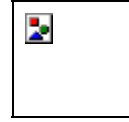




# Glenforest Secondary School

From the Desk of C. Horvath, Principal



**April 2008**

Spring has sprung – finally!! What a relief to see the snow banks melting and flowers starting to bloom for spring. With the increase of activity in nature, so has the activity level inside the school. You will find highlights of our recent events along with special dates that need to be marked on your fridge door calendar.

First of all, we look forward to meeting with you at **Teacher-Parent Interview Night on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria and library between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.** The interview request form is included in this report card package. Interviews are arranged with the teachers by your child. In addition, we will be offering a special information session for **parents of ESL students.** This will be presented at **5: 30 p.m. in the auditorium.** Thanga Kopalasingam, our Inter-Cultural Neighbourhood Social Services Settlement Worker, will be hosting this meeting. He will be accompanied by Sheila O'Shaughnessy, our Department Head of Student Services, Ilona Csonka, ESL teacher, and myself, to answer any questions. Topics such as community and school resources, homework and assignments, course selection and the viewing of a parent/teacher interview video will be covered.

Also included with this report card package is the Student Status Sheet which lists all courses taken by the student, the marks earned and the credits granted. The courses that you, the student, have selected for the next school year are found under "NEXT YEAR COURSES" on the middle bottom panel.

Minor changes to your selections will be considered at this time. Steps to make a change:

1. Cross out the course code you wish to delete
2. Add the new course code in the column
3. Have a parent/guardian sign beside the change
4. Bring the status sheet to Student Services for processing by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Please note that this is a request and timetable conflicts and class size may not support the change.

### Courses Currently Closed

BAT 4M0      BBB 4M0      CLN 4U0

### Courses Cancelled for the 2008/2009 school year.

BAN 4E0      CPW 4U0      EBT 4O0      EWC 4C0      ICS 4M0      LVV 4U0      MEL 4E0  
PSE 4U0      CGF 3M0      EMS 3O0

Please note that staffing of the courses and the school is based on your course selections. With this in mind, Student Services requests that you make any changes now. **Course changes in September will be restricted to changes because of summer school courses and program considerations.**

On **April 15<sup>th</sup>** the Formal Committee students hosted a fashion show to promote two ways that graduates can get help with putting together an outfit for the formal. "Inside the Dream" is a charitable organization that takes referrals regarding students who need financial help with their dress or tuxedo for the formal or their grade 8 graduation. The dresses are donated and then given to these students in needs. They get the jewellery, shoes, purse, etc., to make the outfit complete. Visit [www.insidethedream.org](http://www.insidethedream.org) if you know someone who needs this service or if you want to donate or volunteer your services. Also, Moore's Clothing for Men, donated four tuxedos for the fashion show and has given us another three to give to male grads in need. Students can talk to their guidance counsellor or Ms Manchur about either of these opportunities.

On **Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**, we will be hosting our Glenhaven Senior grade 8 students in our annual "Caravan" during which time they will tour the school and participate in workshops designed to introduce them to the secondary school setting in preparation for grade 9. As has always been our practice, our students will be dismissed at noon.

A reminder that **Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>** is a Board wide Professional Development Day. Schools will be closed. Classes will resume on **Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Graduating students need to ensure that their 40 hours Community Service is complete and recorded on the Student Status Sheet.

**The dates for the June final exams have been corrected on our web site. The June exams will be scheduled between June 16 and June 23, 2008, with report card pick up on June 26<sup>th</sup>.**

We are pleased to host Summer School at Glenforest again this summer. Summer School runs **Thursday, July 3 to Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.** Information about courses offered at GFSS will be available in the Student Services Office soon. Students will be informed via the announcements and bulletin board displays.



## Department News....

### Business Department

Our DECA students are preparing for the International Competition in Atlanta, Georgia. Our Accounting students will be participating in the OBEA Accounting Contests. Congratulations to the Model UN team on representing Glenforest so well – this year the students represented the United States of America in dealing with a resolution on the World Arms Trade. Welcome back to Joanna Heaslip after her maternity leave.

### Languages Department

Several Grade 11 and 12 students are participating in the Canadian Parents for French and French Embassy Creative Writing Contest. First prize is a 10 day trip to France! Bonne change à tous!

On Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> over 70 senior students participated in the Cinéfranco French Film Festival in Toronto. "**Alive**", a French musical, left students singing in their seats!

An ENG 1DE class is participating in Humberview S.S.'s Enhanced Students Cultural Fair all day on April 18<sup>th</sup>. They will present culturally based information about France as well as the Ottoman Empire.

Nine Grade 11 and 12 students entered essays in the Turning Points Essay Competition. Ten students will be attending the Harry Jerome Awards on Saturday, April 26, 2008.

### Science Department

Some Grade 11 and 12 biology students are going to University of Waterloo to carry out a gene transfer lab. May 9<sup>th</sup> Grade 11 physics students go to Wonderland for Physics Day. Data is collected for different roller coasters and students apply their physics knowledge to calculate specifics on the roller coasters.

Some grade 10 classes are aiding in Space Research by growing seeds that have actually spent time in the Space Station. We will be able to tell if the low gravity environment affects the germination of the tomato seeds.

### Physical Education Department

This spring we have Sr. and Jr. Boys Soccer, Varsity Girls Soccer, Boys Baseball, Girls Slow Pitch, Cricket, Track and Field, Badminton and Mountain Bike Racing teams competing. The mountain bike, dragon boat and squash clubs have started up and the weightlifting, ping pong and self defence clubs are still running. The cheerleading team will be bringing their year long season to an end at the Nationals. Glenforest students will be running in the Mississauga marathon on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The school is having a beach volleyball trip at the end of May and the Phys. Ed. Department will be offering indoor climbing wall activities in their gym classes from May 13-16th. Individual and team athletic accomplishments will be recognized at our June 5th banquet.

### Mathematics Department

Many of our top students have been competing in various math contests. A few impressive achievements are highlighted:

In the Canadian Open Math Challenge, Henry Fung was a Central Ontario Region medal winner;

In the American Math Competition 12, Philip Chen was a silver medal winner;

In the Canadian Math Competition our Grade 9, 10, and 11 teams all finished in the top three in the Peel Dufferin/Peel Region. Individually, David Kong placed second and Henry Fung placed fourth in our region in their respective contests.

Congratulations to all who competed.

### Technical/Arts Department

The Music Department have Printempo coming up on May 15<sup>th</sup> and the Wind Ensemble will be travelling to Washington on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Our School Play – **Exit the Body**

April 30<sup>th</sup>, period 2 and 3

Evening Performances: May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased over the lunch hour - \$5.00 in advance or \$7.00 at the door.

Mrs. Galvao's art classes have been busy painting the set for EXIT the BODY.

Mr. Snider and Mr. Fusca's classes have been busy building the set for the play.

This past Saturday Victor Gan competed at Niagara Collage in a Skills Qualifying Competition in Webpage Design. The design was to highlight the water crisis facing our world today. He was also asked to present his site which included animation elements done in flash. Congratulations to Victor for his second place showing. The following students won their Peel Preliminary Competitions last month.

Julie Do-First Place, Peel Preliminaries Desktop Publishing

Melanie So-First Place Peel, Preliminaries Graphic Design

Ben Ouyang-First Place, Peel Preliminaries Photography

**Good Luck to all on May 6th in Waterloo at the Provincials.**

On Friday April 18th our Co-op class is hosting the "Our Youth at Work" simulcast event during period 2 in the auditorium. This event matches schools with business leaders from the community to discuss safety in the workplace. We are being joined by the CEO of WSIB and Parliamentary Assistant to Michael Novak.

We will be hosting a breakfast in the cafeteria at 9:30am.

At this point in time, we are going full throttle to maintain our momentum and focussing on continuing our success throughout the entire school. We hope that the formative assessments that your son or daughter receives has been helpful to highlight their areas of strength and also areas that need more attention. We hope that our students feel hopeful and optimistic and that they are experiencing a winning streak. This in turn, translates into your child eliminating any restrictions they put on themselves, and are more willing to take risks to stretch themselves in their learning. Schools who experience winning streaks have more tendency to believe in themselves, think outside the box, work together to problem solve and have a great sense of curiosity and enthusiasm. These factors will contribute to building a strong foundation for future success.

Best of luck to all in your final nine weeks. Stay positive, pace yourself and don't be scared to ask for help if you need it – that's why we're here!

