

THUNDERBOLT

Ross Sheppard High School



April 18, 2008

Interact Club Literacy Project in Belize February 23 – March 4

On February 23rd, 12 students and 3 supervisors left Edmonton, and after over 8 hours of flights, hustling through airports and a 2 hour bus ride, arrived in San Ignacio, Belize. We spent 11 days in Belize contributing to Rotary's ongoing efforts in the country, mainly focusing on education and literacy. For the majority of the stay, we visited various elementary schools and during this time we read to, tutored, and taught the students. Our club also brought down three large bins full of school supplies, books, dictionaries, and t-shirts for the children. In addition, our club twice visited a senior's home where we did many helpful tasks ranging from just talking and listening to the seniors to doing the laundry.

Our work was not limited to just schools and senior homes. We spent one day building a cement pad for a water fountain and we spent another day digging holes for the foundation of a garage (or as Belizeans call it a "car park.") Some days we were up as early as 6:30 AM cooking Fajitas and selling them in the marketplace. Our club also established contacts with the Interact clubs and Rotary club based in San Ignacio. On the time we had off we visited the Mayan ruins of 'Xunantunich' and took some time to go to the beach at Hopkins.

After all is said and done, souvenirs lost or broken and tans long gone, we'll still remember the smiling faces of the children and endless hugs and know we've made a lasting impression. This trip would not have been possible without the three wonderful supervisors: Chris Douglas, Nicole Pescitelli, and Ken Brander, as well as everyone who helped us raise over \$20 000. Thank you.

Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Lawley
448-5000

Assistant Principals
Mr. Nick Diederichs
Mr. John Heslinga
Ms Kim Ogrodnick
Mr. Rick Paulitsch
448-5000

Ms, Sue Huff
429-8087

Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Edgar Schmidt
429-8010

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Principal's Message



Again it is spring and now is the time of year for our students in Grades 10 and 11 to plan their programs for next year. This week, your son or daughter will be bringing home their registration package for you to look at and together discuss relative to their choices for next year. The package needs to be signed and returned by Tuesday, April 22nd. Do not hesitate to call our counselors in Student Services or your son or daughter's Assistant Principal for further assistance, or with questions you or your son/daughter may have regarding program choice. Assistant Principals Nick Diederichs—Last Name A—G; Kim Ogrodnick -H-N, Rick Paulitsch—O-Z.

Students interested in summer school this July must complete the registration form and submit it with a cheque made payable to Ross Sheppard. The last date for summer school registration is mid-May.

At this time, we are working on our school plan and budget for next year. Thank you for all of your feedback after the last newsletter. Your thoughts are very welcome and have been beneficial as we proceed through the planning process. Please be assured that the staff at Ross Sheppard will be concentrating its efforts on ensuring that our school provides the very best for all students. I will share the school plan and budget at our School Council Meeting on May 26th; as well, it will be posted on our website, www.shep.net. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 448-5000.

Examinations will be upon us very soon. Our IB students begin their examinations in May, and the balance of our students will write in June with diplomas beginning June 12th and regular school examinations beginning on June 18th. Please try not to plan a holiday during exam time: we cannot reschedule examinations.

Today you will receive your son or daughter's progress report. Please discuss it, along with their plans for next year.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Staff Recognition

2008 Excellence in Teaching Awards

We are pleased to recognize the seven teachers who have been recognized as semi-finalists for their outstanding contributions. Through enthusiasm, commitment and creativity, these teachers motivate students to build dreams, embrace new challenges and exceed their own expectations.

From left to right: Anna Branco, Chris Douglas, Jennifer Lawley, Hilary Forde, Silvia Fernades-Isidoro, Carolyn Kennedy, and Bruce MacLeod



Trustee's Message



A message from your trustee, Sue Huff

Hello! I am glad to have this opportunity to connect with your school community. Since being elected in October, it has been a whirlwind of activity. There are 32 schools in Ward C, so I have a lot of ground to cover. I have been busy visiting schools, principals and Parent councils, attending many events and meetings. I am a member of several committees: Community Relations, District Priorities and the committee to review the school closure process. The weeks seem to race by.

A reminder: There are two Public Board meetings every month, on the second and fourth Tuesday evening at the Centre for Education (AKA the Blue Building, 1 Kingsway, attached to Victoria Composite High School). I hope you will find the time to attend one. The agenda is posted on the EPSB website (www.epsb.ca) the Friday before each meeting and free underground parking is available. Important decisions are made on behalf of your children at every meeting and it's a great chance to see how trustees deliberate, debate and decide. Sometimes, there is even a laugh or two, like when the Board Chair called me "Trustee Sue." I think I prefer it to Trustee Huff actually.

On February 13, I held my first ward meeting. It was open to anyone living in Ward C and provided me the opportunity to meet with parents, staff and community members. I really enjoyed the conversation and look forward to meeting more of my constituents at the next meeting. The next meeting will take place mid-May and is tentatively scheduled to happen at Jasper Place High School. Childcare will be provided and the evening will have a set topic for the first hour and an open discussion format for the second hour. I'll give your principal more advance notice so look for information in your May newsletter.

Communication is very important to me. I want to hear from you. You can reach me by email: sue.huff@epsb.ca or by phone 709-4036. You can also check out my blog: <http://suefortrustee.blogspot.com>. I post information about events, meetings and my comings and goings. I also ask for feedback on important upcoming decisions.

Finally, I want to thank you for all you do to support your child's learning. One of the greatest predictors of a child's success in school is the level of parental involvement. So...keep up the excellent work!

*Sincerely,
"Trustee Sue"*

Staff Recognition

Edwin Parr Award

This award is recognition of a first year teacher who has knowledge of student learning styles, skill in utilizing a variety of instruction and evaluation methodologies and assisting students to develop a positive self-concept. They also showed involvement in professional development, extra curricular and community activities as well as interpersonal skills with students. The successful candidate to represent our District is our own **Natalie Sanderson** (second from the left).



International Baccalaureate

Congratulations to Grade 12 IB students for completing their Internal Assessment papers, labs, oral exams and performances! We are very proud of them for this major accomplishment. IB exams will be held at Ross Sheppard School in May. Below is the exam schedule for May 2008. Be sure to mark your calendar. These dates cannot be changed.

Date	duration		Examination	Site
Mon May 5	2h	AM	English A1 HL paper 1	Archives
Tues May 6	1h 1h30m	PM	History HL paper 1 History HL paper 2	Archives
Wed May 7	2h30m	AM	History HL paper 3	Archives
	1h30m	PM	Mathematics SL paper 1	Archives
Thurs May 8	1h30m	AM	Mathematics SL paper 2	Archives
	45m 1h15m	PM PM	Chemistry SL paper 1 Chemistry SL paper 2	Small gym
Fri May 9	1h	AM	Chemistry SL paper 3	Small gym
Mon May 12	2h	AM	English A1 HL paper 2	Archives
Tues May 13	1h30m 1h30m	AM	Spanish 1 paper 1 Spanish 1 paper 2	Archives
Wed May 14	1h	PM	Biology HL paper 1	Small gym
	2h15m		Biology HL paper 2	
Thurs May 15	1h15m	AM	Biology HL paper 3	Small gym
Fri May 16	1h30m	AM	French B SL paper 1	Archives
	1h30m		French B SL paper 2	
Mon May 19	1h30m	AM	Mandarin paper 1	Archives
	1h30m		Mandarin paper 2	
Tues May 20	2h30m	AM	Music SL and HL paper 1	Archives
	45m	PM	Physics SL paper 1	Archives
	1h15m		Physics SL paper 2	
Wed May 21	1h	AM	Physics SL paper 3	Archives

Actual times will be available in mid-April

Staff Recognition

Long Service Recognition 2008—February 21, 2008

By supporting the critical work of teaching and learning, they have provided generations of students with the tools and attitudes they need to successfully navigate the fast-paced global exchange of ideas, learning and commerce. Your professionalism and care have had a profound impact on students, schools, local community and society.

From left to right: Barb Harcott (30 years), Lyndi Antoniuk (35 years), Ella Goerzen (30 years), Jennifer Lawley, Don Symes (25 years), Linda McKeage (30 years). Missing Brian Buchynski (30 years), Geoff Salmon (25 years)



Student Activities



I.B. Ski Trip to Marmot Basin

I.B. students and their friends enjoyed 2 great days of skiing at Marmot Basin in Jasper. The weather was great and the students were superb. Mr. Kuebel and Mr. Senuik wish to thank all the students and we look forward to planning another trip next year!

Financial Management & Entrepreneurship 30

During first semester Financial Management & Entrepreneurship 30 class started their own, student run company called McStockings Inc., incorporated under Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta. These popular Christmas stockings were a big hit and students were able to realize a good profit. Join in the fun next year to plan, operate and run your own business by registering in Financial Management & Entrepreneurship 30.



Skills Canada Competitions 2008

This year's **Skills Canada Provincial Skills Competition** will have 6 Ross Sheppard students representing our school. They will be competing against other high school students from around the province in the following 4 skills categories:

- Architectural CADD – Brandon Bergem & Jeff MacDonald
- Culinary Arts – Brittani Blake
- IT Software Applications Level 1 – Andy Ma
- IT Software Applications Level 2 – Lisa Fong & Kyler Swain

This annual event will take place at Stampede Park in Calgary on May 22 and 23. We wish them the best of luck! Check the website www.skillsalberta.ca for further information on these and the many other trades and technology areas that will be showcased..

June 2008 Examination Reminder to all students and parents that examinations are compulsory and must be written on the scheduled date at the outlined time. Please do not book any travel plans that would conflict with examination dates as no accommodations for alternative writing will be considered.

Student Activities

PROJECT RED - Judgments prevent us from seeing the good that lies beyond appearances.

-- Dr. Wayne W. Dyer



What is Project Red?

We are a group of students who are dedicated to Rejecting Racism, Embracing Equality, and Demanding Diversity. We promote peace and ethnic diversity, and are involved in many local and international endeavors.

How do I Join?

Project Red meets every Monday at lunch time in room 126.

You can email us at project.red@hotmail.com.

You can find us at www.shep.net for more information.

Recent Activities

- Sold red ribbons for Edzimakulu, an Edmonton based charity, dedicated to helping the children affected by Aids in South Africa. For more information check out their web site at www.edzimakulu.org.
- Collected school supplies for the Hearts & Hands Foundation who delivered to needy schools in Guatemala. Check out their web site at www.heartshands.ca.
- Presented a poem on racism at Amiskwacy Academy for the March 21st International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on Wednesday, March 19th. This was in conjunction with NAAR, Northern Alberta Alliance on Race Relations. Their web site is www.naarr.org. Featured special guests included His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Norman Kwong, Edmonton Public School Superintendent, Mr. Edgar Schmidt, Public School Board Trustee, Mr. Don Fleming and the newly appointed Minister of Aboriginal Relations, the Honorable Gene Zwozdesky.
- SHAREitage Day is coming May 2 and students are busy organizing as many different cultures as they can so that Shep can share the foods, music, dance etc. that make up this very multicultural school..



Victor Benitez, Tony Luong, Veronica Alvarenga, Yvonne Chau, Smita Kotak, Brittany Ratcliffe, Josselin Alarenga



Student Services

Post Secondary Information

The deadline for many faculties at the **U of A** is May 1st. By now, most of our students have attended workshops, applied and been accepted into their programs. All students are reminded that individual faculties and/or departments within post-secondary institutions can set their own deadlines and it is imperative for students to know well in advance when these are.

It is not too early for grade 11 students to begin researching post-secondary institutions that they are considering so they can be informed of application deadlines or other requirements.

Other Registrations

Centre High will be coming to Ross Sheppard during the lunch break of **April 28th** to register any of our grade 12 students who are either completing additional courses or upgrading their marks. Students and parents are encouraged to look closely at all the opportunities available both at the high school and post secondary level at this fine school. Their website is: www.centrehigh.epsb.ca.

Registration for our own grade 10 and 11 students will take place from April 22nd to 24th. Parents will be asked to sign the school passport and return it promptly to ensure a quick and easy registration process for next year. Students and parents that are unsure about post-secondary entrance requirements are encouraged to contact one of our counselors or they can check the school's website for more information.

For the past six weeks our counseling staff has been very busy speaking to and registering grade 9 students. With the registration process well underway, we are pleased to announce that we have another wonderful group of grade 10s ready to join our school next year. We will be welcoming all of them at our **Thunderbud Evening** on May 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Scholarships

It appears that once again our grade 12 class will be receiving a wide array of scholarships. We recently had the privilege of distributing 49 U of A backpacks to grade 12 students with averages over 85% who applied last June for the Entrance Scholarships Awards Program.

Grade 11 Excellence Awards - The U of A offers scholarship programs for grade 11 students who have maintained an average of 85% or higher in grade 11 and are considering attending the U of A next year. The deadline for this competition is June 15th. We will be visiting the grade 11 classes in the near future to remind them of this deadline. Interested students can also get more information in Student Services.

Alexander Rutherford Scholarships – The application forms for this Alberta Heritage Scholarship are now available online at www.alis.gov.ab.ca/scholarships. Although students only apply in their grade 12 year, they can qualify for awards in their grade 10, 11, or 12 year. Many of our students qualify for this scholarship because the final average can include complementary courses. The application process is very simple, but if students do not apply, they will not receive this scholarship. More details on this program are available in our Agenda book as well as in Student Services. The deadline for this popular scholarship program is May 1st. Please note our school code, 7053, is necessary to complete the application.

Student Athletics

Student-Teacher Hockey Challenge - STUDENTS END TEACHER'S UNDEFEATED STREAK

The Grade 10/11 student hockey team defeated the teachers 6-2 on March 20th at Coronation Arena. The win ended the teacher's 4 game unbeaten streak. The students were full value for the win outworking their aging opponents for all three periods. All time record: Student wins 12, Teacher wins 8, tied games 2, dating back to 1997.

Cheer Team

The Ross Sheppard Cheer and Pom teams have just completed a great season which was capped off with taking 2nd and 3rd place in Hawaii at the Aloha International Spirit Championships over spring break! Also, for the first time in Alberta Cheer history, Ross Sheppard sent a team to ASAA provincials in every division offered, taking 2nd place in the co-ed and Varsity divisions and 4th in the Small Varsity Division. Our Pom team competed in Athabasca and locally this year having several great performances with their unique routine. We are looking forward to next season, beginning with try-outs September 3-10 to begin another great year for Shep Cheer!



Men's Basketball 2007 – 2008 **City Champions 2007 - 2008**



Ross Sheppard Sr. Men's Basketball had a great season for a very young and inexperienced group of young men, beginning the season with a gold at Totem Hoop. The middle part of the season saw Shep defeat many top teams and lose many games to teams well out of the top ten.

In tournament play Shep finished first at Totem Hoop, fifth at the North Shore, seventh in Kelowna and consolation champions at Raymond's Sugar Bowl.

After up and down play in league Shep defeated number one Ainlay to finish third. They then went on to defeat Jas-

per place and Ainlay to become City Champions. With a lot of returning players Shep should be very competitive next season.

Spring Sport Start Up

Spring is a busy time for athletics at Shep. Our waterpolo team sits at the top of their league and is looking for their 3rd straight title. Both the men's and women's handball teams have qualified for Elite division play and will participate in the Provincial championships at the end of the month. Shep badminton is looking forward to the playoff next week.

Teams starting in April include rugby, soccer and track. Last year's success has led to additional excitement this year as our athletes are eager to continue the momentum.

Student Athletics

ELITE ATHLETE NEWS

Congratulations to Annamay Pierse (class of 2001) on breaking Canadian Swim Records in the 100 and 200 metre breaststroke. Annamay will compete for Canada in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. Good luck Annamay....we are so very proud of you!

TRACK & FIELD

Hayley Degaust Provincial Indoor Track – Edmonton
- First in 800 m
- First in 1500 m

University of Winnipeg Open – Winnipeg
- Sixth out of 24 in 600 m

Simplot Meet – Pocatello, Idaho
- Second out of ninety in 800 m

SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING

Nicola and Madison Allen Northern Trials – Calgary
- First in Team
- Second in Duet
- First in Figures (Nicola)
- Fourth in Figures (Madison)

Provincials – Edmonton
- First in Duet
- Second in Team
- Fourth in Figures (Nicola) Fifth in figures (Madison)

Western Canadian Championships – Winnipeg
- Second in Duet
- Second in Team
- Fifth in Figures (Nicola) Ninth in Figures (Madison)

SKIING:

Evanna Doring Junior Alberta Alpine – Nakiska
Second Place Slalom

Ontario Championship – Callingwood
- Sixth Place Slalom

Pontiac GMC Cup – Sun Peaks
- Ninth Place Slalom

Anya Holinski Alberta Cup – Nakiska
- First Place Overall

Pontiac GMC Cup – Sun Peaks
- Third Place Giant Slalom

Alexandra Stevens Westcastle Cup – Westcastle
- Fifth out of 45 in Kinder Kombie
- Fourth out of 46 in Giant Slalom

K2 Super Series – Panorama
- Fourth out of 52 in Super G
- Thirteenth out of 49 in Super Combi



Student Athletics

Elite Athlete News—CONTINUED

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS:

Cecilie Fenger-Andersen Alberta Winter Games – Leduc
- Gold in Hoop
- Silver in Ball
- Silver Medal Overall

Elite Canada – Grant MacEwan
- First in Ball & Hoop
- Third in Clubs
- First Overall

FIGURE SKATING:

Megan Ure Junior Nationals – Vancouver
- Ninth out of 23 competitors

SYNCHRONIZED SKATING:

Kathy Gill Nationals – Chilliwack
- Second Place

Edmonton Journal Games

Ross Sheppard was well represented at the Edmonton Journal Games this year. Special congratulations to Hayley Degaust for winning the women's 800m and to our women's 8 x 200m relay team for capturing the silver. This is a great start to the track season. Outdoor practices begin in mid-April.



Football Fall Camp



Junior Football

Aug 20 —Aug 31, 2007 (M-F)

4:00-6:00 pm

For camp information visit our website:
<http://shp.net/athletics/football>

Open to all grade 10 students attending
Ross Sheppard in the fall of 2007.
No previous experience necessary.

Senior Football

Aug 20 —Aug 31, 2007 (M-F)

1:00-3:00 pm and 4:00-6:00 pm
(twice a day)

Contact:

Brian Buchynski (brian.buchynski@epsb.ca)

Colin Hackett (colin.hackett@epsb.ca)

Jeff Tobert (jeff.tobert@epsb.ca)

Students' Union



In the month of March, Students' Union ran an event called Battle of Sexes. 6 teams participated in total; 3 guys teams and 3 girls teams battling it out for the ultimate victory. They competed in events such as **Mixology** involving the creation of their own drinks to see which one tasted the best and **Search, Pic and Destroy** where each team was given a disposable camera, a list of pictures and one week to snap as many pictures as they could. These events narrowed it down to our final girl and guy team. Their final event was battled out on **Rock Band!** The girls team; Michelle Moen, Christina Antulov, Jamie Paterson and Heather Tebby did very well, but the guys team prevailed. Congratulations Guys; Evan Gibson, Ethan Stevenson and Sean Clair. We hope all the teams had fun and we look forward to events like this in the future.

Looking Ahead: **Shareitage Day Carnival for a Cure**

Keep listening to announcements for updates and ways to get involved.

Graduation 2008

Commencement tickets will be issued to students the second week of May. The tickets are assigned seating. Each graduand is allowed a maximum of three guests. At this time, there are no extra tickets available.

Banquet and Dance Invitations: were mailed to the parents during Spring Break. In each envelope there is a form telling the student the day he/she is eligible to purchase his/her banquet tickets as well as the price of the tickets. The form has a grid which **must** be filled out indicating the names of the guests attending the banquet/dance. Ross Sheppard's banquet and dance are for the graduand, his/her date, and immediate family members only. Students from other schools will not be allowed to attend unless they are the date of a graduand. Students who do not have the form filled out will not have their ticket order processed. Anyone missing their day indicated on the form will have to purchase tickets at the very end of the sales period. Tickets will be sold after school in the library after school. School ID is required. Each student is asked to print his/her full name on each cheque used as payment for the tickets.

Parking: Due to construction at both venues, parking will be a problem. The Jubilee has only 200 parking spots available: however, there is sufficient space at the Education and Butterdome parkades. Please arrive early so as not to be late for the event. The Jubilee will not allow people into the auditorium after the ceremonies start.

Northlands has lots of parking but it is south of the Sportex. Please arrive in sufficient time to receive your mandatory security band and find your table before the promenade begins

Yearbook 2008

The Grade 12 pages will be available in mid-April on shep.net. Please check to make sure that the correct photo is placed by your name (sorry we cannot change photos at this time), your name is spelled correctly, and that the correct grad memory is placed beside your name. Further details will be announced in April.

The 2008 Yearbook will be delivered in September, please check shep.net for updates regarding delivery. If you submitted an email address to Mrs. Stirrett, you will receive an email when the yearbooks arrive. **WE WILL NOT BE CONTACTING INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS BY PHONE TO PICK UP THEIR YEARBOOK.** Any yearbooks not picked up by December 2008 will be discarded.

Music News

Friday, February 8 was our 18th Annual Big Band Dinner and Dance, sponsored by the Thunderbird Music Parents Association. What an awesome event! Three Concert Bands, four Jazz Bands and Shep Singers provided the night's dance music. The audience danced the night away to music such as Every Little Thing She Does is Magic, Chattanooga Choo Choo, YMCA, and Bohemian Rhapsody. The Big Band Dinner and Dance shows what Shep music students are able to accomplish with hard work. It was a great, great evening.

Grade 10, 11, and 12 band students participated in the Okanagan Band Festival on March 3rd. We first stopped in Kelowna, taking in some shopping, an afternoon at a video arcade, and then onward to Penticton. Adjudicators at the festival were highly impressed with all three bands on the tour, but gave special recognition to the Ross Sheppard Wind Ensemble, offering that ensemble an opportunity to perform at the national version the Okanagan Festival. A well deserved honour Wind Ensemble members!

Our trip would not have been possible if not for the amazing supervision provided by chaperones. Thank-you so much for your time and commitment to our school music program!

Student Teachers: Audrey Ochoa and Emilijana Plancak

Parents: Bob Beck, Debbie Boxleitner, Jacqinth Lelilvre, Colleen Nicolajson, Darcy Webb, and Cameron Yule

Congratulations to the following musicians on their participation in the 44th Annual Edmonton Public Schools' *Night of Music*. These musicians performed March 5th at the Jubilee Auditorium for this school board sponsored activity:

Kassia Boxleitner	Devin Chubb	Huy Do
Alexa Dolsky	Brendan Eirich	Isabelle Fallu
Gavin Goodwin	Madison Gray	Jojo Guigui
Jennifer Johnson	Erin McKay	Safi Muco
Young Oh Kim	Adam Preuss	Elaine Sun
Jessica Tran	Mabel Tu	Maureen Yule

Great representation for our school's music program, musicians!

The Ross Sheppard Concert Choir is alive and well! The group participated in this year's northern ChoralFest 2008, sponsored by the Alberta Choral Federation. The choir sang three numbers at McDougall Church, and was given both a written and oral critique as well as a DVD of the performance. Although this was a non-competitive festival, it was good to hear positive comments directed to our choir from the adjudicators and clinicians. With over 30 members, the chorus sounded full, strong and really did an outstanding job. The group was then treated to a workshop/clinic given by one of the adjudicators, Dr. Carol Beynon from the University of Western Ontario. She also was impressed with our choir's musicality and worked for a while on blending vowels and sound; she also wished us well in our future engagements.

The Shep Singers are staying busy as well. This smaller ensemble recently performed at our Open House in hopes of attracting more choral students to our program. They will be performing again later in May at the Ross Sheppard Jazz Concert, and perhaps we'll hear them one last time at the final concert in June? Many thanks go out to all of our choral participants; let's finish the year with a renewed sense of commitment, pride and excellence in our work.

Music News

The following week Ross Sheppard Music Department was still just as busy, this time performing at the Alberta International Band Festival. Two of our ensembles, The Wind Ensemble and Tuesday Jazz, were awarded marks of “Excellent”. Two other ensembles, Grade 11 and 12 Band and Tuesday Jazz, were further recognized as “Superior”, the highest ranking attainable by bands at the festival. Congratulations go out to all four of our ensembles performing at the festival. Each of these groups demonstrates true excellence in their achievements.

Congratulations are also in order for one of our music teachers, Mr. Smith. During the Alberta International Band Festival the Alberta Foundation for the Arts presented him with the Tommy Banks Award for leadership in directing school jazz bands. He received a cash prize and Shep is allowed to host a beautiful trophy sculpted by Roy Leadbeater in the music display case for one year. Way to go Mr. Smith!

On Tuesday, March 25th two Ross Sheppard music students met criteria towards completion of their International Baccalaureate Certificate in Music. Veronica Tomcej and Maureen Yule each performed brilliantly at this annual concert for IB students. Congratulations musicians on your fabulous playing, Maureen and Veronica! Thanks also to the Tomcej’s for hosting the concert, use of your inspiring piano, and the wonderful reception for musicians after the performances!

Now it’s onward to the end of the year! Look for Shep musicians at the following functions yet to come this year:

Year End Jazz Concert (date changed due to school musical)	location and date to be announced
Ross Sheppard School Musical: Back to the Eighties	May 5 – 9
Graduation Convocation	Jubilee Auditorium May 21
Year End Concert	Ross Sheppard Gymnasium June 3
Awards Night	Hawrelak Park June 12



International Languages

Spring Break Trip to France and Spain

Eighteen students joined Dr. Salmon and Mr. Thibeault for a 10 day trip to Paris, the south of France and Barcelona during Spring break. They had the opportunity to visit all the major landmarks in Paris before boarding the TGV high speed train to see many sites in Provence. The Roman amphitheatre in Nimes, roman aqueduct le Pont du Gard and also the Popes' Palace and the famous bridge in Avignon. Then it was Hola Barcelona! Our tour guide being from Barcelona, we had the opportunity to really visit the city. A little bit of sightseeing around Las Ramblas, the Sagrada Familia, Park Guell and the Picasso museum and on our last day the beach around the former Olympic village. It was a wonderful trip where students learned a lot and also practiced their French and Spanish language skills.



Spring Break Trip to China and Japan

Every two years there is a China Trip open to all students which gives the opportunity of experiencing Chinese culture. However, this year's trip also included going to Japan. Students thus were able to experience Chinese and Japanese culture all in one package.

I was one of the 39 students. Even though I was being only one of the few Grade 10 students daring to go, I had a blast. Not only do you learn of the people around you, but you also get to experience the culture by talking to the local people, eating the local food and shopping in the local mall. It was very refreshing to see and feel something so different on the other side of the world. If you ask me what I love the most about this trip I would tell you that I loved everything on this trip. However I must say that the highlight of my trip would be shopping and sight-seeing. Seeing all the historical sites in china really has enriched my life. My ancestors originally came from China; this trip has given me a better understanding about my heritage.

By Melinda Leong (Gr. 10)

In just 13 days, I experienced something that I won't ever forget. It is something that I can always look back and smile. Every morning we would wake and travel somewhere new, where we would learn new and amazing things, experience things we never heard of before. Not only do we learn about traditions and beliefs about other cultures we had a chance to meet new friends. Friendship is priceless and have met so many new people is unforgettable. Each day is a new adventure waiting for you and your friends to explore. Everywhere you look, you see something new and unexpected.

Michelle Luk (Gr. 10)

It all started on Sunday, March 23 at the early time of 5 am our group of 40 students and 8 supervisors began our trip. From Edmonton to Vancouver to Tokyo to Beijing, it took us a whole day to get to our final destination. The trip consisting of 4 plane rides was very tiring and intensely boring but of course it was well worth it. Our first stop was Beijing. On the first days of our tours we went to the Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. Beijing is an amazing city rich in history and culture. It amazes me how people so long ago made buildings and places so grand without the technology we have today. It was also amazing to see the Olympic spirit in Beijing. Everywhere you looked you could see Olympic advertisements. The "Bird's Nest" Stadium was a very interesting piece of architecture and it was exciting to see in real life a place the world will soon be connected to.

The definite highlight of the trip was of course climbing the Great Wall of China. It was an amazing and fulfilling experience to be able to walk the same path of someone else hundreds of years before you. The wall of course stretched on forever and after going as far as we could we all felt like we had achieved something. After the climb however everyone was tired and sore. After the experience of climbing the wall however I could live without stairs.

Donna Cao Gr. 11

International Languages

Visiting Shep's sister school in Beijing was another highlight of the trip. It was very enlightening to see how the classes were run and how students learned. We were giving the chance to sit in one of the classes and experience what it was like going to school in China. There were four girls in my group and we were placed in an English classroom. One of the students was giving a power point book report on Lord of the Rings just like how we do in school. It was quite interesting.

Natasha Naicker Gr. 11

During the trip, I thoroughly enjoyed the days in Shanghai. The food was great and apart from the last day, the weather was nice and cool! I was also able to meet with family members and go out with them for a day. Japan was scenic and enjoyable as well. We went to Mount Fuji, Hakone National Park and Tokyo. As we travelled across the world to see these places I experienced different way of living. Although there were no garbage cans in sight, there were no garbage on the ground!

Peter Chung Gr.12

Spring break has come and gone. The much anticipated China and Japan trip has also successfully passed. We have seen and experienced many things from Beijing to Shanghai to Japan. In Beijing we visited the historical Forbidden City and also witness the beauty of the summer palace. While in Shanghai, we were surrounded by the development and modernization of this booming city. As we left China we went to indulge in the Japanese culture. In the eyes of the students who went on the trip, it was an enriching and eye-opening experience.

Steven Hoang Gr.12



Announcements

M. I. C. I.B. ART SHOW



featuring the Artwork of:
Marit Abrams, Iris Wong & Cara McKenna
April 16 & 17
Ross Sheppard High School
room 107

Celebrons Gala francais!

Ross Sheppard is pleased to be hosting Edmonton Public School's 2008 Gala francais on April 24th. Le Gala is a celebration of French Immersion and French as a second language students from grades 1 to 12. Students perform skits, give speeches and sing songs to demonstrate their growing proficiency in French. Parents are encouraged to attend and each student is given a certificate to commemorate their participation. The older grades are competitive with prizes being given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the various categories. Bonne chance to all Ross Sheppard participants.



School Zone

All parents of current Grade 10 and 11 students are asked to please complete the school zone form that will be sent home with the 2008-2009 registration package. School Zone will allow you to access your child's attendance and grades on line.



Awards Night 2008
Thursday, June 12th
7:00 P.M.
Heritage Amphitheatre
Hawrelak Park

Come and celebrate the special achievements of Ross Sheppard students. Special awards in recognition of outstanding achievement in Academics, Athletics, Service and Fine Arts will be presented. Everyone is welcome to attend.