teachers had been assigned. The team, which is composed of Reading Recovery Consultants, Early Literacy Resource Teachers, Special Education / Junior Literacy Resource Teachers, and a Curriculum Consultant, supported new teachers by providing suggestions and strategies, and by modeling lessons for a balanced literacy program.

In addition, kindergarten to grade 6 teachers and special education Literacy Resource Teachers offered the following:

- presentations at staff meetings
- one-to-one support
- small group support
- in-school and after-school workshops
- mentoring for colleagues
- information on best practices in literacy assessment and the ways student data can be analyzed to inform instruction
- evening literacy sessions to help parents support their children (Parents As Partners)

## *Lead Literacy Teachers Provide Guidance*

In April and May 2005, the Secretariat of Literacy and Numeracy provided funding which allowed seven SCDSB teachers to become Lead Literacy teachers in their schools. These Lead teachers helped establish book rooms, facilitated professional learning opportunities for primary teachers, identified areas of need for student and teacher resources, and facilitated support and collaboration between schools.

## *Reading Recovery™ Continues to Benefit At-Risk Students*

Forty-eight SCDSB schools benefited from Reading Recovery™ in the 2004-2005 school year. Over 200 grade one students who were at-risk of reading and writing difficulties were provided with ongoing intensive one-to-one literacy support with one of our 40 trained Reading Recovery™ teachers.

## *Supporting Numeracy in our Secondary Schools*

Over 400 secondary school teachers throughout the Board were provided with a full day of training on mathematics manipulatives. The focus of these sessions was the use of manipulatives and practical strategies that will give students the opportunity to explore and discover mathematics in a hands-on and concrete way.



## *Student Success Focuses on Improving Literacy for Grades 7 to 12*

A variety of literacy initiatives that focus on improving the reading, writing, and language skills of students in grades 7 through 12 are being implemented in schools throughout the Board. Following are highlights of some of these initiatives:

- Over 400 teachers from schools throughout the SCDSB attended phase two of Think Literacy Training, which focuses on identifying effective literacy strategies for students who are having difficulty reading and writing.
- Intensive support was provided to over 50 secondary school teachers through a series of workshops to better equip them for helping students improve their literacy skills.
- Literacy consultants worked with teachers and students in classrooms throughout the Board providing support and implementing effective literacy learning strategies.

## *Provincial Robotics Challenge*

More than 30 students from seven schools in Simcoe County participated in the Provincial Robotics Challenge held at the Orillia Square Mall in April 2005. This experience provided students with the challenge of programming their autonomous Lego Mindstorms robots to perform a specific task that would assist someone in the community (e.g. cleaning the floor or taking out the trash). Students and staff from the Trillium Lakelands District School Board joined Simcoe County participants. This event was sponsored by ENOREO, Bell World and the Orillia Square Mall.

## *Simcoe County and York Region Partner for Elementary Computer Writing Project*



During the 2004-2005 school year, grade 5 students at David H. Church Public School in Orillia each received an Apple iBook personal portable computer. The computers, which were used by students for all writing tasks in all curriculum areas, were provided as part of a joint Wireless Writing Project (WWP) between the Simcoe County and York Region District School Boards.

The WWP is a follow-up to a multi-year pilot study in British Columbia, which demonstrated dramatic improvements in writing among grade 6 students over the course of a single year. Although the project is fundamentally about literacy, it also aims to improve student achievement, motivation, and learning skills.

## *Primary Book Writing*

Over 120 primary students from 38 schools in Simcoe County participated in a series of literacy enrichment opportunities about storybook writing. In January and February, the students explored a variety of writing genres and experimented with different illustration techniques. They gathered together again in the spring to share their finished products, which featured group books, mystery stories, and stories involving fantastical creatures with suspenseful story lines. The quality of books and works produced was superb.



## *The Mousetrap Challenge*

The Mousetrap Challenge was offered to all grades 7 and 8 students in the county. Directly aligned with the structure and mechanisms science curriculum, students were challenged to construct a vehicle using a mousetrap that was scored in the categories of distance and speed. The top winners from across the county were invited to a competition on March 1, 2005 at Georgian College. This event included 27 schools and over 100 students from both the SCDSB and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board.

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*Students were challenged to construct a vehicle using a mousetrap.*

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*Think Bowl assists students in developing solid problem solving skills including divergent and sequential thinking.*

## *Think Bowl*

The 2005 Think Bowl was a great success again this year with hundreds of students participating in over 30 schools in the county. Think Bowl assists students in developing solid problem-solving skills including divergent and sequential thinking. Scenarios were provided to the students at the start of the day. The students worked in teams to identify the potential problems and the impact that their scenario could have on individuals, communities, and society.

# Responsibility

## Do Your Job

Do what needs to be done  
Do it carefully  
Don't make excuses all the time  
Spend your time usefully

Do your job...Do your job!  
Don't let us down...  
Do your job...Do your job!  
(1, 2, 3, 4, 1)...Do your job!

Get your work done on time  
To the best of your ability  
Don't blame others  
For things you do  
Show some responsibility

### Chorus

(Bridge)  
Use your time wisely  
Use your words wisely  
Learn to make amends  
And you'll have more friends

### Solo

Think through the consequences  
Think through them clearly  
Be accountable for your actions  
Try a little honesty

### Chorus x 2

*Composed by: Ms. Tamara Snelgrove's Grade 5/6 Class\**  
*School: David H. Chruch Public School*  
*Supported by: Principal Alison Bradshaw*  
*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We are accountable for our actions and we follow  
through on our commitments.



## System Goals

As a system, our primary objective is to ensure that each student's needs are met. To that end, our system goals are focussed on four key areas:

**Student Achievement:** Support high expectations for student achievement with a specific focus on literacy and numeracy.

**Employee Excellence:** Attract and retain a diverse staff of knowledgeable, skilled and dedicated employees committed to providing and supporting quality teaching and learning.

**Leadership and Staff Development:** Enhance leadership capacity in all staff and align staff development programs with system goals.

**Safe, Supportive Environments:** Provide safe, supportive environments for a positive learning and working experience.

## Operating Highlights Revised Budget 2004 - 2005

Projected Net Operating Expenditures  
For the Year Ending August 31, 2005

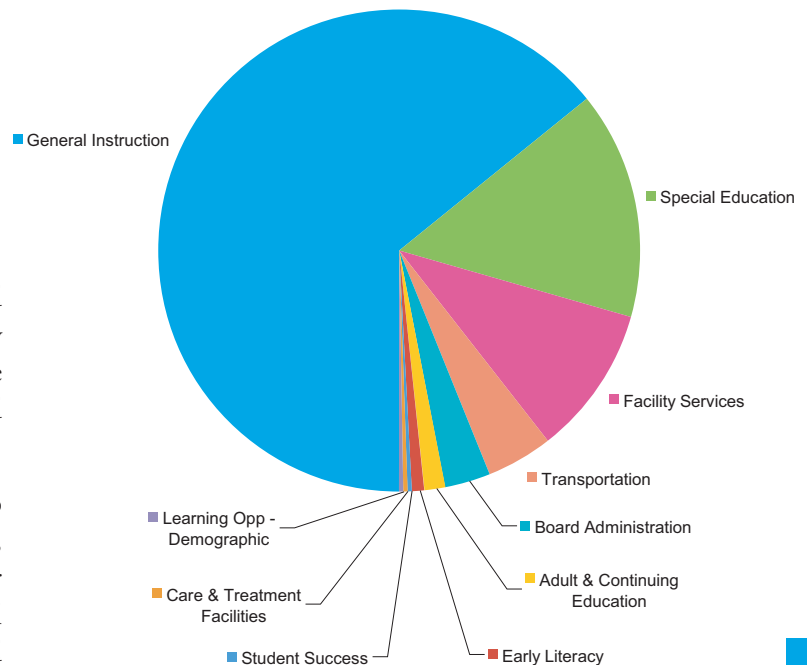
	Amount (millions)	% of Total
General Instruction	\$244.7	64.3
Special Education	57.6	15.1
Facility Services	38.3	10.1
Transportation	16.4	4.3
Board Administration	12.2	3.2
Adult & Continuing Education	5.2	1.4
Early Literacy	2.5	0.7
Student Success	1.5	0.4
Care & Treatment Facilities	1.1	0.3
Learning Opportunities - Demographic	0.9	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$380.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Environmental Awards



On October 21, Adjala Central Public School was awarded the 2004-2005 Recycling Council of Ontario's Elementary Schools Award. The Council was impressed with the waste audits the Green Team completed for each classroom and with the school's overall respect for the environment.

The Recycling Council of Ontario holds annual Ontario Waste Minimization awards to recognize Ontario businesses, municipalities, organizations, and individuals for their contributions to waste minimization and environmental sustainability. The Simcoe County District School Board was also a finalist for the Facility Management Award, which recognized the system as a leader in recycling and waste minimization.



# Cooperation

## Operation Co-Operation

Welcome to our investigation  
Our task is to co-operate  
Welcome to our celebration  
Now don't wait to participate

It's "Operation Co-operation"  
So don't you hesitate  
It's "Operation Co-operation"  
So, let's co-operate!

We've got moms, dads, sisters, and brothers  
Helping out...helping one another  
We've got aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends  
All joining a new exciting trend

### Chorus

(Bridge)  
Stand together...United...Stick together

Together we can do most anything  
If we dare to be the best that we can be  
Together we can do most anything  
If we work at once...work in unity

### Chorus x 2

**YEAH!!!**

*Composed by: Mrs. Cuthbert's Grade 4 Class\**  
*School: Connaught Public School*  
*Supported by: Principal Judy Morgan and*  
*Music Educator: Catherine Brown*  
*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We work together towards shared goals and purposes.

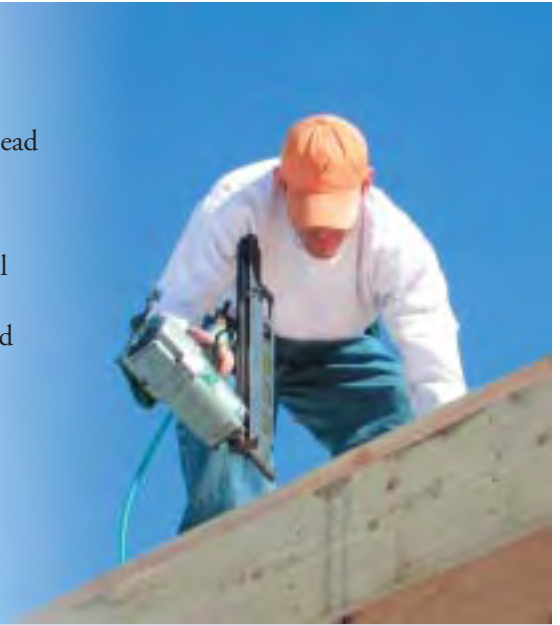


## *Co-op Construction Program a Success*

An innovative co-operative education program designed to give students a head start in the construction industry was successfully launched in 2004-2005.

The program, which is a joint initiative between Bradford District High School, local construction companies, the Universal Workers Union Local 183 (Life-Long Learning Centre), and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), offered students an opportunity to earn four credits and gain some hands-on experience.

Students in the program received construction training from licensed industry professionals, second-year apprentices, and select specialty instructors. The program also included six weeks of intensive in-school instruction, eight weeks of specialty training and licensing, and a final six weeks of experiential learning at a construction placement.



## *LINKS Day Unites Staff*

In an effort to unite staff from across our system, the SCDSB held its first LINKS day in 2004. The day was an opportunity for principals, vice-principals, and secretaries from all schools and learning centres to meet centralized staff and find ways to work smarter, not harder. Staff was invited to visit department booths, attend information sessions, and network with colleagues from across Simcoe County.

The LINKS acronym stands for Learning more about people and departments; Interacting and strengthening team relationships; Networking to make new connections and reinforce existing ones; Knowing who has specific expertise to provide support, information or ideas; and Success for all students. The day was so successful that it will be repeated in the 2005-2006 school year.

## *1,100 Local Students Exposed to Skilled Trades*

In October 2004, 45 students from each of the 25 public and Catholic secondary schools in Simcoe County converged at the Barrie Event Centre for an opportunity to explore careers in the skilled trades.

The Simcoe County District School Board and Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board's Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Programs (OYAP) partnered with Georgian College, local companies, and local training organizations to pull the event together. Participants had hands-on opportunities to try everything from welding to building sidewalks and fixing dents on an old car.



**for  
Student Success**



# Caring

## We Care For You

Everybody wants somebody  
Everybody needs a helping hand  
Everybody wants somebody  
To understand

### Chorus

We care for you  
We care for you  
No matter what you do  
We care for you

Everybody feels frustration  
Everybody needs to cry  
Everybody wants a good friend  
To help them get by

### Chorus

(Bridge)  
One thing we all share  
Is we all want someone to care  
Care

When you're feeling lonely  
And you don't know what to do  
Just remember  
We care for you

### Chorus

*Composed by: Ms. Welsman's Grade 6 Class\**  
*School: Algonquin Ridge Public School*  
*Supported by: Principal David Holloway and*  
*Vice Principal David Garner*  
*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We show kindness towards each other



## *Banting Memorial High School Walks for Diabetes*

On Thursday, June 2, over 1,000 Banting Memorial High School students and staff laced up their running shoes for the school's third annual walk for diabetes. For the event, participants walked from Banting Memorial to Sir Frederick Banting's homestead – and raised over \$27,000 for diabetes prevention and research! All funds raised were donated to Camp Huronda, a Gravenhurst-area camp specifically for diabetic youth between 8 and 16 years of age.



## *Simcoe County Eats Well to Excel*

Eat Well to Excel is a non-profit organization that supports 115 volunteer-run breakfast clubs, lunch programs, and snack programs in schools across Simcoe County. Dedicated volunteer groups comprised of parents, seniors, neighbours, faith-group members, teachers, principals, and students run the programs.

Solid research shows that children have difficulty learning to their full potential when they are hungry or undernourished. Eat Well to Excel aims to support these children, and in the 2004-05 school year, roughly 450 volunteers prepared and served nutritious meals to approximately 15,000 children in Simcoe County schools.

## *SCDSB's Tsunami Relief Efforts Top \$190,000*



When a tsunami devastated Southeast Asia this past year, SCDSB students and staff responded by opening their hearts – and their wallets. Board employees and their families contributed generously to raise funds, and students from across Simcoe County emptied piggy banks, coordinated garage sales, baked and sold treats, held concerts, and donated their Christmas and birthday money to help.

At final count, SCDSB students and staff donated over \$190,000 to agencies offering humanitarian relief, including the Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, and Unicef.





## *CCI Students Win Gold at Canada -Wide Science Fair*

In May, grade 9 Collingwood Collegiate Institute students Frazer LaChance and Peter Bendevis traveled to Vancouver and took part in the 2005 Canada-Wide Science Fair. Their project *SymSearch* won gold in the Intermediate Computer and Engineering division.

*SymSearch* is a multi-leveled word search computer game that combines words with symbols and voice prompts. It is designed to assist those with reading problems in developing their skills.

The idea came from Frazer's experiences with his brother Kevin, who has Down Syndrome. By incorporating sound, image, and text, *SymSearch* caters to Kevin's special learning needs by helping him relate a word to an object.

Both Frazer and Peter received \$1,000 scholarships to their choice of the University of Western Ontario or the University of British Columbia.



## *Child, Youth, and Family Services Coalition*

A key partner in the Child, Youth, and Family Services (CYFS) Coalition, the Simcoe County District School Board continues to work toward helping children and youth achieve success.

Officially launched in 2003, the goal of the CYFS Coalition is to improve the well-being of children, youth, and families in Simcoe County by working together as a community. There are currently over 200 Coalition members including service providers from health, education, social services, justice and recreation.

Some of the Coalition initiatives being implemented in SCDSB schools and the community include: identifying best practices and school community plans for young children; parenting programs; and providing access to on-site, preschool before and after classes for infants and kindergarten students. For more information on the CYFS Coalition, please visit:

[www.simcoehealth.org/coalition/home.asp](http://www.simcoehealth.org/coalition/home.asp)



## *Terry Fox Inspires Nantyr Shores Student*

On September 30, 2004, students from Nantyr Shores Secondary School participated in a four-lap run around the school track in honour of Terry Fox. Garin Kilpatrick, however, completed the four laps and decided to keep running. Four hours later, he had run 100 laps of the track, the equivalent of 26 miles!

When asked why he ran 100 laps, Garin simply stated, "if Terry Fox could run a marathon every day for 143 days with only one leg, I could do this with two."





## *Over 20,000 Participate in Continuing Education Programs*

During the 2004-2005 school year, over 20,000 individuals participated in programs offered by the SCDSB's continuing education department. Summer School programs provided the opportunity for over 1,500 grade 7 to 12 students to receive remedial support in literacy and numeracy and earn secondary school credits. In addition, over 400 students received their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) after successfully completing day, night or summer school programs.

Programs include the SCDSB's Foundations for Success and Phoenix, as well as courses in literacy preparation, workplace and employability skills, academic upgrading, parenting, English as a Second Language, Driver Education, and summer school. The Continuing Education Department also offers a Career Centre and a Corporate Centre for Training and Development.

The SCDSB has six Learning Centres, a campus at the Central North Correction Centre in Penetang, and a satellite site at Base Borden. In addition, the Midland Learning Centre moved from Midland Secondary School to its new location at 815 King Street, Midland.

## *SCDSB Schools Get Funding to Increase Retention Rate*



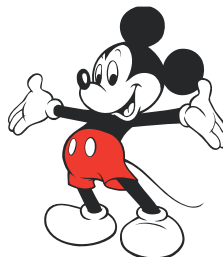
As part of a provincial student success initiative, in 2004-2005 the Simcoe County District School Board received a total of \$155,840 to pilot three Learning to 18 programs that support student retention.

The programs included a four-credit Mobile Heavy Equipment program at Bear Creek Secondary School, a four-credit Cosmetology program at Nantyr Shores Secondary School, and the Seventh Fire Education program, a joint initiative between the SCDSB and Midland's Aboriginal community. All three initiatives support students staying in school by offering unique programming and providing students with smooth transitions into the workplace.

## *CCI Students Perform at Walt Disney World*



In April 2005, Collingwood Collegiate Institute (CCI) music students shared their talent with travellers from around the globe as they performed at Walt Disney World in Florida. The student musicians were chosen out of hundreds of applicants from across North America. In addition to their performances around the park and in the Disney parade, they also attended workshops hosted by Disney's professional musicians.



# Respect

## One Step Closer

A little respect goes a long, long way...  
so try and give it every day

One step closer  
I'm givin' it  
One step closer  
I'm livin' it  
One step closer to Respect

A little respect and consideration...  
will certainly lead to appreciation

### Chorus

#### (Bridge)

You gotta give it to get it  
You gotta give it to get it

A little bit of kindness, fairness and dignity  
All these things you'll get from me

*Composed by: Mrs. McCormick's Grade 5 Extended  
French as a Second Language Class\**

*School: Prince of Wales Public School*

*Supported by: Principal Vera Cloes and  
Tara Dawn, B101 Morning Radio Host*

*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We treat ourselves, others and the environment  
with consideration and dignity.



## HONOURING EXCELLENCE

### *Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence*

In March of 2005, two SCDSB teachers were honoured with 2003-2004 Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence. Marty Wilkinson of Collingwood Collegiate Institute and Mary McBride of Banting Memorial High School were each acknowledged with this prestigious award.

The award recognizes teachers who have achieved outstanding results with students, inspired them to learn and continue learning, and equipped them with the skills and attitudes they need to succeed. Each year, the awards are presented to only 65 teachers across the country.

### *CNCC Teachers Celebrated*

Two staff members at the Central North Correctional Centre (CNCC) were celebrated with awards for their contributions to adult education.

Guidance and Lead Teacher Cathy Curtis was awarded the Joanne Twist Award for leadership in the field of Guidance in Ontario. The award, which is annually bestowed on only one recipient in Ontario, was presented at the Ontario Guidance Leaders Association Conference on May 26, 2005.

In addition, computer and IT teacher Jerry Weller received the Teacher of the Year Award for Region 1 of the Corrections Education Association (CEA). As a result of his technical innovation in the computer classroom, the success rate and enrollment in his course have significantly increased.

### *Excellence in Education Awards*



During Education Week 2005, more than 50 secondary and adult students from the Simcoe County District School Board were honoured with awards at the annual Excellence in Education Awards evening.

The celebration, presented by District 17 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) in partnership with the Simcoe County District School Board, honoured the outstanding combination of citizenship, academic achievement, and contributions to school life. Students were nominated from each of the Board's 16 secondary schools and six adult learning centres.

In addition to student awards, 2005 Excellence in Education Distinguished Teacher Awards were presented to Mary McBride of Banting Memorial High School and Carol Warnica of Barrie Central Collegiate.

### *John F. Freudeman Excellence in Curriculum Award*

In May, SCDSB Curriculum Consultant Deb Russell was presented with the John F. Freudeman Excellence in Curriculum Award. Principal of Curriculum Deb Lalonde and Frank Boddy, Chair of the Curriculum Conference Committee presented the award. Ms. Lalonde highlighted the many ways in which Ms. Russell exemplifies excellence in leadership, practice, knowledge, innovation, and character.

### *Peer Helper Contribution Awards*

SCDSB Character Education / Anti-Bullying Coordinator Lorraine Gruzuk was honoured with the 2004-2005 Ontario Peer Helper Contribution Award. Board members of the Ontario Peer Helpers' Association voted unanimously that Ms. Gruzuk receive the award for her contributions to making SCDSB schools safe and supportive learning environments.

In addition, the OPHA presented its annual Elementary School Award to the students of Cameron Street Public School for their commitment to anti-bullying and character education initiatives.



# Honesty

## Honesty

When I'm honest I never have to pretend  
And I'm happy with my trustworthy friends

In what I do  
Honesty  
In what I say  
Honesty  
Every day  
Honesty

I know lying's not the right thing to do  
So I'll step up, I'll be honest, I'll be true

### Chorus

Honesty we can do it if we try  
Being truthful is the right thing to do  
Being truthful with myself and with you

### Chorus x 2

*Composed by: Mrs. Krombout's Grade 4 Class\**  
*School: Adjala Central Public School*  
*Supported by: Teacher Sandra Dedrick*  
*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We behave in a sincere, trustworthy and  
truthful manner.



## 2004-2005 Facts at a Glance

Total Number of Schools	107
Elementary	91
Secondary	16
Number of Learning Centres	6
Total Number of Students	56,000
Students Served Through Special Education	173
Students Travelling to School By Bus	21,229*
Permits For Community Use of School Facilities	2,600

\* number as of October 2004

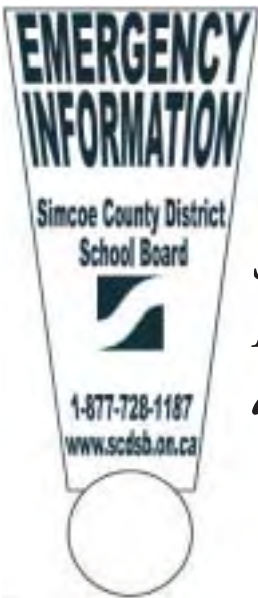
## Mission Statement

The mission of the Simcoe County District School Board is to ensure students reach their full potential to become responsible and contributing members of an ever-changing global society through quality programs which develop the skills of lifelong learning in a safe, caring environment enhanced by community support.

## Simcoe County DSB Web Site



Visit the SCDSB web site at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) for information about our system goals, highlights of Board meetings, school calendars, and a variety of resources for students, parents, guardians, and community members.



## SCDSB Emergency Phone Number and Identifier

Two students from Bear Creek Secondary School won the Emergency Identifier logo contest held in the Simcoe County District School Board in the spring of 2005. The exclamation mark design, created by Annie McIntyre and Tara Wilkins, will be used to help people identify the SCDSB Emergency Information hotline number.

The SCDSB Emergency Information Hotline -1-877-728-1187- will provide parents, the community, and the media with updates on emergency situations or issues that may arise in our schools or education facilities.

## Emergency Response Handbook

As part of the SCDSB's commitment to safe, supportive environments, in 2004-2005 staff produced an Emergency Response Handbook as a resource for all SCDSB employees. In 2005-2006, a copy of the handbook will be in every school, learning centre, and workplace in the Board and will help inform school emergency response plans.

Special thanks to Barrie North Collegiate Institute, Royal Victoria Hospital, and Simcoe County fire, police, and emergency medical services for their input.

SCDSB Emergency Information Hotline  
1 - 8 7 7 - 7 2 8 - 1 1 8 7







## *Puppies & Students Team Up to Hone Literacy Skills*

Young Minds Early Puppy Training is a program that teaches ‘at-risk’ students how to train puppies for their future careers as service dogs for people with mobile disabilities. As part of an English Learning Strategies program, Grade 9 students who have been identified as needing intensive support with their reading and writing skills help train puppies to become service dogs. The training process provides an interactive and creative way for the students to read and develop their language skills.

The success of the Young Minds program led to the evolution of a second phase called L.E.A.D. (Leader Education Assistance Dog). After their first year of puppy training, the student and dog teams mentored elementary students at Clearview Meadows and New Lowell Elementary Schools aiding in the development of reading skills while continuing to perfect their training in a public environment.

A collaborative effort between Canine Opportunity, People Empowerment (C.O.P.E.), which is a charitable organization, and Stayner Collegiate Institute, the program has proven to be an outstanding success and will be implemented at Nantyr Shores Secondary School in the Fall of 2005.



## *Youth Forum Focuses on Human Rights, Social Justice and Environmentalism*

On April 28, 2005, students from secondary schools across the system took part in an interactive forum called Becoming a Global Citizen. The purpose of this forum was to provide the youth of our county with the opportunity to share with each other their concepts of global citizenship.

A panel of guest speakers addressed the students on a variety of topics ranging from law and human rights to environmentalism and aboriginal issues. Students were also involved in roundtable discussions about the concept of citizenship.



## *Keynote Speaker Talks to Students About Affecting Positive Change*

Marc Kielburger, co-founder of Leaders Today and Executive Director of Free the Children, spoke to secondary students in April 2005 about the importance of being socially involved and how strong leadership can affect positive change.

Students and staff alike were moved by Marc’s powerful message, and many were inspired by his suggestion that small acts of kindness can make a positive difference in the lives of others, particularly the less fortunate.



# Courage

## With Courage

Take a chance  
Give it your best shot  
Stand up and give it all you've got  
...think outside the box...

With courage  
With courage  
With courage  
With courage

Don't give up  
Try to do what's right  
Try to stand up tall  
Stand up with all your might  
...think outside the box...

### Chorus

#### (Bridge)

Find the best in others  
Treat' em like your brothers  
Treat' em right and show some courage

Harriett Tubman  
Sister Rosa and Terry Fox  
They had courage  
To think outside the box  
think outside the box...

### Chorus

*Composed by: Mrs. Morden's Grade 6/7 Class\**  
*School: Huron Park Public School*  
*Supported by: Principal Daryl Halliday and*  
*Teacher-Librarian: Mary Skinner*  
*\*with singer-songwriter Gregg Lawless*

We do the right thing even when it's difficult.



## *Bus Safety Patrollers receive CAA/Governor General Lifesaving Medals*



On January 28, 2005, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada, presented two former Uptergrove Public School students with CAA / Governor General Lifesaving Medals. Matthew Sexton and Amber Visser, who graduated from Uptergrove in 2004, were honoured for the heroic action they took while acting as bus safety patrollers.

The students are credited with saving the lives of their bus driver and fellow students after the driver suffered an allergic reaction while operating their school bus. Matthew and Amber administered the driver's EpiPen, kept their peers calm, and stopped a passing motor vehicle to request assistance.

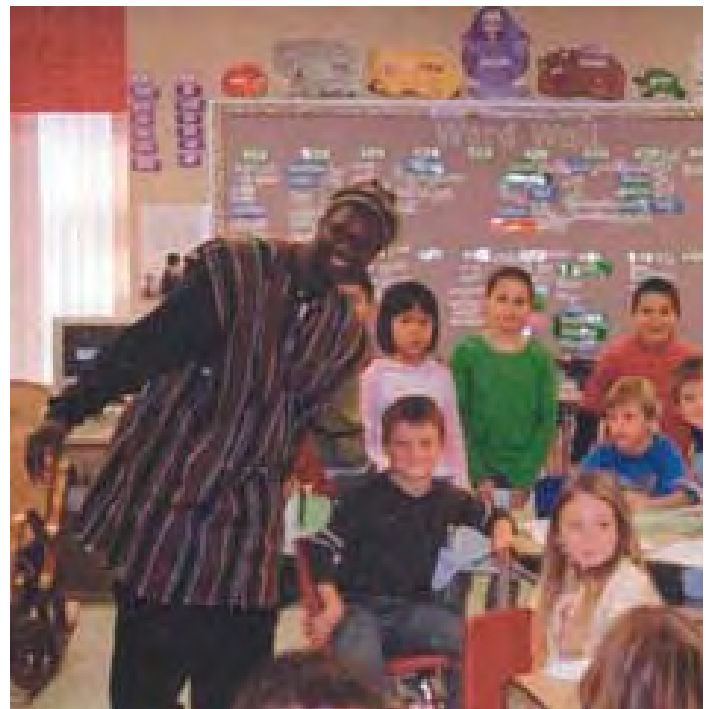
The CAA/Governor General Lifesaving Medal is the highest award given to members of the School Safety Patrol Program. It recognizes the outstanding accomplishments and contributions made to society by School Safety Patrollers who have saved the lives of persons in imminent danger.

## *Global Education Unites Sierra Leone and W.H. Day*

Over the past year, students at W.H. Day Elementary School have been involved in various global education projects that help connect students with people around the world. These projects have helped students gain a greater understanding of how they can make a difference in the world by becoming socially responsible global citizens.

In November 2004, students at the school were visited by one of their contacts from Sierra Leone. Andrew Greene, Co-Director of the Community Access Centre for war-affected children in Freetown, joined students to discuss peace and the various ways they can be proactive in supporting war-affected youth throughout the world.

Andrew is a recipient of the prestigious Sauvé Scholarship and is one of 12 scholars from across the world selected to benefit from open-door access to all courses and programs at McGill University.



# Commit to Character

Integrity

Responsibility

Cooperation

Caring

Respect

Optimism

Honesty

Empathy

Courage

Inclusiveness

For more information please visit our website at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)



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