

It's All About the Kids!

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Student learning the skill of a simple tread when in water jeopardy.



Prom Project Dress Up

Grade 3s Learn How to Swim to Survive



The Education Foundation of Niagara was successful with a grant from the Lifesaving Society and the YMCA of Niagara where over \$15,000 covered pool fees, paid for instructors and the transportation costs for 450 grade three children from Niagara Region's high priority schools.

Delivering this programming to high need schools is important as many students do not have access to these types of programs nor the funding available to pay. Students received in-water sessions at local YMCAs with focus on being able to roll into deep water, tread water for one minute and swim for 50 metres. The sessions are not meant to replace standard swimming lessons, but provide the minimum standard for surviving a fall into deep water. "Kids are swimming all across the Region and very few have the necessary skills to survive a water tragedy", says Tom Reynolds, Crystal Beach Public School Principal.

The Lifesaving Society, Canada's life guarding experts, is a charitable organization working to prevent drowning and water-related injury through its training programs, Water Smart® public education and safety management services.

Upon completion of the program it was noted that many and sometime most students did not have skills needed to keep safe in water. We hope this program will make our region a little safer.



Golf Tourney Event Sponsor Graham Stoddart from Johnson Insurance

Corporate Funding...Helping Schools

The EFN focus in 2010 has been strengthening community partnerships, enhancing special events and achieving support from corporate donors that will directly impact innovative school project needs. Over \$80,000 has been granted from a variety of corporate funders in areas of environmental education, healthy active lifestyles and water safety, for example.

Recess Revival...Westmount and Ross Schools

Through a coordinated effort between the Education Foundation of Niagara and the DSBN, the Recess Revival program supports an increase in physical activity during student free time at recess, lunch and after school. In addition, the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association (CIRA) is on board by providing workshops to the Recess Revival groups. "The main outcomes are leading a wide variety of game experiences, and engaging all students in inclusive games", says John Byl, President of CIRA Ontario. Funds provided for this program will be used to purchase game and sport items that will give students, student leaders and teachers a wide range of resources to create fun and unique games so that instead of being idle at recess and during lunch hours, boys and girls will become more involved in games of skill, balance and agility.

Westmount Public School is able to run the program due to a generous grant from BMO Employee Charitable Foundation.



Ross Public School in Welland is able to run the program due to generous support from Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities. This Program assists ages 4-18 to participate in organized sports and recreation such as hockey, dance, soccer and swimming, where funding may be a problem



Westmount students ready to play ball!



Pictured here from left to right: Julie Densham, ED of EFN, Nicole Oaks from Jumpstart Charities, two Ross Students, Ross Principal Mark Leduc, Ross Student, Harry Bell from Jumpstart Charities and Bob Lewis, EFN Director.

If you are someone you know needs financial assistance for children entering intramural sports (outside of school) **Jumpstart Charities** can help with that. For more information contact the following:

In St. Catharines - 905-685-1349, ext 241

In Beamsville - 905-563-5822

In Fort Erie - 905-871-8836

In Port Colborne - 905-834-3629

In Niagara Falls - 905-357-5121, ext 25

Nutrition Is the Mission ...at Queen Mary

The Niagara Community Foundation supported Queen Mary Public School with the purchase of an industrial toaster at their highly visited breakfast program. The consistent message from our school administrators is that providing students nutrition programs significantly improves their cognitive or mental abilities, enabling them to be more alert, pay better attention, and to do better in terms of reading, math and other standardized test scores. Children getting breakfast at school are sick less often, have fewer problems associated with hunger, such as dizziness, lethargy, stomach-aches and ear aches, and do significantly better. Student nutrition programs not only help to feed the hungry and increase educational performance, but it's also an opportunity to educate the students in nutritional practices, build social skills and encourage environmental practices.



RBC Foundation Steps up with Donation of Shoe Vouchers for 100 Kids in Need



The RBC Foundation has generously donated \$4,000.00 to the poverty initiative created and administered by the Education Foundation of Niagara to District School Board of Niagara students in need. Many families in Niagara are struggling to make ends meet and our region has excellent programs to support children such as nutrition programs at our local schools, sporting fees assistance through Jumpstart Charities and student bursaries through the Education Foundation of Niagara, to name a few.

The RBC Foundation recognizes this and has stepped up with a donation to purchase gift cards for footwear, which can be extremely important and expensive acquisitions. As children's feet grow quickly and poverty stricken parents' wallets empty even quicker than that, they need this one-time funding that could mean great assistance to the parents and a wonderful, yet simple gift to the child.

Butterfly Wishes...Glendale Public School, Central Public School and Prince of Wales North

Public school students and teachers came together this spring to form ECO-Teams whose main focus are to get kids out of school and into an outdoor learning classroom built around nature. ECO groups were formed made up of eager students and dedicated staff to turn unused green-space into another place to study and learn using trees, plants, rocks and other natural supplies. "On days when the weather is nice, students in all areas of curriculum can relocate to the outdoor venue", says Allison Toews-Peplinski, from Prince of Wales North.

The Education Foundation of Niagara has assisted the three schools with achieving funding from a variety of sources making this a community effort. "What a wonderful collaborative effort this is that helps to meet the environmental challenges we are all facing", says Mel Groom, Board Chair of Niagara Community Foundation.

Now that the plans are complete and the funding has been awarded, official plant dates will be determined where the ECO teams, the school and the general community will work together to create the space. And for all their hard work, ECO teams are rewarded with their own personal tour of the Butterfly Conservatory at the end of the year. "Connecting curriculum with the environment is easy to do in this outdoor classroom and we are very pleased to have the opportunity to support this innovative learning opportunity", says Gary Lowes, President of Teachers Credit Union.

Glendale Public School in Welland - Funded by grant provided by Teachers Credit Union

Prince of Wales North, St. Catharines - Funded by grants provided by the Niagara Community Foundation, Teachers Credit Union, the Metro Green Apple Program, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Central Public School - Funded by grants provided by the Niagara Community Foundation, Teachers Credit Union



Communities Blend at Lincoln Centennial

Thanks to a grant from the Niagara Community Foundation's Prosperity for Youth's Granting Program Lincoln Centennial students will have the opportunity to celebrate many of the cultures that make up this multicultural community.



Every month the school focuses on historical perspectives as well as cultural and traditional activities to celebrate each of the 22 identified cultures and 15 languages that make up this diverse school setting. Books and video are used along with specialized musical equipment for celebrations in class, at assemblies and other special occasions.

With such a high volume of multicultural families at this school parents will be included to act as speakers or invited to special days to ensure they feel they are valued members of the school community. "By creating an inclusive and welcoming environment and celebrating various holidays and cultures, we hope to enrich the learning experiences of all our students", said Principal Jen Tye.

Your donation Supports Students

The Foundation accepts donations in a variety of methods, depending on the wishes of the donor:

- General monetary donation
- Gifts in honour or memoriam
- Planned giving
- Gifts of securities
- Memberships
- Student Awards
- Endowment building

DSBN Road Race

2010 marks the first year that EFN and Niagara Nutrition Partners have teamed up to present the 7th Annual DSBN Road Race! The rainy weather did not dampen spirits as 1000 runners showed up to support nutrition programs for DSBN schools. The event raised \$10,000 that will be split between the two charities.

Special thanks to our sponsors: PenFinancial Credit Union.



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Road Runners & Walkers
Stamford Collegiate
Thorold Secondary School
Vineland School



DSBN Staff Reunion



EFN held the first-ever DSBN Board wide staff reunion on Henley Island October 1, 2009 where over 180 DSBN retirees and current employees gathered to share in the good food, good memories and good times! On September 23 the reunion will once again take place on Henley Island and we expect over 300 guests. For information or personal invite please email dara.goulet@dsbn.edu.on.ca.

Mark your calendar

September 23
at Henley Island.

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*for new accounts only opened from May 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010. Interest will revert back to the regular rate on September 1, 2010. The current regular rate is a very competitive 1.20%. Visit our website for full account details including applicable service fees. Advantage Mortgage and AdvantageLine are subject to credit approval and other conditions apply. All rates are subject to change without notice. ™DirectTCU is a trademark of Credit Union Central of Canada and is used under license. ™Teachers Credit Union is a trademark of Hamilton Teachers Credit Union Limited.

Make Change for Children Campaign Results

Almost \$25,000 raised in 2010!

The Education Foundation of Niagara's Poverty and Emergency Relief Fund (PERF) responds to emergency requests by schools on behalf of DSBN students in need. This initiative supports the extraordinary, and sometimes emergency, personal and school-related needs of individual students brought about by financial hardship. The Foundation has reserved funds to allocate to students who fall within this category to pay for winter clothes, proper footwear, bus passes, field trips, basic school supplies, team uniforms, cafeteria vouchers etc.

Since its inception in 2008, the Poverty and Emergency Relief Fund has been able to touch the lives of over 2500 students.



Aimee Casciato
Alicia Janzen
Angelo Zeffiro
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C. Dale Shipley
Canadian Tire Foundation for Families
Cathy Green-Redekop
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School - PS - Pine Grove
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School - PS - Power Glen
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School - PS - Riverview
School - PS - Senator Gibson
School - PS - Sheridan Park
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School - PS - Vineland
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School - PS - Westdale
School - PS - Westmount
School - PS - Winger
School - PS - Woodland
School - SS - Beamsville SS
School - SS - E.L. Crossley
School - SS - Eden
School - SS - Fort Erie SS
School - SS - Governer Simcoe
School - SS - Kernahan Park
School - SS - Laura Secord SS
School - SS - Port Colborne High
School - SS - Ridgeway Crystal Beach
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Teresa Rudling
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Township of Wainfleet
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Welland Optimist Club

Much thanks and gratitude to our wonderful supporters!

Prom Project Niagara

On Saturday, May 1st, 2010 the EFN held the second annual Prom Project Niagara at Thorold Secondary School. As a way to combat the effects of poverty, the EFN created Prom Project Niagara as an event that supports and provides for underprivileged students in both elementary and secondary schools. Prom Project Niagara celebrates the achievements of students who have overcome adversity in reaching the milestone of graduation by matching our young people with an outfit, dress, or suit so they can walk proud on their special day. This event facilitated over 70 students with their special day needs and were able to select formal wear free of charge to attend their formals and graduation ceremonies this year.

Thanks to our sponsors and helpers:

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DSBN Staff Christmas Party

November 27th,

2010

Club Italia

6:00 PM Reception

7:00 PM Dinner

\$40 Per Person!

Featuring:

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Profiles of DSBN Student Achievements

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For more information:

please call the EFN office at 905-641-2929 ext. 54103

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EFN Golf Classic

Raised over \$30,000!



The 4th Annual EFN Golf Classic, held Friday, May 28 at Legends on the Niagara - Battlefield Course, was a resounding success - and was made possible by the following donors, sponsors and supporters:

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Join us next year at Legends on the Niagara - Friday, May 27, 2011!

How can YOU help? Become a Friend!

Becoming a member of the Education Foundation of Niagara is an easy and economical way of supporting education in Niagara and includes receiving communications pieces, event invitations, updates on activities and the great feeling you get when you help a child. Every dollar generated from membership goes directly to operational needs to ensure we keep up the good work!

EFN Friends of the Foundation Form

Annual Friend of the Foundation: \$30.00 Lifetime Friend: \$300.00 Organizational Lifetime Friend: \$500.00

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Please submit by post to: Education Foundation of Niagara, 191 Carlton St., St. Catharines, ON L2R 7P4

Note: tax receipts are no longer being issued for contributions \$30 and under, unless by special request.

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We are always looking for photos and stories of what you do in your school to make education fun!

If you want to see your story in print, send us your photos and the information to:

efn@dsbn.edu.on.ca

For more information on our programs visit: www.efnonline.ca



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