



JUNE 2009



MacDonald High School
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Editor: **Christine Clarke**

Mac Link

Home & School

Our kids are worth it!

The 2008-09 school year has simply flown by. At our last Home & School meeting on June 8, everyone expressed wonder that it is, indeed, already June!

Mac Home & School has had a great year. **We'd like to thank everyone for your support of our activities and fundraising.** Our accomplishments include **hosting the Convocation Reception** and **giving out grad pins** in the fall, **assisting a student to attend the Forum for Young Canadians,** **supplying Book Awards for grades 7-10** as well as celebrating the great staff at Mac during **Teacher-Staff Appreciation Week** in February.

Mac Home & School is also entirely responsible for the publishing of the Mac Link which covers all the news of our very busy school! I'd like to take this opportunity to **congratulate the Mac Link editor, Christine Clarke, for winning the QFHSA Newsletter Award for the second year in a row!** You

can see the **certificate posted on the Home & School bulletin board**, and the **book prize** Christine won has been **donated to the school library.**

We'd like to **thank our H&S Staff representatives: Mrs. Higgins and Miss Tuff.** They were extremely supportive of all our endeavors, getting right in there and helping us at every event. *Miss Tuff's baking was always an added attraction at our monthly meetings!*

Mac Home & School would like to **wish our Mac grads every success** in your chosen paths. We look forward to seeing you in the fall at your convocation.

Have a great and safe summer!

Casey Stilwell
President, Mac H&S
cdstilwell@videotron.ca

A special Thank You to all of our advertisers for their loyal support! Your contributions help to make this newsletter possible!

Principal's Message

As the school year winds to a close, we experience mixed reactions. We celebrate the successful completion of our courses along with the majority of our students, most of whom will return next year to continue their journey with us. We will also celebrate the successful completion of high school along with over 170 graduates. To the graduates, congratulations and remember that we look forward to seeing all of you back for Convocation on October 2nd.

We are very proud of the many successes of all our staff and students. There were an extraordinary number of extra curricular opportunities offered to students. This year once again a large number of students were involved in clubs, music, dance, drama, athletics and leadership experiences. I would like to thank the staff for going the extra mile, and congratulations to the students who chose to get involved in school life outside of the classroom.

We would like to thank the many parents who volunteered at Mac High throughout the year. Your contributions to our school have certainly helped to enrich our daily routines. Thank you for the incredible number of hours you have devoted to our school. It seems that volunteers are never paid because what they do is priceless!

We would like to thank Mr. R. Hamel, Governing Board Chair, Mrs. C. Stilwell, President of Home and School, Mrs. D. Boutin, PPO Chair, Mrs. D. Synder, webmaster, and Mrs. C. Clarke, editor of the newsletter. Your leadership and commitment are very much appreciated.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all of you for your involvement and support during the first six months of my principalship at Mac, especially Mrs. Higgins and Mr. Collins. The learning curve has been incredible. Each day I marvel at the whirlwind pace and the number of learning opportunities we offer our students. Words cannot express how proud I am of all our accomplishments this year!

I hope you enjoy your summer, whether you are travelling, working, or just relaxing with friends and family. I wish you a safe and enjoyable time.

M. A. Bindner



MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

This has been an eventful year for the community at Macdonald High school. Your Governing Board has been hard at work throughout the year and has tried to do its best to ensure the continued success of its students.

This year, much to our surprise, we had to say goodbye to Mr. Jim Aitken. We had to prepare for the arrival of a new administrator and we then had to adapt. Believe me when I say that for the Governing Board this adaptation went smoothly. Mrs Mary Anne Bindner understands the role that the Governing Board plays at Mac and has gladly joined its ranks. We look forward to the continued collaboration that has existed between the Governing Board and the Administration at Macdonald High.

This year the Governing Board is saying a fond farewell to two members who have been actively involved for many years.

Mr. Ron Romanado, teacher extraordinaire, is taking a well-deserved retirement from the world of academia. His insight and his humor will be missed by all at the school and particularly on long nights of Governing Board meetings.

Mrs. Beverley Mulvaney, a mother and board member for many years, is finally graduating from Macdonald High School. Beverley has been a staunch defender of children in school, always looking for the best programs, the best methods and always looking out for the best interests of all children who attend Mac. Beverley has been my right hand, my vice-chair for some years and I now consider her a friend who shall be missed at the Governing Board. Her input and her opinions, although not always popular, will be missed.

From all of us on the Governing Board, we wish you both all the best. And don't forget we have a final meeting in September. (You're still on my email list).

The Governing Board will be hard at work throughout the summer addressing the issues raised by the Major School Change scheduled to come into effect in 2010 – 2011. We will be finalizing a brief for next October.

We will be having our Annual General Meeting in September and hope to see you all there in large numbers. At the AGM we will be electing 4 parent members to the Governing Board.

We wish you all a safe and happy summer. ENJOY.

Robert Hamel, chair
Governing Board
Macdonald High School

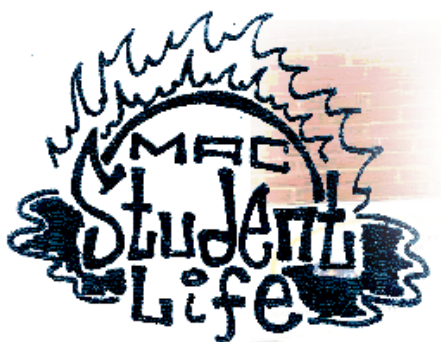


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Mac Student Life

Term 4 School has come to an end.

Activities that Student Life prepared for term 4:

- Our 2nd annual **Fashion Show** Labels & Love 2009 was held on Friday April 17th Lester B. Pearson Camp was held Wednesday April 29th to Friday May 1st.
- We had our very own **Mac Camp** themed Dr. Suess Thursday May 7th and Friday May 8th where there were over 70 students who attended and we all had a blast and can't wait for next year's camp.



- Students in student life worked hard at the 3rd annual Mac Dance show this year working at the snack shack raising money for their trip next spring to the **Canadian Student Leadership Conference to be held in Alberta.**
- Our student council meetings were held every Tuesday at lunch and we had our last get together Tuesday June 2nd and all the students are eager and excited for next year's council.
- They will be working on their **Grade 7 Day project** over the summer.

The kids are committed.

We had a couple of little fun activities over the last couple of months such as **Earth Day** where every homeroom was given a plant to take care of. Our Easter celebration was a huge **Easter egg hunt**. And of course our **April Fool's joke** that the Student Council came up with and got **Ms. Bindner** in on the whole thing; it was great! We had the school believing they were staying after school to practice the fire drill!

Hope everyone has a fun and safe summer vacation!

Ms. Binet, & Krista Rae Kennedy, Student Life President

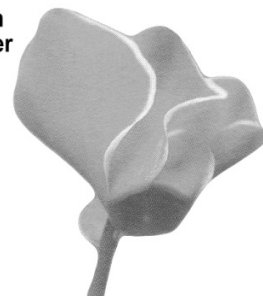
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Parent Participation Organization

As another school year comes to an end, so does this year's PPO. **We would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's PPO, as well as, all those who supported us.** Together we have had a successful year! We are already looking forward to next year, as we have **confirmed 3 more Family Matters Workshops for the 2009-2010 school year.**

They will be as follows:

- Wednesday, October 7, 2009 (Parenting a Successful Student)
- Wednesday, February 3, 2010 (Anti-bullying/Cyber bullying)
- Wednesday, April 14, 2010 (Managing Teen Stress)

Remember everyone is welcome to attend **these free workshops**, including students, parents and community members. We hope to see you there!

If you have any subjects you would like to be addressed in a workshop, please let us know by sending an email to macppo@gmail.com. **We are always looking for new ideas.**

A special thank you to Debbie Snyder for keeping our school website going with her constant dedication. Thank you also to our Vice Principal, Doug Collins, for his continued support of the PPO.

Everyone will be receiving a copy of this year's **"Stroll Down Mac Lane"** publication at the end of the school year. As mentioned previously, this includes all student sports, functions, activities, etc. that have taken place at Mac over the course of the 2008-09 school year. This is a great way

to remember our very full and exciting Mac student life!

The PPO door is always open and welcomes new members, so come on out next September at the AGM and join our team (no experience necessary)!

Debbie Boutin
PPO Chair

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The Dance Show was a huge success!!

*It was a full house for both days of the dance show. The director of all our high schools **Ms. Carol Gray** was in attendance with several **school commissioners** and the chair of our very own governing board, **Mr. Robert Hamel**.*

With the professional video coverage on Saturday night and the flat screen TV's outside the gym doors and our incredible set design, the Mac dance show became an authentic dance production, with every single dance student in attendance and giving it their all!

As the director, producer, and choreographer I was extremely proud of the accomplishments and achievements of my dancers.....they were a sight to see!

*We had beautiful **costumes made by Joanne Barany**, fantastic **light production designed by Rob Lynch** and amazing **sound created by Chris Blais**!*

*With the help of terrific **backstage crew and our emcees** the Mac Dance Show was a complete success!!*

Thanks to all who helped make this happen!

See you next year.....at the 4th annual Mac Dance Show!



Anger Management

Five years have come and gone and anger management is something in our high school lives that we will never forget. Anger management is a place to express how you feel about day to day issues. Together we helped one another overcome our anger and deal with it in a positive manner. **We were surrounded by friends** and to our surprise we all had similar issues and were able to handle it together.

Throughout the years we learned that we have the right to be angry but how we respond is what truly matters. Mrs. Carsley taught us three important things: what triggers the anger, how we deal with it and what the consequences may be.

It has been a fantastic year with many memories and we will miss it very much.

A special thanks to Mrs. Carsley for all her time, effort and support along with all the people involved.

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Vince Lombardi – American Football Coach

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Photo of Dance Team performing at T.O.P.S. as appeared in The Chronicle

“I am a dancer. I believe that we learn by practice. Whether it means to learn to dance by practicing dancing or to learn to live by practicing living....”

- Martha Graham

WISHING EVERYONE SAFE & RELAXING SUMMER HOLIDAYS !!!



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Science Fair Winners



Hangin' at lunch

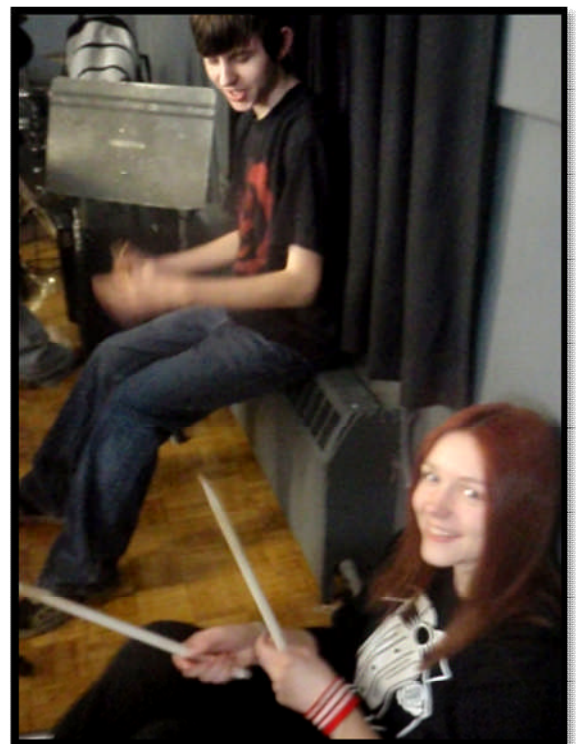


Helping out at the Old Brewery Mission

More great Mac Students!!!



Mac Jazz Band



Mac Jazz Band

Social Science Department

It is with joy for him but sadness for the school and especially our department that we say farewell to Mr. Romanado. He is a respected teacher and a very good friend.



Over the past seven years Mr. Romanado has displayed professionalism, integrity, compassion, and humour in his dealings with students, parents, and colleagues.

He will be missed.

**Happy retirement
Mr. Romanado!**

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION CEREMONY

On June 2nd, The Central Parents' Committee and the Lester B. Pearson School Board recognized the daily contribution of volunteers to the quality of education in our schools and centres. **Mrs. Dorothy Macdonald**, a long time volunteer in Macdonald's nurse's office, **was chosen to receive the award on behalf of all the volunteers at Mac.** The recognition evening was held at the Board and began with a reception in the cafeteria followed by the Awards Ceremony in the Board Room. **Congratulations to Mrs. Macdonald and all the volunteers who so willingly give up their time; we appreciate all that you do and we thank you.**

M. A. Bindner
Principal

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The school year has ended already, and I would like to wish all of our teachers, parents and students a well deserved summer vacation.

Take advantage of this period of rest and enjoy your favourite outdoor summer activities safely, to return in September, ready for a new school year.



Déjà une autre année scolaire de terminée. Je désire souhaiter aux enseignantes et enseignants, aux parents ainsi qu'aux élèves de passer de belles vacances estivales bien méritées.

Tout en vous adonnant à vos activités d'été préférées, profitez de ce moment de repos en toute sécurité pour revenir en forme et entamer une nouvelle étape du parcours scolaire au mois de septembre prochain.

Yvon Marcoux
MNA for Vaudreuil
Vice-chair of the Committee
on Public Administration

