

Happy December SCEOT Members!

It is my pleasure to be writing our final Professional Learning Newsletter for 2014! I would like to take this opportunity to note a number of exciting PL opportunities planned for the New Year!

Monday, March 2, 2015 LGBT Awareness in Primary Classrooms

This workshop raises awareness that even our youngest students may confront issues of homophobia and heterosexism, in relation to their families and peers as well as to their own gender identities. The workshop is designed to assist educators explore these issues and find the courage and understanding to include all children and families in our schools and the global community.



Simcoe County District School Board's Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being stresses the importance of Equity and Inclusive Education in its Community, Culture and Caring pillar. This workshop aligns greatly with SCDSB's BIPSA-WB. **Attendees will receive a picture book that examines an LGBTQ Equity issue.**

Monday, April 13, 2015; 5pm to 7pm Earth Day 2015: Weaving Environmental Issues into All Areas of the Curriculum Workshop

The United Nations recognizes April 22nd as Earth Day, a time for world solidarity around global climate change. As teachers we have a wonderful opportunity and a moral imperative to foster development of our students as responsible global citizens.

Environmental education is woven into all areas of the curriculum and Earth Day is the perfect time to celebrate these connections. This session will highlight ways to integrate environmental issues into science, math, literacy, Physical Education and even drama! Participants will stock their teacher toolkits with practical ideas that are classroom-ready.

In this hands-on workshop, participants will be up and out of their seats, scouring an Energy Alternatives scavenger hunt, dramatizing a living tree and re-purposing materials to make garbage fly! Weather-permitting we will be outside enjoying the potential for fieldtrips in our own schoolyards so dress appropriately.



Monday, March 30, 2015; 5pm-7pm
Power to Play/Power to Explore Combined Workshop

This is a combined workshop catered for Kindergarten to Grade 6 teachers. **Please note that individual teachers attending this combined workshop will receive only ONE of the program kits (Power to Play! or Power to Explore!). Upon registration, you will be asked to indicate which kit you would like.**

Power to Play! is a superhero-themed program encouraging healthy eating and active living for primary students. This workshop is designed for K-3 teachers. The Power to Play! Program has been designed by Registered Dietitians, teachers and students and includes four grade-specific, cross-curricular programs that meet expectations in Health and Physical Education, Language, Mathematics, the Arts, Science and Technology and Social Studies. The program has now updated to reflect the Full-Day Kindergarten Curriculum!



Participants requesting this kit will receive a number of incredible resources including:

- Grade specific teacher guide with assessment tools
- DVD featuring exciting super missions
- CD with creative, child friendly songs and important program files
- Kindergarten recipe cards
- Colourful food picture cards (bilingual) that you can use in a variety of ways



Power to Explore! is a junior-level cross-curricular healthy-living program that gives students the power to explore their personal food and activity choices. Students build awareness and develop skills to improve health.



Participants selecting this kit will receive a number of resources including:

- Grade specific teacher guide with assessment tools
- CD-ROM with interactive whiteboard capabilities
- Daily physical activity suggestions
- Comics
- DVD Featuring real-life stories of grade six students
- Healthy bodies classroom poster

Please note that our workshops are met with a great deal of interest and fill up rather fast. We do have wait-lists for a number of upcoming workshops. If you are unable to attend an event that you have registered for, please let me know at sceotpd@hotmail.com as soon as possible, so that I can open the spot to a member on the wait-list.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to professional learning. If you have any PL questions, please do not hesitate to email me at professionallearning@sceot.org or sceotpd@hotmail.com.

Warmest regards,

Elena Bukshtinovich

SCEOT Professional Learning Chair