

Sophie Lussier  
Education Consultant  
LBPSB  
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Robotic in Space- The NASA Experience Space has always been an object of curiosity for students. Come and meet the teachers who were selected to present in Houston at the Space Exploration Educators Conference. They will share their experience at NASA and how they use the space theme to engage the students in STEAM activities. These activities integrate 21st century learning tools, such as LEGO robotic to create prototypes, and digital media to give students an opportunity to share their learning. From K to grade 6, students are guided to collaborate, problem solve, and create in order to accomplish specific missions. Join us for this hands-on experience on Space.

Sophie Lussier is an education consultant for Lester B. Pearson School Board. She will be accompanied by her lead team in robotics. They have been working together for the past 3 years to develop LES and Co-opétition events.

Mathieu Canavan  
School Principal St-Charles Elementary, LBPSB  
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Full STEAM Ahead

Come hear the experience of a school who moved Full STEAM ahead. The first year of transformation will be portrayed through our challenges and successes. You will have the opportunity to meet with teachers and see what they have accomplished with their students. STEAM is a powerful approach that requires a strong investment from all stakeholders. We will focus on the professional collaboration and the leadership roles of the school principal and the consultants. This hands-on sharing session will be an occasion to create a network of professionals ready to move Full STEAM Ahead. "Mathieu Canavan, School Principal, St-Charles Elementary, LBPSB Sophie Lussier, Education Consultant, LBPSB"

Katherine Davey & Sophie Lussier  
Education Consultant  
LBPSB  
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Inquiry... The Missing Link

STEAM, problem based learning, 21st century skills, student engagement...you have heard it all. Now how can you make it happen in your schools? Using an inquiry approach to learning is at the core of all of these initiatives. Come find out how LBPSB has used the Smarter Science framework to guide teachers in increasing the level of inquiry in the classroom. "Katherine Davey, Education Consultant at LBPSB Sophie Lussier, Education Consultant at LBPSB"

Ryan Henderson and Nicholas Cloutier  
Halton District School Board  
[hendersonr@hdsb.ca](mailto:hendersonr@hdsb.ca)

Blast Off: Improving Engagement in the Language Arts through Design and Technology Re-engaging the disengaged reader and writer is a difficult prospect for any educator. By providing students with an opportunity to participate in curriculum connected problem solving and design challenges, we have witnessed incredible gains in student achievements and attitudes towards literacy. From rockets to race

cars, throughout the design and construction process students are impelled to think about procedural writing strategies as they develop a sense of pride and ownership while reaching their personal goals. "Ryan Henderson is a Special Education Resource Teacher from the Halton DSB with a passion for student engagement and assistive technology. Over the last 5 years, Ryan has delivered a variety of workshops for educators and students alike at the board and provincial on topics ranging from Digital Citizenship to Speech-to-Text Technology in the Classroom.

Jeffrey Jordan & Simon Belanger  
Teachers/Coordinators Heritage Regional High School  
[jeffrey.jordan@rsb.qc.ca](mailto:jeffrey.jordan@rsb.qc.ca)

Technology & Digital Citizenship This session aims to share the process of creating and implementing a Digital Citizenship Program within the largest English high school in Quebec; Heritage Regional High School. From grades 7 to 11, students are taught about: citizenship versus online citizenship, managing digital footprints, cyber-bullying awareness, online security, and copyright/plagiarism laws. We also wish to share our process of informing the parents and school community about this important societal issue.

Jeffrey Jordan - ELA teacher, Jr. ELA coordinator, and Digital Citizenship Coordinator at Heritage Regional High School.

Simon Belanger - French teacher, Work-Oriented Training Pathway & CFER coordinator, and Digital Citizenship coordinator at Heritage Regional High School "

Jeffrey and Simon have published two articles in CASSA's ""Leaders and Learners"" journal.

Summer 2012 - Classroom websites: Bringing school and home one step closer together.

Winter 2014-2015 - Teaching our students about digital citizenship. (This article briefly summarizes the topic we wish to present at the 2015 CASSA conference)."

Paul McKenzie and Rick Pardo  
Thames Valley District School Board  
Engendering Innovation in a Large School District

Mobilizing a large school district to think and act innovatively required a shift in culture, beginning with the senior leadership team. Staff at all levels of the organization is provided with the tools and resources to work in collaborative teams to solve complex problems. Learn more about how the Thames Valley District School Board supports all staff to take risks in their learning journey.

Christopher Fuzessy - Colleen Galley - Kerry-Ann Payette Assistant Director, Student Services - Principal, Horizon High School - Vice-Principal, Horizon High School

Lester B. Pearson School Board  
[cfuzessy@lbpsb.qc.ca](mailto:cfuzessy@lbpsb.qc.ca)

STEAM

STEAM is often used as a whole school or grade level approach for curriculum mapping and instructional planning for students. At the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB), we also use a STEAM informed approach to engaging and reengaging at risk students at the high school and adult education levels. Through innovative programming, comprehensive articulation processes and dedicated weekly time for conferencing student dossiers along with community and social services partners, the LBPSB offers

comprehensive student placement support to students and families via a STEAM lens. This workshop will outline the strategies used at the LBPSB to find the right mix of STEAM elements that can keep students engaged in pursuing their educational pathway.

Christopher Fuzessy is the Assistant Director of Student Services at the Lester B. Pearson School Board. Colleen Galley is the Principal of Horizon High School which provides alternative education and specialized programs to students from the Lester B. Pearson School Board. Kerry-Ann Payette is the Vice Principal at Horizon High School.

Julie René de Cotret & Luigi Di Filippo

Assistant Director Student Services & Director of Information Technology Services

English Montreal School Board

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Maximising technology investments through process changes

As the number of children with special needs and complexity of interdisciplinary collaboration increases, existing processes of information exchange are no longer sustainable.

Reviewing existing technologies to address this information exchange showed nothing met the needs, therefore KiDS (Kids information Data System) was born.

Through the development process, practice deficiencies came to light. By addressing these we were able to, not only leverage the technology, but improve our service delivery while adhering to budget restrictions.

Julie René de Cotret has 25 years of experience in the field of education especially in special education. She worked at the Riverside School Board as a teacher, resource teacher, special education consultant and coordinator. Since November 2010, she is the Assistant Director of the Student Services Department at the English Montreal School Board.

Luigi Di Filippo is an information technology leader with over 30 years of experience in both public and private sectors. His focus over the past 10 years has been the alignment of operational needs with technologies to ensure the greatest value of every dollar invested.

Greg McLeod

Principal

Toronto District School Board (TDSB)

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Not Just A Fairy-tale: How Secondary and Elementary Schools Built a STEAM Partnership

"In this session we will share the experiences of a K-6, K-8 and Secondary school as they planned a fairytale based STEAM project that incorporated Drama and Science to engage students and staff from grade 1 - 12.

We will share the steps we took to help develop the project and the learning that occurred for students, teachers and administrators. We will share our success, challenges and next steps and how we measured our impact. Participants will have time to brainstorm and network with other participants to explore ideas they can bring back to their own schools."

Nicole Miller, Principal of HA Halbert, a small, K-6, Model School for Inner Cities in Scarborough. Nicole is interested in the implementation of STE(A)M particularly the consolidation of mathematics skills through measurable student data.

Dave Rowan, Principal of R.H. King Academy, a Secondary School with strong academics, arts and co-curricular programs. Dave is interested in developing student leadership opportunities and building partnerships to develop STEM /Arts collaboration.

Greg McLeod, Principal of John A. Leslie PS a large K-8 school in TDSB. Greg is a former Science Consultant and is interested in how technology can improve student, staff and parent engagement."

Tami Brewster, Heather Strulovitch & Danna Dworkind - Teachers

English Montreal School Board (EMSB)

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If You Build It- They Will Create

Hampstead teachers will showcase how the integration of technology in the math curriculum has extended their students learning outside the classroom walls.

Their 1:1 iPad Initiative has led to a higher level of student engagement, has allowed for purposeful learning and has enabled a safe environment for connected learning. A showcase of best practices and student exemplars will be shared.

Tami Brewster, a technology enthusiast and Apple Distinguished Educator has been teaching at the elementary level for the past thirteen years.

Heather Strulovitch has a Masters in Special Education and has been teaching for the past nine years.

Danna Dworkind has been a teacher with the EMSB for the last twelve years and has her masters in Special Education.

Marie-Claude Bergeron, Sara Iatauro, Terry Saba

French Consultant, Elementary; Science Consultant, Elementary, Language Arts Consultant, Elementary English Montreal School Board (EMSB)

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Science Literacy Under the Microscope Student success in science is often connected to strengths or weaknesses in literacy, yet literacy instruction tends to remain in the language arts domain. This workshop explores how teachers can bring together content area learning and literacy instruction within a balanced literacy approach. Within this framework, students approach subjects that are demanding in terms of vocabulary and concept learning with confidence and deeper understanding.

Marie-Claude Bergeron, Sara Iatauro, and Terry Saba are all consultants working to support teachers, administrators, and students in the elementary sector of the English Montreal School Board.

Chad Leblanc

Consultant

English Montreal School Board

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Math and Literacy: A Combined Approach

Many students struggle in mathematics because of weak comprehension skills, which impede their understanding of problem solving situations. This workshop applies some of what we know about literacy learning to help students in math, with the objective of shifting students understanding of math concepts and vocabulary from a procedural to a conceptual level. Chad Leblanc is the Elementary Mathematics Consultant at the English Montreal School Board. He has two B.A.s from Concordia University and is currently working towards an M.A. Chad worked as an elementary teacher and mathematics facilitator before he took his current post.

Craig Bullett  
Eastern Shores School Board  
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Nexus tablets in Grade 5-6 to facilitate ELA, Math & More

ESSB is implementing a pilot project for 1-1 tablet technology in grades 5 & 6. Three schools were involved in the first year. The target areas are ELA and Math, but the benefits of classroom technology emerged in multiple contexts. The project design involved online magazine and picture books that students could read and respond to in a variety of formats. The technology facilitated the sharing of their work among the three locations.

Dr. Shawn Moynihan  
Superintendent of Education  
Peel District School Board  
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“Improved Achievement and Increased Teacher Capacity in Mathematics: One Superintendent’s Journey”

This presentation will share the journey of one K-12 superintendent to improved student achievement--- and increased teacher capacity--- in Math. The superintendent is in an urban area and is comprised of eighteen schools and approximately 12, 000 students. The presentation will address facilitating meaningful collaborative inquiries, based on theories of action that are constantly being refined through reflection on achievement data and professional practice. The work of instructional coaches was a key driver for making the theories of action impactful through co-planning, co-teaching, and co-debriefing. Dr. Shawn Moynihan is a superintendent with the Peel District School Board. Throughout his career, he has worked in a variety of roles: teacher, curriculum coordinator, vice-principal, and principal. He lives in Guelph, Ontario.

Vince MacDonald, PhD  
Director of Education  
Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board  
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The Application of Feedback in Secondary School Classrooms: Teaching and Learning in Grade 9 Applied Level Mathematics

The power of feedback has been shown to have positive but varied effects for the learning and self-regulation of students. The varied effect of feedback has important implications for teachers to support the needs of students in grade 9 applied level mathematics. This session will present a review of research on the instructional strategies that teachers use to help students seek, evaluate and apply feedback and the strategies teachers use to overcome pedagogical barriers in grade 9 applied level mathematics.

Vince MacDonald, PhD, is the Director of Education for the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board. His research interests focus on practical applications of assessment, evaluation and feedback to support teaching, learning and the self-regulation of students. Dr. MacDonald serves as the Chair of the Ontario Education Research Panel for the Ministry of Education. Vince has served as an elementary and secondary teacher and in leadership positions as Vice-Principal, Principal, Supervisory Officer and Director of Education. Dr. MacDonald has received the Dr. William Pakenham Award of Honour at OISE/University of Toronto and the Prime Minister’s Award for Teaching Excellence in Science, Technology and Mathematics.

Sara Iatauro, M.EdTech.  
Rethinking the Science Classroom for our iGeneration  
English Montreal School Board  
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STEAM Science is engaging and practices need to keep evolving. The new iGeneration has different learning styles, such that the science classroom needs to be rewired and innovative. While sustaining our most effective teaching practices and activities, developing STEM knowledge is most effective when using a constructivist approach. Students are acquiring essential knowledge in their day-to-day which can have a positive influence in learning science. This hands-on workshop revisits the active process of inquiry and presents innovations to nurture different learners within the multidisciplinary classroom. Educational Consultant in Science & Technology and Robotics working to support administrators, teachers and students in the Elementary and Secondary public school sector. She is also working on her Ph.D. in the Department of Integrated Studies in STEM education at McGill University.

Geri Lorway  
Consultant/Instructor  
NRLC/GPRC  
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What's the A? "What's the A.?"

B.E.R.C.S. as a learning model places teacher and student attention on the ART of Learning to Learn. Through an evolving cycle of Build, Explain, Represent, Compare, Self Assess learners develop and refine thinking skills that are critical to success within the STEM disciplines. In particular Visual Spatial Reasoning & Computational Thinking, skills now considered fundamental to achievement in STEM. (With a crossover to the ARTS.) So now- what is that A?"

Geri Lorway has traveled the arc from Mathphobic to Math Addict pursuing her all consuming desire to Come to Know and Understand how we think, how we learn. Her four degrees span the fields of education, leadership and complexity. Currently under contract with Alberta Regional Consortia, as well as University of Alberta in her spare time, she provides Real Time on site coaching to teachers, students, parents and administrators in classrooms across Alberta. During her 30+ years in education she has held positions as teacher, Principal, District Principal and Consultant. The BERCS model has developed across 20 years of interactions, classroom study and action research with teachers, parents and students across BC and AB. Her international affiliations include CMESG (Canadian Math Educators Study Group) Computer Science Unplugged (a critical friend and international spokesperson) a founding member of the International Computer Science, Maths, Arts and Creative Thinking Foundation (Australia Base), PIMS (Pacific Institute for Math and Science)

Daniel Gillen  
London District Catholic School Board  
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Engaging Student Councils in Student Success Student engagement in learning is essential to individual student success. In the London District Catholic School Board, we've added student leadership through Student Councils as an essential ingredient to making learning relevant and collaborative. Through regular student lead conferences, student leaders give administrators and teachers feedback on learning in areas such as technology, math, and literacy. Student leaders also learn through the conference format how to model the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations in order to improve classroom learning within their classroom communities.

Dan Gillen is the Student Success Consultant with the London District Catholic School Board. He is a former Guidance counselor, cooperative education teacher, and alternative education teacher.

Patrick Carney, Ph.D.

Senior Psychologist/Mental Health Lead

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board (SMCDSB)

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Integrating and Promoting Well Being in Science, Math and the Arts

In order for schools to improve the well-being of their students an integrated effort will be required across subjects. Well-being is a concept best understood and developed with attention to knowledge of brain functions and the importance of an active lifestyle, skills for social functioning, and emotional self-regulation. It also involves a positive sense of spiritual well-being that respects the importance of culture, equity, social justice and personal dignity. This presentation will focus in on the importance of an integrated approach involving Science, Math and the Arts.

Dr. Patrick Carney has a long-standing interest in the promotion of positive mental health to enhance academic success and well-being. Dr. Carney was recipient of the 2012 Award of Merit from the Ontario Psychological Association for a significant and sustained contribution to Educational Psychology. In 2014 he was elected to the status of Fellow with the Canadian Psychological Association.

Dr. Carney has published a book through Pearson Canada entitled: "Well Aware – Developing Resilient, Active and Flourishing Students" (2015). Patrick is a part-time member of the Ministry of Education ASSIST coaching team responsible for the roll-out of the Ontario Mental Health literacy strategy among 72 School Boards. During the past several years, he has played a leadership role in the delivery of several professional development events for teachers, principals and superintendents within the context of the Ontario Leadership Framework.

Steve Charbonneau, the contact listed above, is the School Superintendent responsible for the area of Mental Health at SMCDSB.

Dianne LaFortune and Theresa Dostaler

Teacher and Researcher

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Addington LCDSB: Kingston Community Conversations

Researcher and teacher collected data from teacher and parent groups to further develop the relationship between school and home. As a result of this work, panel discussions on various topics, including math and technology, were held. Parents and Board staff work to develop and promote events, as well as to share in learning experiences. Kingston Community Conversations were made possible through a Regional PRO Grant from the Ministry of Education.

Dianne LaFortune, MEd, is a classroom teacher. An active member of the ALCDSB community, LaFortune is involved in several projects and presents her work at conferences. Theresa Dostaler is a community and educational researcher with a passion for family and community engagement. Theresa has worked extensively with families and communities at local and provincial levels to understand how to make human services and systems more responsive to family and community needs. An article, "Kingston Community Conversations About ...", that described this project was published in Leaders and Learners, Winter 2014-15.

Christian Michalik and Clarke Hagan  
Assistant Superintendent and Director of Information Systems  
Louis Riel School Division  
[clarke@lrsd.net](mailto:clarke@lrsd.net)

Technology and Learning (Both student and professional learning)

Our presentation speaks to the building of a portal platform (Internet and intranet websites) that serves as an activator and accelerator for learning in areas of science, technology, engineering, arts, math, and more. We will provide a glimpse into our school division's portal and real time communication and collaboration between our teachers, students and parents. Our time together will focus on both the building and refinement of the portal technology and our implementation strategy.

Christian Michalik - Christian is a senior administrator in the Louis Riel School Division and is responsible for curriculum, professional learning, French immersion schools, and shares responsibility for Information Systems with Clarke Hagan

Clarke Hagan - Clarke is the Director of Information Systems in Louis Riel School Division and is responsible for all technology and how it supports teaching and learning for the division.

Website - [www.lrsd.net](http://www.lrsd.net)

Ruth Schwarcz

Special Needs Consultant

Lester B. Pearson School Board

[rschwarcz@lbpsb.qc.ca](mailto:rschwarcz@lbpsb.qc.ca) LEGO Therapy

LEGO® Therapy is an intervention developed for children with social communication deficits.

This workshop reviews the 2014-15 LEGO Therapy pilot project launched at the Lester B. Pearson School Board (included are hands-on activities).

LEGO Therapy is a structured intervention capitalizing on children's natural interest and enjoyment in LEGO. The sessions are collaborative and participants play specific roles - Builder, Engineer, Supplier, thus encouraging turn taking, giving and receiving instructions, problem solving, peer identification and social identity. ""Ruth Schwarcz is a Special Needs Consultant with the Lester B. Pearson School Board and has worked extensively in the special needs community as both music therapist and educator for over two decades.

Cheryl McDonald is an autism consultant for the Lester B. Pearson School Board and has worked with children, youth and families for over thirty years.

Both consultants give ongoing professional development workshops on topics related to best educational practices for both teachers and support staff within the Lester B. Pearson School Board as well as in the wider community."

Nancy Battet and Lily Sacco

Community and Partnership Liaison

Lester B. Pearson School Board

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The Value of Business and Educational partnerships to bring STEAM to the classroom

The Lester B. Pearson Partnership Program supports the belief that students benefit greatly when their teachers and schools link with community and business partners to bring real life learning to the classroom. In this innovative, technology driven society, Nancy will explain the importance of a STEAM approach to learning, where the value of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math must be combined with the Arts to achieve a global and innovative 21st century classroom. Nancy Battet is a University graduate (Concordia University, 1981) with a Bachelor of Commerce, Major in Marketing. With over 15



years of experience in the railway and hotel industries (Canadian Pacific), Nancy joined the Lester B. Pearson school board in 2002 where her role was to develop a link between education (k to adult), and the business community. Nancy's program entitled Pearson Partnership Program which falls within Educational Services has built a partnership with over 200 local community and business organizations. These partners work with the schools in many ways which will be showcased in this presentation. Nancy works closely with the Entrepreneurship program where students from k to adult sector create entrepreneurship projects where they create a product, service or an event within their schools which allow them to be true problem solvers. The LBPSB supports the concept of developing an entrepreneurial spirit within the schools. The skills students develop through entrepreneurial initiatives are life long skills which will be valuable in their future. Nancy also has a diploma in Records Management. As well, she is on the Board of Director for the Pearson Educational Foundation.

Bryan Szumlas & Bernie Varem, Supervisor Calgary Catholic Schools  
Director, Instructional Services  
Calgary Catholic School District  
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STEAM Assessment (All 5 areas) "Full STEAM ahead for ASSESSMENT!"

Cross Curricular Competencies such as thinking critically, being innovative and being able to solve complex problems span all five STEAM areas; But, how do you assess these not so tangible curriculum outcomes? Through video exemplars and small group discussions this interactive session will enable participants to reflect upon good assessment practices for the success of all students.

Dr. Andra McGinn, a graduate of the University of Calgary is the Superintendent of Special Programming, Instruction and Religious Education for the Calgary Roman Catholic School District in Calgary, Alberta.

Dr. Bryan Szumlas, also a graduate from the University of Calgary is a Director of Instructional Services for the Calgary Catholic School District. In addition, Bryan is the chair of the Alberta Assessment Consortium.

Jim Burchell  
Principal  
Grasslands Public Schools  
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Teacher Growth Using Dylan Wiliam's 5 Key Strategies

Our school has been involved with the ATA and AAC in a 3 year pilot project to enhance teacher growth utilizing a supervision model incorporating Dylan Wiliam's book, "Embedded Formative Assessment". We use a coaching model whereby teachers identify which of the 5 key strategies in Wiliam's book they would like us to focus on during our classroom observation. The process incorporates a pre and post observation meeting and reflection process to enhance classroom practice.

Jim has been teaching for 26 years in a variety of roles most recently spending the past 7 years as a school principal. The challenge of being an instructional leader in today's context can be daunting if you don't have an effective process to engage teachers in enhancing their practice. The past three years working with the Alberta Assessment Consortium has proven to be one of the best professional development opportunities and has provided for unprecedented growth in providing targeted formative feedback to staff to help them improve their instructional practice in the classroom. Dylan Wiliam's book, "Embedded Formative Assessment" has been used as a PLC book study for the entire staff and

they now have a common language and process to enhance teacher growth. The strategies and techniques in the book help all teachers provide excellent formative feedback to their students and the coaching model for classroom observations incorporates Wiliam's 5 key strategies to move learning forward.

Jim has attended a number of CASSA Conferences and presented at the Niagara Falls Conference. There will be a number of artifacts and take away resources to assist leaders with their instructional leadership practice.

Marlene Murray, Darcy Cormack, Darren Baker  
Assistant Superintendent, Principal, Vice Principal  
Louis Riel School Division  
[Darcy.Cormack@lrsd.net](mailto:Darcy.Cormack@lrsd.net)

What are the Systemic Structures that Create the Conditions to Promote Teacher and Student Engagement?

Creativity enables innovation. Magic happens at the intersection of science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. Influencing teacher pedagogy and creating opportunities for students to engage with interdisciplinary curricular outcomes in authentic and relevant ways provides a platform for this to occur. Establishing a culture of highly engaged and passionate educators where individual strengths are leveraged is intentional work. What are the systemic structures that create the conditions to promote teacher and student engagement?

"Marlene Murray is an Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services and Senior Administrator liaison to two Families of Schools in the Louis Riel School Division in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her passion is for the pursuit of equity and social justice in education and society. Her raison d'être as an educator is to link pedagogy, citizenship and social change.

Darcy Cormack is currently the Principal of Island Lakes Community School in the Louis Riel School Division. She is passionate about increasing students' opportunities for leadership, voice and engagement in learning.

Darren Baker is currently the Vice Principal of Island Lakes Community School in the Louis Riel School Division. He promotes inquiry based learning, student involvement in learning design and the leveraging of digital applications to increase engagement. STEAM innovation is an integral component to staff development and student success. Marlene, Darcy and Darren engage in planned, professional dialogue to ensure the intentional work of leveraging professional capacity for student engagement.

Barb Boerchers  
Middle Years Consultant  
River East Transcona School Division  
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Sustainability-Integrating Visual Arts with Technology using GIS

This workshop will highlight a learning opportunity that was held for students and teachers in the areas of sustainability, technology and visual arts. Teachers and students researched Canadian artists, current environmental issues, connecting them to past landscapes and creating an action plan for the future. Information was then integrated (synthesized) through a Global Information System (GIS) and portrayed on art reflecting the students' action plan.

Barb Boerchers is a Middle Years Consultant for River East Transcona School Division in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She currently spends most of her days working with school and administrative teams in classrooms. Prior to her role as a Consultant, Barb spent most of her teaching career teaching in a Middle Years setting. Barb's passions include literacy research, working in the classroom with students and teachers and literacy teams. When Barb is not in school she loves travelling to her favourite city,

Montreal, where she struggles speaking French but is successful with food and buying shoes.

Christopher Usih  
Associate Director of Education  
Toronto District School Board  
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Implementing STEM in Canada's Largest School Board - The Toronto District School Board Experience  
This session will focus on the STEM implementation journey of the Toronto District School Board. Participants will learn about the visioning inherent in STEM, pedagogical shift, STEM resources, educational partnerships, student engagement, capacity building for teachers and administrators, and the intersection with technology.

Christopher Usih is currently Associate Director of Student Achievement & Well-being at the Toronto District School Board (TDSB). The TDSB serves more than 250,000 students in 588 schools. Prior to this, Christopher held Executive Superintendent and Superintendent roles and was high school principal for five years. Recently, as a member of the Global Cities Education Network, Christopher has participated in educational forums in different cities around the world.

Donald J. Fraynd, PhD  
CEO and Cofounder  
TeacherMatch  
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Harnessing the Power of Research to Increase Student Achievement

Teachers are the most important factor in a student's growth. Yet very little effort has been placed into making sure they are hired with scientific precision. Learn more about one of the most robust teacher effectiveness research studies ever conducted, and what the findings reveal about identifying teacher candidates who are most likely to improve students' educational growth. The presentation will feature a study involving a research consortium and value-added models for student growth.

Don Fraynd started his career as a teacher and mid-level administrator. After teaching and finishing his M.A. from Creighton University, Don began his doctoral program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Don completed his Ph.D. with a research focus in the politics of education, leadership for equity, and organizational theory. He then accepted a principal position in Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and later built the district's school turnaround office. Under Don's leadership, the CPS Office of School Improvement has become a national pioneer in school turnaround work. To have an even greater impact in far more schools nationally, Don co-founded TeacherMatch. As a principal in Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and under his leadership, Don's school was rated one of the top 100 in the nation by U.S. News & World Report and brought home the first U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools Award ever received by a CPS high school. In 2008, then-CEO Arne Duncan asked Don to leave his position to build the district's school turnaround office and create a model that systematically brings new life to the district's most struggling schools. Under Don's leadership, the CPS Office of School Improvement has become a national pioneer in school turnaround work. Its unprecedented success has been covered by numerous national media outlets, most recently The Wall Street Journal, where it appeared on the front page. The U.S. Department of Education has modeled their multi-billion-dollar school improvement grant program around the CPS model.

Eric Hardie and Ron Ferguson  
Principal Carleton Place High School, Principal Almonte District High School  
Upper Canada DSB

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Promoting ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship)

The presenters have been running dragons' den-style competitions for students from grades 4-8, called the "Change the World Challenge," and 9-12, called the "Innovation Challenge" where students have pitched to experienced judges for a chance to earn support for projects they have initiated. Connecting innovation, technology, and project-based learning with entrepreneurship and community partners, the presentation will show participants how this familiar TV structure can be used to ignite student ideas and build vital 21st century skills.

Eric Hardie is the Principal of Carleton Place High School and is in his tenth year as both an Elementary and Secondary administrator in the Upper Canada District School Board.

Ron Ferguson is the Principal of Almonte District High School. Ron has been both an Elementary and Secondary administrator with the Upper Canada District School Board. The project started with a planning day back in March of this year. You can see a video from that day here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCf3N8DCymA>

We are currently running the competitions and will have video from them available to share at the workshop, too.

Carla Weller

Regional Special Education Consultant, Team Lead- Student Services Network  
York Region School Board

[carla.weller@yrdsb.ca](mailto:carla.weller@yrdsb.ca)

Improving Academic Performance by Managing & Using Student Data

York Region School District will describe their most recent endeavor to manage special education and student data using a best of breed approach ensuring compliance with Provincial and school board requirements and integration of their data management systems including Trillium and TIENET. Users of PowerSchool will also be interested since TIENET is the recommended special education module for both Trillium and PowerSchool in Ontario. The program is currently in use in York, all of Nova Scotia and the Northwest Territories. The program is endorsed by the Council of Administrators of Special Education,

Carla Weller is a primary user, subject matter expert and trainer for the SSNET initiative at York Region. She has trained hundreds of teachers in the new data management system and worked with York's leadership to develop and implement one of the most robust, user friendly, and highly functional data management systems to improve student performance in Canada.

Dr. Philip Geiger, Senior Vice President will also participate and answer questions about the program effectiveness in other provinces, Attendees from York, Nova Scotia and the Northwest Territories will be invited to participate.

Dean Shareski  
Discovery Education

#### The Great Canadian Educator

As we consider the ideas of transformation and change in our schools we often look to the experts and research for guidance. The truth is, we already have many answers and examples across the country. I'm privileged to know and work with many of these educators. This session will showcase great educators across the country and extract the principles and lessons learned that anyone can implement at any level

Dean Shareski is the Community Manager for Discovery Education Canada. He taught grades 1-8 for 14 years and spent 9 as a digital learning consultant for Prairie South School Division in Moose Jaw, SK. In addition, he teaches pre-service teachers at the University of Regina. He also has written and taught Masters courses at Wilkes University. His blog consistently ranks among the top educational blogs. Dean also blogs for Tech Learning and the Huffington Post. In 2010 he won the ISTE Award for Outstanding Leader of the Year. Dean has had the opportunity to speak to a variety of education audiences both nationally and internationally. His passion remains helping teachers explore the affordances of technology for learning. Dean believes humor and humility go a long way in supporting and advocating transformational practices in teaching and learning.

Anne Saftich  
IBM

#### Innovative Assessment and Digital Student Portfolios for Deeper Learning

Come and hear how school districts are using an innovative assessment platform that connects the student, the parent(s), and the teacher to a student's learning in authentic, meaningful and productive ways, on a daily basis. No longer do parents and students wait for a report card to become informed of progress, identify areas of success and those requiring support. Individual learning needs can be responded to faster, and parents and students can more readily become part of the solution and learning plan in collaboration with the teacher.

As a student's learning presents itself (at any time), a teacher captures it through photos, video and notation toward populating a student's e-portfolio. Additionally, students themselves can also upload key artifacts that they feel provide evidence of their learning. Concurrently, this learning evidence is shared with parents and reviewed with the student with goals of engaging and empowering both while extending learning and support beyond the classroom. Through this process, students work alongside their teacher to establish personal learning goals and strategies for ongoing improvement. When supported with professional learning, teachers use digital portfolios to systematically review their teaching and assessment practices in order to transform learning and teaching. The effects on the practice are profound and immediate for stakeholders invested in learning: students, teachers, parents and the organization.

Durham Catholic District School Board

Presenters:

Anne O'Brien

Rosemary Leclair

Bon Camozzi

Janine Bowyer

Gerry O'Reilly

Michael Cain

The 21st Century is Now!

The rate of technological change in the last two decades has been extraordinary. Digital technologies and the Internet have transformed the world into a place where vast amounts of information can be accessed instantly, people around the world can be connected and work collaboratively, and rich media content can be created with relative ease.

Our students are "digital natives", born into a world of ubiquitous access to information. Clearly, we must adapt to our new reality so that our students are prepared to live, learn and contribute ethically in the 21st Century.

In order to bring about change there must be a vision and a plan. This presentation focuses on how the Durham District Catholic School Board is transforming into a place where 21st Century Teaching is becoming a reality. We will be examining:

- The Goals of our Strategic Plan
- Actions taken to realize the plan:
- The Development of our Bring Your Own Device Policy
- The growth of eLearning/Blended Learning
- Creation of Technology Integration Lead Teachers
- Cloud Computing (Office 365)

SmartTech

[Giancarlo.brotto@smarttech.com](mailto:Giancarlo.brotto@smarttech.com)

### **Bringing the System to the Student**

This presentation will use the example of a student cohort tracking project under development by the Upper Canada District School Board to explore how educational systems can meet the need for increasingly personalized educational services. The presenters will use their situational context to frame the "why and the how" for educational system transformation.

#### **Phil Dawes**

Phil started his career with the Ottawa Board of Education in 1988 and joined the Upper Canada District School Board in 2001 where he now holds the of Superintendent, District Alignment. In this role Phil has system responsibilities for planning, research, communications, school staffing and data applications for school and system improvement.

#### **Frank Hummell**

Frank Hummell is the current Student Success Leader for the Upper Canada District School Board. In his 30 year career he has worked as an elementary and secondary teacher and Principal. For the last 10 years he has worked on numerous board-wide and province-wide student success initiatives and committees.

### **Reni Barlow of Why? to Wow! Consulting**

#### **A world of STEAM learning, innovation, and leadership**

The world's most challenging and important problems require the application of STEAM in a collaborative, creative, and global environment – and Canadian students are eager to make a difference. Building a culture of globalization can be daunting for school system administrators. International experiences enhance student engagement and global perspectives, but ensuring sound curricular connections, a world-class experience, equitable access – as well as student safety – are significant challenges. Fortunately, it's easier than you might think! Learn how immersive student travel – combined with a two-day discovery and innovation leadership conference featuring world-renowned speakers, expert-led workshops, and facilitated interaction with students from across Canada and around the world – encourages student collaboration, creative and critical thinking, and creates a transformative experience for high school students – and their teachers. Session participants will explore international STEAM and leadership tour opportunities with EF, the world leader in international education – celebrating 50 years of excellence in 2015.