



InTouch

Digital Learning in our High Schools

In September 2013, iPad Minis were introduced into two high schools, following the successful implementation of mobile devices in our elementary schools. At Monday night's Board Meeting, Trustees were provided with an update on the successes and challenges of the project to date. Overall, the implementation is going very well, with positive responses from students in Grades 9-12 who use the Minis in a range of subject areas including English, Science and Math.



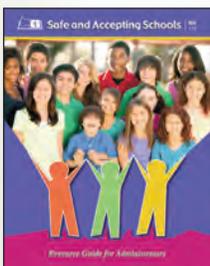
Implementation Team Frank Ianni, Paul Mackett, Laurie Foster and Terry Wood.

High School Uniforms

With our current contract coming to a close, the Board is now preparing to re-tender our high school uniforms. "After consulting with parents, students and staff, we are making some changes to the school uniform," Superintendent Pino Tassone told Trustees. The main change will be to replace the 100% cotton tee and golf shirts with a more durable wicking polyester fabric, which will be offered in white and in school colours. The blended cotton sweat top will be replaced with a similar fleece top in polyester. The process to re-tender will begin shortly with our two Catholic Student Trustees providing input.



Uniforms will be re-tendered shortly.



Safe and Accepting Schools Resource

Our Board has developed a Safe and Accepting Schools Resource to assist school administrators in meeting the requirements of Bill 13, Accepting Schools Act (2012) and related regulations and policy documents. The resource includes information on bullying prevention, positive school climate, mental health issues, and tragic events as well as a range of teacher, student and parent resources.

Board Launches AQ Math Course

Once again our Board is ahead of the curve! This week as the Ministry announced new funding to support teacher education in math, we announced our own Math AQ course for Junior and Intermediate teachers. The course has been developed in partnership with OISE UT and will begin next month. It will be taught by two of our own excellent math teachers, Lesley Masters and Dino Buset. Because class size is limited, teachers are encouraged to register early to avoid disappointment.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
OISE CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

All Junior and Intermediate Teachers

A special program offered in partnership with the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board and OISE.

Additional Qualification in Math 7/8

Dates: 9:00 - 9:30 p.m. (virtual, internet-based)
Dates: February 6, 13, 20, March 7 (2013) + 20 (2014)
March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8

Location:
 28 Queen High School
 1385 Glenora Ave.
 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1J8
Application Deadline:
 January 21, 2014

Course Description:
 This course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the Ontario Mathematics Curriculum Framework for Grades 7 and 8. The course will focus on the development of mathematical concepts and skills, as well as the application of these skills to real-world situations.

Special Pricing for Thunder Bay Catholic Teachers!
Cost: \$1500 (includes a non-refundable application processing fee). Students who successfully complete the course will receive a \$100 rebate from the Board.

Course Instructors: Lesley Masters and Dino Buset

Register early! Class sizes are limited.

St. Ignatius Grad Revolutionized BMX Biking

Like many kids growing up in Thunder Bay during the 1970s, Jay Miron was active in a number of sports but when he discovered BMX, Jay never looked back! (For those who don't know, BMX stands for bicycle motorcross and it's the sport of racing bicycles on a track with obstacles.)

By the early 1980s, Jay was developing his racing skills on one of the first tracks in the area, and with his incredible trick-making abilities, he started winning freestyle competitions and establishing a legendary career that has spanned three decades.



Jay attended St. Margaret School and after graduating from St. Ignatius High School in 1989, he caught the attention of a number of bike companies who signed him to ride with their sponsorship. In 2000, he started his own company, called MacNeil Bikes. In the years following, he developed a distribution company called Ten Pack and he started a magazine called Chase BMX. He also served as the promoter of Metro Jam events, introducing thousands of people to the sport of BMX. Known as an innovator and trailblazer in the sport, Jay is credited with inventing over 30 BMX tricks.

Throughout his career, Jay proudly represented Canada at competitions around the world, claiming six BMX World Championship titles and nine Extreme Games competitions. He was appointed to the inaugural Advisory Council of the Canadian Cycling Association, and more recently, he was inducted into the Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame.

Jay Miron has been described as one of the most recognized and influential BMX riders of all time.

