



The Insider: IPSAB E-Bulletin



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Next IPSAB Meeting: Monday 8 February 2016

A Message from the Director

It gives me great pleasure to welcome members to our first E-Bulletin. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep our members up to date with educational news and events, as well as including articles and internet links that may be of interest.

I would like to invite members who would like to contribute to our next e-bulletin, to submit their items to the E-Bulletin Editor at helen@schooladvisoryboard.com



Interesting TED Talks for Teachers

In her brief TED talk, Angela Lee Duckworth reflects on predictors for student success. As a teacher and psychologist she concludes that GRIT is the answer.

“GRIT” in psychology is a positive, non-cognitive trait based on an individual's passion for a particular long-term goal...coupled with powerful motivation to achieve their respective objective. This perseverance of effort promotes the overcoming of obstacles or challenges that lie within a gritty individual's path to accomplishment, and serves as a driving force in achievement realization”.

Here is the link:

http://www.ted.com/talks/angela_lee_duckworth_the_key_to_success_grit

Ontario College of Teachers Duty To Report (June 4, 2015)

**Do you know under what conditions you have a Duty to Report?
Do you know to whom you report?
Do you know the consequences of not reporting?**



Each of us has a responsibility to protect children and youth from harm. As a professional educator, working directly with students and supporting others who are, you have a legal and ethical duty to report to a Children's Aid Society when you have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection.



You do not have to be certain that a child may need protection. Suspicion on reasonable grounds – information that an average person, using normal and honest judgments would have – is reason enough to report. You must then report to a Children's Aid Society so that their staff can assess and determine if any action need be taken.

On June 4, 2015, the Council of the Ontario College of Teachers approved its Professional Advisory – Duty to Report, to remind its members that they have a duty to report abuse and/or neglect of children and youth. This Professional Advisory is also applicable to staff members of private and independent schools, even if they are not OCT members. Principals and school owners would benefit from a thorough review of the document and then applying it in their respective schools.

Private and Independent Schools in Print Media



A number of interesting articles regarding private and independent schools have been recently published by the National Post. One articles reads: "In Ontario, more and more parents are choosing to enroll their children in independent schools. This despite the fact that Ontario, unlike several other provinces, provides no financial assistance to parents who choose alternatives to the public-school system. By recognizing the growing demand for independent schooling, Ontario has an opportunity to reform education funding policy in ways that help parents afford the school of their choice while saving money for taxpayers..."

The authors are: Deani Neven Van Pelt, Director of the Centre for Improvement in Education and Ben Eisen, Senior Policy Analyst at the Fraser Institute.

IPSAB might consider inviting them for a discussion with members.

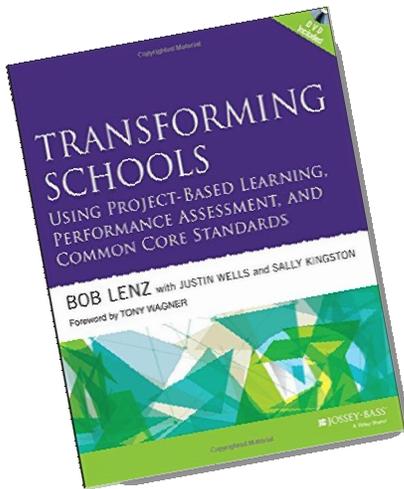
Link to the October 8, article: *It's time to start paying attention to what more parents want. Private schools.*

The letters to the editor in response to the articles might also be of interest.

<http://news.nationalpost.com/full-comment/deani-neven-van-pelt-ben-eisen-its-time-to-start-paying-attention-to-what-more-parents-want-private-schools>

Book Review Transforming Schools

By: Bob Lenz with Justin Wells and Sally Kingston



This is a reader-friendly and well-structured book, outlining the core philosophies and practices of Envision schools in the U.S. The reason why Canadian, and more specifically Ontario, educators should be interested in this book is that these schools have embraced the principles of Inquiry-Based/Project-Based learning as a means to promote, not only new skills and application of these skills, but equally importantly the development of the habits of mind such as resilience and curiosity, that lead to life-long success and fulfillment.

The book includes useful templates and samples, and is a helpful and fulsome review of the underpinnings of the inquiry approach to learning.

IPSAB Members' Meeting - November 26, 2015

Item 1:

The agenda began with an informative Q and A session with Mr Alan Wolfish QC and Mr. Anthony Di Lena from the Private School and International Education Unit at the Ministry of Education.

The questions asked related to a deteriorating culture of cooperation between private and public schools and the trend of certain complaints and statements made by public schools regarding private schools. Mr Di Lena , in a frank and forthright response, emphasized that students have the right to take credit courses in both public and private establishments, and that any school or public board denying this right have no authority to do so. Mr. Di Lena referred to *Ontario Schools: Kindergarten to Grade 12 Policy and Program Requirements (2011) Section 10.6*. **Mr Di Lena made a commitment to communicate the concerns raised by IPSAB members, to the Ontario School Counsellors Association (OSCA) to ensure that members of OSCA are fully aware of this important fact and advising students and parents accordingly..**

In his presentation, Mr. Di Lena also referred to the *Auditor General's Follow-Up to 2013 Value-for-money Audit Annual Report, which has now been published (December 2015). Chapter 4, Section 4.06, Private Schools*. The Follow-Up reports that the Ministry of Education states progress has been made on implementing about two thirds of the recommendations of the 2013 Report, which were aimed at ensuring quality instructions and credit integrity at private schools.

For the full status of Actions Taken on the Recommendations see pages 637 onwards at this link:
http://www.auditor.on.ca/en/reports_en/en15/4.06en15.pdf

Item 2:

Presentation of draft 1 of the IPSAB **Code of Ethics** - Mr Hugh McKeown, on behalf of the working committee, introduced draft 1 and emphasized its importance to enhance and promote credibility of members. Draft 2 will be shared during the next IPSAB meeting.

Item 3:

The new version of the **Assessment Plan and Marks Calculator** was introduced to members by Mr Jim Sebastian and Mr Jordan Rakowski. During our next meeting Mr. Rakowsky will provide in-depth training on the use of the new Mark Calculator. Members will receive an NDA for signing, prior to receipt of the Mark Calculator.

Item 4:

Justice Marvin Zuker will attend the next IPSAB meeting to discuss legal issues pertaining to schools in general, and private schools in particular.

Item 5:

Best practice sharing between members – in our upcoming meeting there will be a 15 minute presentation by a Khalsa High School teacher, reviewing her implementation of the 7 fundamental principles of Growing Success in her English class.

Item 6:

Any member wishing to join Dr. Miller's committee for Summer Institute planning, please contact Dr. Miller directly.

Item 7:

The next IPSAB members' meeting is: Monday, Feb 8th, 2016.

Contact The Editor

If members have articles, news, upcoming event information , or any other ideas to share and be included in the E-bulletin, please send them for consideration to the editor, Ms. Helen Rees:

helen@schooladvisoryboard.com

We hope IPSAB members have found the content of interest. Please let us know if there are particular topics you would like covered in future bulletins.

Thank you!!

*IPSAB Executive would like to wish all its members
and their extended families
Happy New Year*