

MARCH 2014

CAP Executive:

Jameel Aziz, President

Bill Tucker, Past-President

Tina Estabrooks, President Elect

Holly Godson, Western VP

Jim Jordan, Central VP

K.J. White, Eastern VP

Jill Sooley-Perley, Executive
Assistant

CAP Board of Directors:

Janette Vlanich, Northwest
Territories

Gary Morgan, Yukon

Terry Young, Nunavut

Shelley Green, British Columbia

Holly Godson, Alberta

Carol Sarich, Saskatchewan

Spencer Clements, Manitoba

Jim Jordan, Quebec

Gilbert Cyr, New Brunswick

Michael Landry, Nova Scotia

K.J. White, Prince Edward Island

Kevin Giles, Newfoundland and
Labrador

Thoughts from the CAP President

Hello Everyone,

CAP continues to be a voice that is sought after in many discussions and I have used the thinking that if we get to have a voice at the table for a matter important to our members or students nationally, we will do our best to attend. This month I am at meetings with the Canadian Centre for Substance Abuse where the discussion will focus on marijuana usage and what precautions need to be examined should legalization begin to be reality in our Canadian jurisdictions.

Next month I am at a meeting with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO: Sectoral Committee Meeting in Education. CAP's participation continues to be valued in the conversation as many organization want to know specifically the thinking from the school leader perspective. Educators have many roles in the system and the voice of the school leader is continually acknowledged and supported due to the strong work that you do in your buildings every day.

Recently I was at the NASSP conference with President Elect Tina Estabrooks in Texas. I have attended this conference for the past five years and see each year more interest in engaging in ideas and methods that are working no matter where the boundaries or borders lay. That was more evident this year and I think there is a real possibility in doing some leadership work/research with NASSP moving forward.

Our biggest challenge at the moment is member engagement. None of the ideas we discuss for moving forward and modernizing the organization can occur without the input of YOU, our members. Believe me, I know how busy everyone is and that keeping up with the communication and demands of our immediate superiors can be challenging enough.

In the next month or so, we will be asking each affiliate to find 10-15 members to respond to some information via a Thoughtstream survey that will help us determine priorities and areas of interest in our Strategic Planning.

I will look forward to your feedback and hope to see many of you when we meet in Halifax in May, for the annual CAP Conference. I wish you continued success in your schools and supporting the students and families you work with every day.

Jameel Aziz

Contact Us:

CAP National Office

300 Earl Grey Drive, Suite 220

Kanata, ON K2T 1C1

Tel: 613-839-0768

Email: info@cdnprincipals.org

Website: www.cdnprincipals.org

[CAP Annual Conference, May 6-9, 2014, Halifax, Nova Scotia](#)

The Nova Scotia School Administrator's Association invites you to attend the 2014 Canadian Association of Principals Conference being held in the historic and scenic city of Halifax, Nova Scotia. This conference will give delegates the opportunity to engage in professional development entitled "Times are Changing – Leadership for the Future". The conference will highlight essential leadership skills based on dealing with leadership in the multi-generational workplace and schools in this era of technology and social media. Our conference will offer excellent learning opportunities, as well as a taste of Downhome East Coast hospitality which you will never forget!

For more information, please visit our website at www.halifaxcap2014.ca

[CAP 2013 Conference Recap](#)

CAP 2013 was truly a very special conference where national school leaders and teachers participated in professional dialogue regarding the exciting future of education. With the likes of Sir Ken Robinson, Ben Rankin, Simon Breakspear, Richard Gerver, Bernajean Porter, Jannie Jeppesen, Ann van Zyl and Sue Walsh...an international stage was set for a conversation on the transformation of education. "education doesn't need to be reformed – it needs to be transformed! The key is not to standardize education, but to personalize it, to build achievement on discovering the individual talents of each child, to put students in an environment where they want to learn and where they can naturally discover their true passions." (Sir Ken Robinson) "CAP 2013 was truly a special conference and was the beginning of great connections with big thinkers in education!" (Simon Breakspear) "CAP 2013 was absolutely amazing and truly exciting for leading into the transformation of education!" (Richard Gerver). Congratulations to the organizing committee for providing an rejuvenating and inviting school leaders on a journey of transformation! Looking forward to CAP 2014 in Halifax, Nova Scotia!

Partnering with Jiangsu Schools

The Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education has long recognized the value of international partnerships between our schools and their like-minded counterparts abroad. The benefits of such collaborations to both parties are many and varied, including but not limited to: curriculum enrichment, second language learning, exploring culture and joint development projects.

International school partnerships provide a wide range of opportunities for all involved, from the expansion of educational experiences and the broadening of school culture, to pedagogical dialogue. Students, teachers, administrators, parents and communities all stand to benefit, albeit in different ways whether it be through class to class projects, study tours, student exchanges, second language solutions such as Confucius Classrooms or professional development programs.

Most commonly these styles of relationships have been built on an *ad hoc* basis; however, as demand has sky-rocketed both in sheer numbers and the need to achieve more succinct outcomes, the JPDE introduced its School Partnership Facilitation Program in 2013. Establishing a partnership is one thing whilst maintaining it is another challenge again. The benchmark for a successful partnership hinges on sustainability and this is the focus of the School Partnership Facilitation Program.

Challenges such as: difficulties in obtaining an ongoing commitment from the partner school or the whole-school community; a lack of ongoing access to resources and funding; difficulties in facilitating effective communication between partners; movement of staff who are lead or key individuals in the partnership; and increased demands on the time of lead or key individuals are all addressed through the School Partnership Facilitation Program.

The JPDE has assigned its facilitation unit, the Jiangsu Education Services for International Exchange (JESIE), to match potential schools, monitor their progress, evaluate their effectiveness and mediate any issues that may arise.

JESIE formally approached CAP in 2013 to join its global network which includes the USA, the UK, the European Union, Australia and New Zealand. This network forms the Jiangsu Academic Community (International) and CAP has been offered a position on the Executive Committee.

All members of the JESIE network have opportunities to meet face to face each year. The 10th Anniversary of the biennial Jiangsu Forum for International School Principals will be hosted in the regional centre of Zhenjiang 30 October – 05 November 2014. Network school principals or those considering joining are invited to attend and only need to pay for their airfare. The JPDE will pay for registration, accommodation, meals and sightseeing. During the alternate years, the JPDE sponsors its member schools' principals to travel to their partner schools overseas for on-going discourse.

CAP member schools are welcome to take advantage of this relationship with Jiangsu. Schools do not need to be teaching Chinese language to participate. There is no charge to join and schools only need to register an expression of interest by applying directly to Tracy Wu at JESIE by email: ir@jesie.org

Note: the Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education is China's leading provincial education ministry on global perspectives and services an in-province student population of over 14 million. Jiangsu is China's most populous province with 77 million people. JESIE is the only provincial education authority in China to operate overseas branches; Toronto, Manchester, Brisbane and Kansas City and ranks first in China for outbound student overseas programs 7,000 per annum and teacher training abroad 5,000 per annum.

Leaders in School

Student Leaders International is supported by the International Confederation of Principals, the Youth and United Nations Global Alliance (YUNGA) and the International Youth Council (youth assembly of the United Nations.) The first issue of Student Leaders International for 2014 will be published next month. It includes:

- * a feature on the new thinking that people with disability bring to leadership
- * a focus on how history has harmed, and continues to harm, perceptions of female leadership
- * personal stories of leadership by girls and young women from Ghana, Ireland, Canada (2), Australia and Dubai
- * profiles of three very different leaders from England, Australia and the United States of America
- * a tribute to the inspirational leadership of Nelson Mandela, and
- * a call for action from a young representative of the World Future Council.

Student Leaders International Network of Schools

This network of international schools is committed to:

- * the development of young people as future community leaders
- * improving student awareness of the knowledge, understanding and skills of leadership
- * student personal development.

Region Updates

Inspiring Leaderships Create Tomorrow's Schools Today: *Leadership Essentials for New Administrators Conference (LEA 2013)*

Communication, Empowering and Impact are the core principles that Richard Gerver shared with new school leaders at the Alberta Teacher's Association's Leadership Essentials for Administrators Conference (LEA2013) in November. "Great Leadership is about serving the needs of the people that work for you and rely upon you." He shared his store, of inspiring a staff to reach their full potential – in order for their students to reach their potential, with our 100 Alberta new school leaders. As a head teacher, Gerver transformed a failing school into one of the most acclaimed learning environments in the world – in just two years. Recognizing that the "world we live today is dramatically different from the one we grew up in, the one we were educated in – a world that is changing at an accelerated rate", Gerver challenged the school leaders to welcome change and creative reinvention.



There are two things we are certain of in the north, the cold and the absorbent cost of child care. In Iqaluit the cost for day care is at least \$1000.00 per child per month. With three children one family income may be used to pay the monthly daycare cost. Along with the cost is the lack of extracurricular activity for children ages 3-6. In response to this need Aqsarniit Middle School principal, Don Peters and his TaeKwon Do students have volunteered their time organize a Little Bears program that runs on Saturdays from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. The community response has been overwhelming with two full classes and waiting list of excited parents and kids. The program combines music and TaeKwon Do instruction focusing on body movement, range of motion and healthy exercise. The grade 8 students at Aqsarniit Middle School and Don look forward to their Saturday afternoon Little Bears program.



NBTA “Missing Out” Forum *by Blake Robichaud, NBTA Staff Officer*

The NBTA has taken a critical first step in efforts to reduce student absenteeism. Sixty-five participants from seventeen different groups came together in Fredericton on April 3, 2013, to share ideas, make connections, reduce barriers and brainstorm possible solutions. Two videos representing the “voices” of students (one from Moncton and the other from Campbellton) were created for the meeting and were extremely well-received by participants. “Just getting such a varied group of professionals into one room to discuss student attendance was a great success in itself,” said NBTA President Heather Smith.

“Missing Out” was the result of more than two years of lobbying, planning and other efforts. A resolution adopted by the NBTA Annual General Meeting in 2010 stated: “Be it Resolved that the NBTA have discussions with various stakeholders affected by the issue of student attendance, with the goal of enforcing the Education Act to ensure children attend school on a regular basis unless there are valid reasons for them not to attend.” The major NBTA group that championed this cause was the NBTA Committee on In-School Administration. The Committee meets three times per year and traditionally, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development joins them for an hour or so to discuss key issues. This group strongly lobbied for action on student attendance with successive ADMs Zoe Watson and John McLaughlin, and each recognized the importance of the issue. The latter hosted a meeting involving the NBTA, EECD and representatives from three other government departments in November 2012. At that time, the NBTA committed to organize an even broader forum.

That the forum was so well-attended is evidence that improving student attendance is a priority for many groups. From the comments and discussions it was clear that results will require more than a few simple actions. Many initiatives from numerous stakeholders over several years will likely be required. NBTA President Heather Smith said, “Improvements aren’t going to happen overnight and we’re not suddenly going to have significant increases in student attendance. There’s a lot of work to be done, but we’ve finally gotten all the right people together to share ideas and perspectives. It’s clear that this is a major issue for teachers, so the NBTA will continue to work at it.”

“Missing Out” Forum – Participating Groups: New Brunswick Teachers’ Association, L’Association des enseignantes et enseignants francophones de Nouveau-Brunswick, Teachers, Principals, Guidance, NB Department of Health, NB Department of Public Safety, NB Department of Social Development, NB Department of Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour, NB Association of Social Workers, Fredericton Police Force, RCMP, Universities, Student Voice, School Psychologists, School District Staffs, District Education Councils, NB Federation of Home and School Associations.