

PIC Conference Workshops

1. Trevor Brown – M.A.S.H. (Math at School and Home)

This workshop focuses on Mathematics Curriculum as it is being taught in Simcoe County District School Board Schools. Parents will work with manipulatives and have a chance to experience “hands on” Mathematics.

Biography for Trevor Brown: Trevor Brown is a known presenter in the mathematics community in Ontario and across Canada. He has contributed to many new mathematics publications and has also worked as a Math Consultant with the Toronto District School Board. Trevor has worked for the Ministry of Education to develop Math Exemplars. At the present time he teaches at York University in the Education Department.

2. Julie Perrault - From Blackboard to SMARTBoard

Julie Perrault has been teaching with the Simcoe County District School Board for the last 12 years. She began her career with the SCDSB as a Kindergarten teacher and presently teaches grades six and seven. Recently, she has been participating in a number of international projects in conjunction with school board personnel, focusing on using technology more effectively to engage students.

This workshop will focus on explaining what a SMARTboard (or interactive whiteboard) is and how it can be used to actively engage students in their learning.

3. Tina Kilbourne – Cyber Safety

Christina Kilbourne is the author of four novels, two of which are written for younger readers. *Dear Jo*, a novel aimed at readers from Grades 5 to 11, explores the dangers of online predators through fictional diary entries. It has been nominated for a variety of awards, including: the Canadian Library Association *Children's Book of the Year Award 2007*, the *2009 Manitoba Young Reader's Choice Award*, the *2009 Snow Willow Award*, the *2010 New York State Reading Association Charlotte Award* and has been selected as a *Best of the Year 2007* by Resource Links, the Ontario Library Association's *Best Bets for 2007* and as one of the *Best Books for Kids and Teens 2008* by the Canadian Children's Book Centre.

Christina Kilbourne was born in Southwestern, Ontario, but spent her elementary and high school years in Muskoka. She graduated with an Honours BA in English Literature and Anthropology from the University of Western Ontario and her Masters degree in Creative Writing and English Literature at the University of Windsor, Ontario. www.christinakilbourne.com

The Internet can be a scary place – for parents! Young people seem to intuitively know how to download MP3s, set up personal profiles on Facebook, upload videos to YouTube and send IMs – but do they understand the risks of their on-line activities? Find out how you can work with your child to keep them safe from common on-line dangers.

4. Lisa Ewanchuk – Aboriginal Approaches in Education

Aboriginal Education is a passion of Lisa's. She has been with the Simcoe County District School Board for almost 40 years as a First Nation student from Rama, classroom teacher, school administrator and now as our Principal of Aboriginal Education. Her current role includes creating an awareness and understanding of Aboriginal worldviews, perspectives and cultures throughout the system and promoting First Nation, Metis and Inuit parent and family engagement opportunities.

The Ontario Aboriginal Education Strategy included the release of the *First Nation, Metis and Inuit Education Policy Framework*. This workshop will highlight the SCDSB program initiatives and strategies to address Aboriginal parent, family and community engagement. Participants will experience a talking circle.

5. Paul Sloan, Principal, Student Success – Secondary School Focus

Paul Sloan has been an administrator within the SCDSB for 15 years. He has been Principal of Midland Secondary School, Principal of Adult and Continuing Education, and is now currently Principal of Student Success. The Student Success portfolio encompasses grades 7 - 12. The mandate is to support students as they transition from elementary to secondary school. Specialized programs, differentiated staff, and classroom resources new to secondary schools enable successful transition and pathways to the workplace, apprenticeship, college or university.

Joining Mr. Sloan at today's workshop are members of his central board team. They will share details of these specialized programs, resources and supports and how they are helping students achieve. We will be joined by others who will speak firsthand of the benefits that these Student Success initiatives have had on their lives.

6. Anne Marie Boulding – The Zerofootprint Initiative: Lessons on Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

Anna-Marie Boulding is an Itinerant Resource Teacher with the Simcoe County District School Board. Her curriculum responsibilities include Science, Technology, Environmental Education and Numeracy K-12 for the Board. At the recent Ministry of Education Environmental symposium, Anna-Marie presented "The Zerofootprint Initiative: Lessons on Reducing Our Carbon Footprint" with other Board members from both Curriculum and Facilities. Workshop participants from around the province raved about the collaboration that is occurring between these departments in our Board.

What is my environmental footprint and how can I reduce it?

The revised Science curriculum is to be implemented with a Science, Technology, Society and **Environment** (STSE) focus. The STSE movement encourages students to take ACTION on issues of societal and environmental concern. Through learning of investigative skills and science content, students are able to combine this knowledge to take action and evoke change.

Calculating one's carbon footprint is an initial step in learning about the impact that each individual has on the environment. This year, teachers and students in Simcoe County have been working with on-line tools from Zerofootprint.net to calculate and manage environmental footprints.

This workshop is designed to introduce parents and community members to the tools available from Zerofootprint.net. During this hands-on session in the computer classroom, parents will calculate their own carbon footprint using the Youth Calculator and/or the Personal Carbon Manager.

7. Angie Pilon, Principal and Constable Gerry Dwyer – Bullying

This workshop focuses on being proactive parents and learning positive strategies to help your child deal with bullying. The focus is on schools and parents working together to stop bullying. Simcoe County District School Board Character Education strategies, the D.A.R.E. program and Safety Education for Simcoe County Students will be included.

Angie Pilon has worked with the Ontario Provincial Police, and local Fire Departments to develop Safety Protocols within our schools. She is currently working on Simcoe County District School Board Committees for “Safe, Equitable and Inclusive Schools” to continue to promote student safety and well being. Angie is an Elementary Principal with the Simcoe County District School Board. Her dynamic presentation style helps to make this workshop a positive learning experience for all.

Officer Gerry Dwyer: Officer Gerry Dwyer has been a Community Officer with the Toronto Police Force and he is now with the Orillia Police Force. Officer Dwyer is a well-known Community Officer in our Simcoe County District School Board Schools. His energy and positive attitude help to link community agencies with our schools. Officer Dwyer has dedicated years of service to work with SCDSB students in the D.A.R.E. program, Safety protocols and internet safety. Officer Dwyer has dedicated his time to ensure our students are in safe school environments.

8. Dick O'Brien

Dick O'Brien, M.A.Sc., is a professional speaker and consultant in human relations. He has been a therapist and a trainer for 32 years. Mr. O'Brien has held senior management positions in government and business. For the past thirty years, he has been assisting corporations, school boards, hospitals and police departments with issues of stress, wellness, counselling and leadership.

Dick O'Brien received his Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Waterloo and continues to seek life lessons and wisdom from daily experiences.

He has been in the seminary, a truck driver, an elementary teacher, director of a heroin treatment centre, an alcoholism counsellor, a university instructor, a marriage counsellor and deputy superintendent of a juvenile corrections centre.

Raising Resilient Children

This presentation is for parents and grandparents and will demonstrate principles of living a healthy, resilient and meaningful life. It will be of interest to parents who wish to promote a solid foundation of healthy living, and prepare their children for the inevitable challenges and struggles they will face in their futures.

9. Peter Marshall

In the course of his career, Dr. Marshall has been a consultant psychologist for sexual abuse programs, an early intervention program for youth gangs, an intensive family therapy unit, and university student counselling and teaching effectiveness programs. He has served on the Board of Directors for divisions of the Elizabeth Fry Society and the Children's Aid Society. Academically, Dr. Marshall has lectured for undergraduate and graduate courses including social and abnormal psychology, psychometrics, statistics, human growth and development, behaviour modification, personality, and human sexuality.

Before entering private practice, Dr. Marshall held positions as an Adjunct Professor in the Psychology and Psychiatry Departments at Queen's University, a psychologist in the Kingston General Hospital, and a clinical consultant to the Frontenac County Board of Education and Kingston's Prison for Women.

He has been widely published on issues including blended families, criminal behaviour in children, anxiety and assertiveness training. He has also been a researcher and educator in the field of sexual dysfunction.

Smarter, Wiser, and Headed for Success

Contrary to what we often hear, there are many ways in which young people today are more highly educated and better prepared for the challenges of the working world than ever before. Dr. Marshall discusses how the ever-expanding role of teachers has played a major role in creating these positive but neglected trends.

10. Pat Bucci – Adolescent Brain

...."my love for life long learning and brain research have reinforced for me the commitment we must exercise as parents, teachers, and society as a whole to our youth. They are unquestionably the most precious resource and legacy we leave behind when we are no longer. As a teacher and consultant, my work has been to highlight this plethora of information..."

Workshop Objectives:

- Identify the areas of the brain that change most during adolescence
- Describe the neurological changes that produce behaviour changes
- Explain the adverse effects of stress and trauma, sleep deprivation, and substance abuse on brain development
- Recommend parenting and teaching practices compatible with brain development.