



MEDIA ADVISORY

June 11, 2007

CONNAUGHT HOSTS OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST

Adversity is one of life's greatest and most lasting lessons. Finding a champion and the inner strength to overcome adversity is the message students at Connaught Public School will learn tomorrow. On Tuesday, June 12, 2007, they will be hosting their 27th annual athletic banquet.

"The banquet is a unique opportunity for all students to celebrate and acknowledge their successes both in and out of the classroom," explained Kelly McDonnell, Principal.

One of the night's highlights is a visit from two time Gold medalist, Cheryl Pounder. Cheryl, who won her second gold medal in Women's hockey at the 2006 Olympics in Torino, Italy, will address the students on women in sport and overcoming adversity. She will speak about the determination it takes to become an Olympic athlete and to never give up on your dreams. It was that inspiration and determination that propelled Cheryl when she had initially failed to make the women's hockey team in the 1998 Nagano Games.

As a reminder to always dream big, she taped a saying to her bedroom wall which read, "Courage is not defined by those who failed and fell, but by those who failed, fell and rose again."

"Achieving success both academically and through athletics builds confidence and character in our students, traits they will carry for the rest of their lives," concluded McDonnell.

Dinner is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. with the presentations at 6:30 p.m. at Connaught Public School, 28 Prince St., St. Catharines.

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