



FORT ERIE SECONDARY SCHOOL

"Your Community High School"

October 2008



Mrs. S. Scott, Principal

Ms. H. Tritchew, Vice-Principal

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

In the tradition of Fort Erie Secondary School, we are off to a great start for another school year. I am so very proud of our students and staff as we are once again reminded that, as our mission statement says, we are committed to student success by working together to inspire and empower all learners to reach their full potential.

As we set goals for the coming year to insure that we continue to provide a high quality educational experience designed to meet the needs of each of our students, I strongly encourage each of you to set personal goals and develop action plans to insure that you make the best use possible of the many opportunities available to you at FESS. Whether it is academics, sports, clubs or Student Council, a strong commitment to participate fully will make the secondary school experience a positive, fulfilling one as you prepare for your future.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2007/8

- ★ FESS Robotics wins the Toronto Regional Competition and qualifies for the World Championships.
- ★ Two Specialist High Skills Major programmes in Construction and Manufacturing are offered at FESS.
- ★ 80th Anniversary Celebrations which included visits from alumni R. Scott Gemmell and Les Trent
- ★ SEVERAL excellent Field Trips
 - New York City, Adventureworks-Rock Climbing and Outdoor Leadership, Niagara Jet Boat Tours, Canada's Wonderland, Marineland, Toronto Cosmetology Convention, Art Gallery of Ontario, Several local trips
- ★ Habitat for Humanity
- ★ Opening of the Pomegranate Restaurant
- ★ Cake Decorating Certifications
- ★ Successful Drama Program
- ★ Advanced Placement Program
- ★ Over \$21,000 in Scholarships Awarded
- ★ Aboriginal Day
- ★ International Cuisine Day
- ★ Shakespeare in the Courtyard
- ★ Literacy Week
- ★ Several FESS staff involved in Board Wide Curriculum Initiatives
- ★ Several Fort Erie Family of Schools Initiatives
- ★ Reading Buddies Program at FE Public
- ★ FESS' version of the Blue Man Group

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- ✓ Second Chance program at the YMCA
- ✓ The Native Friendship Centre
- ✓ Aero-Safe Technologies Inc. whose partnership we value greatly. Our partnership has been recognized locally, provincially and nationally by the Yves Landry Foundation.
- ✓ Niagara Parks Commission, our Adopt-A-School Partner, who provides work opportunities and support for our School-To-Work programs.



- ✓ All the Co-operative Education Employers who open their doors at their places of business to give our

students a chance to do co-op education learning - a most valuable and rewarding experience for all concerned.

- ✓ All of our partners who support our Robotics Team
- ✓ Fort Erie Multi-Cultural Centre
- ✓ Fort Erie Community Policing Group
- ✓ Fort Erie Fire Department
- ✓ Town of Fort Erie Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee
- ✓ Garrison Little Theatre

ADULT BUSINESS & COMPUTER STUDIES

Fort Erie High School offers a unique opportunity for students 18 years of age and older to experience and acquire valuable computer skills for the workforce and credits, if necessary, towards a graduating Diploma using the latest software packages. The adult course is offered in a

classroom situation during regular school hours. New courses begin in September and February.

Contact Mr. Kohinski (905)871-4610 ext. 414 for further information.

AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

Two or three times each semester we celebrate and recognize student excellence. (Each Awards Assembly has a specific focus.) Throughout the year, students are recognized for highest achievement, citizenship and best effort. As well, we recognize excellence in our various teams and organizations. Each month at least 120 students are awarded prizes for their accomplishments. The assemblies are always fun and help promote a sense of community and a celebration of excellence. With this excellence comes pride in both the individual and the school.

GUIDANCE NOTES

As Fort Erie's Community High School, deserving graduates of Fort Erie Secondary School were rewarded with over \$21,000 in scholarships, bursaries and subject awards at the graduation ceremonies held on June 25, 2008. We must give thanks to the generosity of the Fort Erie community as well as the Speaker-Mabee Memorial Foundation (14 scholarships), the E. J. Freeland Foundation (2 scholarships), the Branscombe Foundation (1 scholarship) and the various Service Clubs and individuals in this great community.

Universities and Colleges also contributed to our graduates. Fort Erie Secondary School Graduates have a tradition of doing well at the Post-Secondary level. The class of 2008 will uphold this tradition and, in some cases, will surpass it. Fort Erie Secondary School thanks our very generous donors and wish all our graduates the very best in their future.

Support Services

During the school year, we have numerous supports available for our students. Students are welcome to contact any of these people for assistance and support.

-Julie Mathewson, Youth Counsellor at Fort Erie Secondary School, General Vanier, & Fort Erie Elementary

-Sheila Maracle-Nixon, Youth Counsellor with Aboriginal Specialization, FESS, RCBHS, PCHS, four satellite programmes

-Stacy Patterson, Public Health Nurse, at FESS two days each week

-Lynn Brown, RPN, at FESS one morning each week

-Mr. S. McConvey, Student Success Teacher & Guidance Counsellor

-Ms. V. duTillieul, Student Success Teacher

-Mr. C. Madsen, Guidance Counsellor

-Mr. B. Cain, SSTW programme Coordinator

-Mrs. M. Parkes, Mrs. J. diMeo, Mr. J. Palumbo, Special Education Resource Teachers

Native Studies Courses

We began offering Native Studies courses at FESS last year with a General Culture and Traditions course. We will offer the same course again and also an Aboriginal Voices course at the Grade 11 College and Workplace levels. Interested students will be able to use this course as their compulsory Grade 11 English requirement. These courses are open to all students at FESS.

Specialist High Skills Majors

We now offer SHSM programmes in Construction, Manufacturing and Hospitality and Tourism.

An SHSM allows students to experience a range of customized learning opportunities in an area that interests them, and helps to engage them in their school program.

- An SHSM program gives students the opportunity to explore, identify, and refine career goals and make informed decisions related to postsecondary education or training and next steps towards a career.

- An SHSM helps students gain confidence in their ability to succeed, and see the connections between their studies, the world beyond high school, and their future careers.

- The experiential learning opportunities provided in an SHSM enable students to develop Essential Skills and work habits that are required in the sector, and have their performance of those skills and work habits assessed and documented, using tools connected with the Ontario Skills Passport.

- Through an SHSM, students begin to establish relationships and networks in their chosen field.

- Students who have earned an SHSM can provide evidence of their achievement of the required components (e.g., sector-recognized certifications and training programs) to prospective employers and postsecondary educational or training institutions.

