



ROYAL WEST ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD
189 EASTON AVE
MONTREAL-WEST (QC) H4X 1L4

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

February 23, 2023

Winter Concert

The Music Department hosted its annual Winter Concert at Westmount High School on Thursday, January 19th. This event allows music students to show how they have progressed in class or through our music ECAs.

Variety Show

The RWA Variety Show was held at the Wagar facility on Friday, January 20th. A large crowd enjoyed performances by staff and students. All proceeds will be donated to Chez Doris. Special thanks to Ms. DiPietro and Mr. Linton for all the work they put into this event.

Winter Carnival

On Tuesday, January 24th over 700 students took a break from their academic work to enjoy their time in the snow, on the ice, on the wall and in the gym. Special thanks to the SLA and Mr. Zigby for all the work they put into organizing this annual event for RWA students!!

Grade 8 and 10 Ski Trip

Approximately 300 students participated in this year's grade level ski trips for grades 8 and 10 between January 3rd and February 3rd. The staff received many emails of appreciation from parents. Students enjoyed the trip despite having to cut things short due to extreme weather. Ski Evolution will be refunding parents in the coming weeks for the Friday events that were missed and for equipment rentals. This process may take a few weeks as each refund must be done individually.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day and Action Against Islamophobia

RWA held a variety of activities to commemorate and educate students and staff on the Holocaust and the important issue of Islamophobia. RWA was even featured on City News for its efforts.

Black History Month

Daily activities are planned to mark the month of February which is Black History Month.

Science Department Events

After a three-year absence we were thrilled to see all the Sec 1 students present their projects at this year's Invention Convention which took place on Wednesday, February 8th. It was great to see that many parents attended this event for our young scientists and entrepreneurs.

On Thursday, February 9th over 150 students participated in our annual RWA Science Fair. Once again this was the first science fair since 2020. We would like to thank all the

science teachers led by Mr. Wiltzer, our Coordinator, Ms. Pevec, and the judges that volunteered their valuable time. Winners of the fair qualify for the Regional Science Fair.

On Wednesday, February 15th students in our Computer Science elective also participated in the University of Waterloo Computer Science Competition.

Congratulations to the senior robotics team from RWA who placed 9th overall at this year's CRC Robotics competition in Laval. The competition included high schools and CEGEPS. RWA distinguished themselves by finishing in 2nd place in programming, 3rd place finish in the video presentation, and in the top 5 for their robot design and kiosk design. Special thanks to Mr. Nemeth, Mr. Northey, and Ms. Suarez for their efforts throughout the year to prepare the RWA team.

Environment ECA

On our most recent pedagogical day, students and staff participated in a Climate Change Workshop. It was great to see many students attend such an important workshop on a Ped Day. Special thanks to Ms. Cukier for her leadership in organizing this event!

RWA Athletics

Congratulations to the juvenile boys and girls indoor track and field teams for winning the GMAA championship banner. Individually, Zachary Elkin won the banner for MVP of the meet. Special thanks to our coaches Ms. DiPietro and Mr. Rafael for their efforts.

Congratulations to the RWA wrestling team for their 6th place finish overall. RWA also brought home individual gold and silver medals. Special thanks to Mr Chen for introducing Olympic wrestling to RWA.

Debating

Congratulations to our senior and junior debating teams which qualified for the national championships in Calgary and Toronto. Special thanks to our coach Ms. Holloway for her efforts.

Parent Seminar

We are pleased to be offering a parent workshop that will focus on how to support your high achieving children in our school. Dr. Tamara Soles will also discuss the science-based tools that are effective in helping your children cope with the stress that accompanies a high-achieving environment like RWA. The webinar will take place on **March 22nd at 7:00 pm**. It will be free of charge for parents.

Dr. Tamara Soles is a psychologist, parent coach, and founder of The Secure Child Center for Families and Children. She obtained her doctoral degree in Applied Child and School Psychology at McGill University, where she subsequently served as a lecturer and clinical supervisor. Dr. Soles also served as research coordinator at the Institute for Community and Family Psychiatry at the Jewish General Hospital. Previously, Dr. Soles spent many years in Los Angeles, CA where she was a supervising psychologist in the Early Childhood Mental Health program at the USC UCEDD Children's Hospital Los Angeles and was the Clinical Director of Project ABC- an infant and early childhood mental health system of care funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services