

RWA



News

WWW.ROYALWESTACADEMY.COM

OCTOBER 2018

A Word From The Administration

Mr. Tony Pita, Principal

Ms. Chantal Juhasz, Vice-Principal

Mr. Steven Manstavich, Vice-Principal

Ms. Christy Tannous, Vice-Principal



Our Secondary I Parent Seminars kicked off this year on October 3, with an informative presentation by our MindPOP team, Mr. Mateus and Ms. Almeida. The seminar focused on teenage development and students' transition to high school, particularly to Royal West Academy. About 100 parents were present at this presentation on the workings of the adolescent mind. The next seminar will take place on November 6, 2018, at 7 PM in the school auditorium. All Secondary I parents are strongly encouraged to attend.

Félicitations à tous nos coureurs qui ont participé à la course annuelle LLS Cross-Country le 10 octobre (*voir page 4 pour les détails*). Nous remercions les élèves en Leadership qui ont généreusement offert leur temps en tant que bénévoles. Nous tenons aussi à remercier Mme O'Neil pour avoir coordonné l'événement.

On October 15, Royal West Academy hosted its annual CEGEP/University Information Evening. Representatives from both English and French CEGEPs as well as universities located in Montreal and Ontario were in attendance. After a general overview of the CEGEP and university admissions process, students and parents

were able to visit representatives from two CEGEPs or universities of their choice for 25-minute presentations on the programs offered in those institutions. A third session, over 30 minutes, allowed students and parents to ask individual questions of all the CEGEPs and universities present. Over 200 students and parents were in attendance. We would like to thank Ms. Klisouris and Ms. Dimopoulos for organizing the event.

Le mois d'octobre nous tient bien occupés à Royal West avec le processus d'admission. Environ 80 élèves ont reçu une offre d'admission anticipée basée sur leurs résultats d'examens d'admission ainsi que leurs bulletins. Nous passons présentement en entrevue plus de 300 élèves, dans le but de combler les 180 places disponibles en secondaire 1. Le processus se terminera vers la fin du mois de décembre 2018. Félicitations à tous nos futurs élèves qui ont choisi de faire partie de l'équipe RWA. Nous tenons à remercier mesdames D'Adamo, Spencer, Reece, Paolillo, Di Pietro, Dimopoulos, et Klisouris, et monsieur Mateus pour leur aide indispensable aux examens et aux entrevues.

Congratulations to Secondary V students Yvonne Nyampong, Faye Nikolettos, Manny Bizogias, Macey Zemel, Grace Conway, and Zuhayr Mahmood for being selected for the Hospital Opportunity Program for Students. The HOPS program provides an opportunity for students from a variety of high schools to observe and assist medical personnel within a large hospital setting. The Auxiliary of the Jewish General Hospital arranges for students to spend a half-day per week for two 5-week periods in various departments of the hospital. Special thanks to Ms. Di Pietro, Ms. Dimopoulos, and Ms. Klisouris for their work in preparing students for the selection process.



Les élèves de 2e secondaire ont entrepris leur campagne annuelle de financement pour la Fondation Terry Fox (*voir page 4 pour les détails*). Les élèves ont travaillé sans relâche pour recueillir plus de 9600 \$! Félicitations aux élèves de 2^e secondaire et merci à messieurs Aiken et Bateman, et madame O'Neil pour leur leadership.

Just a friendly reminder for students who take public transit to and from school to remember that they represent Royal West Academy far beyond our walls. We ask that parents discuss with their child what constitutes appropriate behavior while travelling on trains and buses, as students who behave in a disruptive or unacceptable manner may be subject to monetary fines by the transit authority as well as disciplinary sanctions from the school's administration. Parents and students are reminded that students must come to school and leave school in uniform. Students may not wear jeans or any other pants with their skirts or over their school pants. Students may only wear their Physical Education jogging pants if deemed necessary due to weather conditions.

Also, to those students who enjoy their lunch hour off school grounds, please remember that you still represent Royal West Academy. You are therefore expected to clean up appropriately after lunch before returning to school. We have had a few complaints recently concerning the state of the sidewalk on Westminster after RWA students have finished eating. Please remember that it is expected that all RWA students respect the community and are good citizens when they are out and about in the community.

À notre première réunion le 2 octobre, le RWA Governing Board a élu Mme Fotini Markopoulos à la présidence et Mme Anne Monereau à la vice-présidence pour l'année 2018–2019 (*voir page 5 pour les détails*). Félicitations mesdames! Nous sommes impatients de commencer à travailler avec tous les membres du Governing Board pour améliorer les services éducatifs et la vie scolaire des élèves et parents de RWA. Le Governing Board se réunira à la bibliothèque de l'école à 19 h aux dates suivantes:

- 20 novembre 2018
- 22 janvier 2019

- 19 février 2019
- 12 mars 2019
- 23 avril 2019
- 28 mai 2019
- juin 2019 à déterminer (réception des bénévoles)

Les réunions sont publiques et comprennent une période de questions. Une liste complète de tous les membres et leurs coordonnées ainsi que les procès-verbaux des réunions précédentes sont disponibles sur le site Web de RWA et en cliquant sur «Governing Board».

Renovations of the Computer Lab in Room 208 began on October 19 and were completed in under a week. This room is eventually to be made into a Maker Space room, which will provide hands-on and creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build, and invent as they engage in science, engineering, and tinkering.

Enjoy the beautiful fall colours while they last! Winter is coming!

SHARING THE STAGE WITH YOU.

By Mitchell White, President &
Robert Ceminara, Treasurer

This past week the Royal West Academy Foundation had its first meeting of the new 2018 school year. As well, we conducted our annual general meeting welcoming new board directors and members. It was the first time in the five years that I have been involved that we had such an amazing influx of new parent volunteers. All five parents are new to our school and bring a lot of experience from previous charity work so we are happy, lucky, and honoured to have them as a part of our volunteer team.

We would also like to thank those parents who stepped down from the board as directors since their children graduated from our amazing school. We thank you for

your years of volunteering and giving of yourselves for the betterment of our entire school community.

There are still several spots available to join and even be a part of the executive directors of the board as the positions of Secretary and Treasurer remained vacant with those parents stepping down, so please join us at our next meeting and pay it forward in giving an evening a month for your children, the school, and community at large.

People are also needed to help with the fundraising. Specifically, we need people to help out with the following committees:

- **Architecture/Construction/Renovation:** work closely with the school board and the architecture firm to make sure the project remains on track and in accordance with all rules and regulations regarding school renovations. Experience with engineering/architecture is a bonus, but not required.
- **Communications and Marketing:** keep our website up to date, share articles of interest on our Facebook page, help create marketing material for specific initiatives, write articles about the Foundation for *RWA News*, and grammar/spell check anything that is produced (a second eye is always appreciated!).
- **Event Planning:** help promote our yearly *Night at the Segal*, help with the Staff and Student play (specifically, help to sell ad space in the programme).
- **External Fundraising and Stakeholder Development:** help apply for grants, reach out to businesses and high-profile individuals to request a financial donation.
- **Media and Commercial Relations:** make sure our campaign and initiatives get the proper exposure in local media.
- **School Liaison:** ensure that the staff is kept informed about our proposed initiatives.
- **Alumni Liaison:** promote our named chair campaign for graduates and look for ways to obtain alumni donations.
- **Volunteer Coordination:** coordinate volunteers to help out at various school events, whether it

be speaking about the Foundation or staffing a table selling merchandise.

- **Merchandise Coordination:** help identify items that our community would like to purchase (we already sell mugs, tuques, bags, and several other items), find a distributor, and start selling them (via the website or at school events).
- **Donor Relations:** track donations (financial or in kind) and ensure that tax receipts, etc. are distributed as appropriate. Ensure the list of donors on the website and school display screens are kept up-to-date.

Are there any other ways you can help? (I'm sure there are.) If you have an idea, let us know.

Our students are already benefiting from the money raised in this campaign as well as the new gym campaign raised by parent volunteers who are no longer at the school. Volunteers today will continue to benefit our students and the students going forward.

But more importantly, we are creating a legacy for future generations of RWA students. Royal West Academy is one of the best schools in Quebec—perhaps even *the* best school. Students from all across the greater Montreal area are invited to apply for admission. Let's make sure that our facilities match the calibre of our past, current, and future students. Imagine the pride they will feel when your child comes back in 5 or 15 or 25 years for a reunion in the new auditorium and sees their name up on the donor wall. Imagine when they come back here with your grandchildren and see the family's name on the donor wall. Leave your mark. Support the auditorium campaign.

Our next meeting is November 12, 2018, at 7 PM in the Teachers' Lounge. Send me an email (info@rwaf.ca) to let me know you can make it, or if you have to skip it this month. Send me an email if you can only help in the wings (pun intended), but do let me know how you can help.

We need your help!

A donation is always appreciated—you can make one online at <https://rwaf.ca>.

We also have various donor recognition levels—what do you think of “The [insert your name here] Auditorium”? What a great way to immortalize your family!

Terry Fox Event

By Ms. Marie-Claire O’Neil

This year’s Terry Fox run was a big success!

It has been 15 years since Royal West Academy’s Secondary II students began fundraising and participating in this group run day—this year they raised \$9600. The top earner this year is Laila Wasserman, who raised \$1126 going door to door over many days. Well done Laila!

The Secondary II students spent the beginning of each physical and health education class preparing for the race day, running distances between 800 m to 2400 m. During one of those classes, students watched a Terry Fox documentary, which inspired them to do their best during the race day.

Peter Sheremeter from the Terry Fox Foundation came to speak to the Secondary II students before going out for their run. He spoke about the accomplishments of the students and how their fundraising efforts enable progress for cancer research.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this cause and to the Secondary II students for working so hard to achieve their goals.

Debating News

By Ms. Catherine Holloway

The Royal West Academy Debate Team is off to a strong start. The first QSDA tournament of the year was hosted by Selwyn House School on September 29. The RWA team of Sasha Klein-Charland and Cameron O’Hare (both in Secondary III) were the 1st place junior team and 4th place team overall. Sasha also earned an individual award as the 1st place junior speaker.

The following weekend (October 5–6), 31 RWA debaters participated in the first RWA Debating Seminar. During this event, students participated in five rounds of debate, interspersed with training workshops. A great many thanks to the Royal West Academy (and Vincent

Massey Collegiate) debating alumni who offered their time as judges—Leandros Kaklamanos, Jamie Fabian, Daniel Mendelson, Josephine Campbell, Aliya Behar, Amanda Lupu, and Dante Ventulieri (VMC)—and an extra special thank you to Logan Stack and Alex Rona who also offered valuable workshop presentations to the students.

The debating team is looking forward to hosting our own QSDA Tournament at RWA on November 19, 2018.

Cross-Country Running

By Ms. Marie-Claire O’Neil

Congratulations to the 83 Royal West Academy runners who competed in the GMAA annual race on October 10!

Students trained every week since the beginning of the year to get ready for race day. Secondary I & II students ran 3 km, Secondary III & IV students ran 4 km, and those in Secondary V ran 5 km. Most races had over 100 students in each event, making for a tough competition.

The Royal West students showed perseverance and determination throughout the competition. Special mention to the bantam girls and the midget boys for capturing the GMAA championship banners. Also to Natalya Babkine for coming in first place with an impressive time of 10:56 and qualifying for the provincials.

Go Wildcats!

Secondary I Trip

By Leila Francis

For the Secondary I beginning-of-year trip, my classmates and I went to Camp Bonaventure, near Saint-Sauveur.

On this trip, we did many team-building and bonding activities, and we got to know each other a lot better. We slept in big buildings filled with bunks, and a lot of my friends were in my building.

All of the activities were outdoors, and it really made me step back and appreciate nature way more than I did before. My favourite activity was when we had to



search for briefcases in the forest with our flashlights while hiding from teachers, because it was very thrilling and made me feel like a character from an adventure movie.

Overall, I loved the trip, and I wish we could do things like this more often.



Governing Board Report

By Ms. Fotini Markopoulos, Chairperson & Ms. Anne Monereau, Vice Chair

The Annual General Assembly took place on September 27. Governing Board parent representatives

and substitute parent representatives were elected, as were the delegate (Norm Gharibian) and alternate delegate (Anne Monereau). Nijad Dahdah (RWA Chairperson 2017–2018) presented the school year 2017–2018 GB Annual Report.

The first Royal West Academy Governing Board meeting was held on October 2—below are the highlights.

Elections of the executive members were held with the following results:

- Chairperson: Fotini Markopoulos
- Vice-Chair: Anne Monereau
- Alternate Secretaries: Ms. Zuccaro and Ms. Chawki
- Treasurer: Jacqueline Stein-Elman

The two community representatives will be Dr. Sharma and Ms. Elysia Bryan-Baynes. Their dedication and collaboration with RWA are very much appreciated!

The 2017–2018 Governing Board Annual Report was approved as were the Board's Internal Rules of Operation.

The Governing Board will support the mandates for the Home & School Association and the RWA Foundation activities. We are all extremely thankful for their commitment and dedication towards our students and school!

Royal West Academy now has an addiction counsellor (one day a week) and 20% more Guidance was allocated to the school.

As mentioned in the *Word From The Administration*, our meeting dates for school year 2018–2019 will be held on:

- November 20, 2018
- January 22, 2019
- February 19, 2019
- March 12, 2019
- April 23, 2019
- May 28, 2019
- June 2019 (TBD)

Meetings take place in the school library at 7 PM—all are welcome. Hope to see you at our next meeting!

LOST AND FOUND POLICY

Please be advised that the Lost and Found boxes are cleaned out on the 15th of each month. While labeled items are returned to their owners, several bags of unclaimed unlabeled items are removed and donated to charity every month. So if you are looking for lost items, make sure to look for them before the 15th!

The Lost and Found bins are located in three areas at Royal West Academy:

- outside the new gym
- outside the guidance office
- in the main office under the teachers' mailboxes

In the meantime, please label all your belongings!

USED UNIFORMS ACCEPTED ALL YEAR!

Home & School accepts used uniforms all year long. If you have used uniforms to donate to the Used Uniform Sale in June, you or your child can drop items off at the school store on all regular school days during the lunch hour, or at the main office during regular school hours.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 29–Nov 2	Bardolators: <i>Twelfth Night</i>
November 20	Governing Board meeting @ 7 PM
November 6	Sec I Parents Seminar @ 7 PM
November 7	Remembrance Day assemblies
November 9	Pedagogical Day
Nov 12–16	Anti-Bullying Week
Nov 12–16	MindPOP Math
November 12	RWA Foundation meeting @ 7 PM
November 15	Secondary III vaccinations
November 22	Parent-Teacher Interviews

RWA



News

Editor	Ronald Pau (RWA alumni parent)
Assistant Editor	TBA (Sec V student)
Junior Assistant Editor	TBA (Sec IV student)
Junior Assistant Editor	TBA (Sec IV student)
Staff Advisor	Tony Pita (Principal)

RWA News is published during the academic year (from September to May) on the Royal West Academy website at www.royalwestacademy.com. Articles, comments, and suggestions may be directed to the editor at rwanews@gmail.com.





CSEM Nutrition et services alimentaires
EMSB Nutrition and Food Services



Cafeteria Meal Cards

Now available in your EMSB Cafeteria!

For use in all EMSB High School cafeterias, a cafeteria **MEAL CARD** is a great way to avoid carrying money and shortens the wait time to enjoying your delicious and nutritious meal. A **MEAL CARD** is valid for 11 meal deals* at the cost of 10. *What a deal!*

Price: \$40.00 per Meal Card

A Meal Card = 10 meal deals* + one FREE!

*Meal deal includes: an entrée, vegetable, soup or dessert of the day, choice of milk, juice or water (330ml)



Purchase your Meal Card(s) now!

Visit <https://leminibistro.emsb.qc.ca>

Click on Buy Meal Card button (in red) and follow instructions.

Once purchased, meal card(s) will be delivered to your child's school for pick-up at the main office within 3 to 5 school days.

See online for terms and conditions.

