

Parent eBulletin – *Bringing School Home* March 2011



The Simcoe County District School Board produces this e-bulletin to help parents support children on their journey of lifelong learning. We know positive connections between home and school support student achievement. In each edition you'll find practical tips and strategies to help your child achieve success in those important years of learning from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

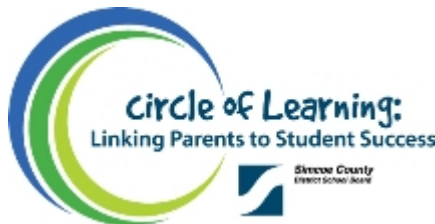
Bringing School Home is available through the Simcoe County District School Board website (www.scdsb.on.ca). As well, parents, guardians and other interested members of our school communities may [subscribe through our website](#) and have the bulletin emailed directly to their email accounts (readers may also unsubscribe at any time). Please click [here](#) to submit your comments and feedback.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

How can I support my child and get involved in their education?

The Simcoe County District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is hosting a free conference for all parents and guardians to help strengthen home-school connections and engage parents in their child's education. Parents and guardians are invited to attend the third annual parent conference *Circle of Learning: Linking Parents to Student Success* on Saturday, April 9, 2011. Last year's event was a great success, with more than 100 parents enjoying a fun, information-filled Saturday at the Education Centre.

What is the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and why are they holding this event?



The SCDSB [Parent Involvement Committee \(PIC\)](#) organizes the system [School Council](#) meetings. All schools in Ontario have an organized Council comprised of elected parents, a community representative, teaching and non-teaching employees and a school administrator. The participants provide a valuable service to our school community as a support system, as an advisory group and as a forum where educational topics and issues are investigated.

This event is organized by the PIC to support parent involvement in education. It is funded through the Ministry of Education's base grants for Parent Engagement.

Where and when does the Circle of Learning Conference take place?

This year's conference will take place on Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 9:00 AM to 1:45 PM at the SCDSB Education Centre, which is located at 1170 Hwy 26 in Midhurst across from Simcoe County Museum.

Click [here](#) for more information and details about the conference. Click [here](#) to view the event poster.

What will be featured at the conference?

A variety of workshops and guest speakers will be presented to support parent involvement in education and the keynote presentation will be made by educator and author Tom Hierck. An engaging and inspirational speaker, Tom Hierck will focus on how to reach all learners and create exceptional learning communities.

Workshop topics for the 2011 Conference will include:

- Equity and Inclusiveness
- Understanding Provincial Testing: EQAO
- Child, Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County

Click [here](#) to view all of the speakers' bios.



How do I register?

Please click [here](#) to download the registration form (see page 2). The registration deadline is **Monday, April 4**.

For additional information on registration or if you have questions, please call (705) 734-6363, ext. 11310.

LINKS

We invite you to visit www.scdsb.on.ca often for news, facts, school information, Board highlights and hundreds of other pages about Simcoe County's public education system. This month we are featuring our [Community Use of Facilities](#) information. The Simcoe County District School Board endorses and encourages the community's participation in the use of its facilities and resources. This initiative supports access to school space outside of school hours for not-for-profit community groups.



Here are two additional resources for parent involvement:

- Click [here](#) to watch part one of a video of SCDSB Parent Involvement Committee Chair Lisa Robertson talking about how parents can get involved in their child's education. Click [here](#) for part two.
 - Ministry of Education's website on Parent Engagement – [Encouraging Parent Involvement in Schools](#)
-

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"When parents are involved in their children's education, everyone benefits – students, parents, teachers, schools and communities. Great schools can become even better places to teach and learn, and student achievement often improves."

~ From the Ministry of Education's 2010 ['Parents Matter'](#) flyer

NEW! We want your feedback on the Parent eBulletin!

Please click [here](#) to access a short survey on the value of this publication, and share your suggestions and feedback for future issues.

About the SCDSB

The Simcoe County District School Board is deeply committed to ensuring all learners have the opportunity to realize their dreams within a vibrant and successful public education system. We are very proud of our 50,000 students who are learning and achieving in more than 100 schools and seven adult learning centres throughout our urban and rural communities. Working with school communities, our dedicated and skilled staff members provide quality programs to help students develop lifelong learning skills in safe, caring environments. Our schools are located in the Huronia and Georgian Bay regions of south-central Ontario.