



# Jean Vanier Parent Council

Visit us on the school website:  
[jva.schools.smcdsb.on.ca](http://jva.schools.smcdsb.on.ca)  
 and go to the  
 "For Parents" section

June 2013

## Hello from Parent Council



The Jean Vanier Parent Council is working on your behalf to make Jean Vanier a vibrant, fun and faith-filled school community now and into the future.

### Who is on the JV Parent Council?

The JV Parent Council is currently made up of 5 members consisting of four parents and Principal Blasko. The parent members are (from left to right) Sandy Nichols, John Fisher,

Connie Gray, and Geoff Adamson. For copies of meeting minutes and link to our webpage through the "For Parents/Catholic School Council" page on the Jean Vanier Catholic High School website ([jva.schools.smcdsb.on.ca](http://jva.schools.smcdsb.on.ca)).

### What is the purpose of the JV Parent Council?

Our focus is to engage parents and students in identifying opportunities that we wish to

pursue and strengths we wish to build on. We have a list of priorities drawn from the Parent Survey conducted in 2012. Many of you said are interested in learning more about: adolescent development, communicating with teens, teen self esteem, motivating teens and helping teens build their time management skills.

We hope to continue providing more information in various forums to address your interests. We hope you join us in this learning by becoming part of Parent Council or by attending our events. By joining us it is an opportunity for you to share your ideas and thoughts with your JV Parent Council.

We look forward to hearing from you. Our first meeting is set for Monday September 16th at 7 pm. We meet in the school library. Our email address is [jeanvanierparent@hotmail.ca](mailto:jeanvanierparent@hotmail.ca).

## Dates to put in your calendar

Main Office & Guidance Open	Call for times (705) 445-2043
Uniform Shop Bookings	Call for times 445-3369
Grade 9 Orientation	Thurs. Aug. 29
First Day of School	Tues. Sept. 3
First Parent Council Meeting	Mon. Sept. 16. 7 pm
PD Days	Thurs. Sept. 26 and Fri. Oct. 11
Student-Parent Teacher Interviews	(tentatively) Thurs. Oct. 24

For other events, refer to Jean Vanier CHS Website

## George Chuvalo



This school year, former heavy weight boxer spoke to students at Jean Vanier about the effects of drug addictions. Students were riveted to the story of personal challenges and victories.

The presentation was hosted by JV Parent Council and was funded through a Ministry of Education initiative with which Mr. Chuvalo was involved.

Students heard how his greatest battle was not the fight against Mohammed Ali, but rather losing his family to

drugs. His story was compelling and inspiring to those who heard it.

He lost one son to drugs, one to suicide and one in a car accident. His wife committed suicide after the second son died. His remaining son is a teacher at Western Technical Commerce School.

## School Schedule and Times

Period 1 (9:00 - 10:20 am)  
 Period 2 (10:25-11:40 am)  
 Period 3B (11:45-1:00 pm)  
 Period 3A (12:25-1:40 pm)  
 Period 4 (1:45-3:00 pm)

Office Hours: 8 am - 4 pm

# Tackle those hills on the road, and in life: therapist



Parent council was pleased to bring Dan McGann back to Collingwood to speak to students and parents about his therapeutic run program. The Collingwood native is a therapist and social worker at the Credit Valley Hospital. His run program is getting lots of traction around the province and even right here in Simcoe County.

Article and Photo by Morgan Ian Adams



By [Morgan Ian Adams](#), Enterprise-Bulletin  
Friday, May 10, 2013 7:21:15 EDT AM

COLLINGWOOD — There are always hills to climb.

And yet, notes therapist and social worker Dan McGann, those hills eventually don't seem so big when you approach them with the attitude of finding a solution to conquer them.

The man who developed the therapeutic run program at the Credit Valley Hospital — a program that encourages teens with anxiety, depression and addiction to run as a means of dealing with their mental health issues — spoke to the Jean Vanier Parent Council, Wednesday night; earlier in the afternoon, he made a presentation to students at the high school.

<For Full Article>

<http://www.theenterprisebulletin.com/2013/05/09/tackle-those-hills-on-the-road-and-in-life-therapist>

## Message Board

### Bob Blasko, Principal

The parent council would like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Blasko, Principal of Jean Vanier. His devotion and commitment to the students was evident to all with whom he interacted. The students literally and figuratively, looked up to the cheerful but serious administrator who "had their backs" by creating the safe and caring environment for all to enjoy.

We will miss you Bob. We appreciated your compassionate leadership and the time you devoted to the school community.

All the best to you and your family!

### Sandy Nichols

We are saying good bye to one of our own. Sandy Nichols will be finished with the parent council this year (her youngest graduated).

Sandy has been with JV Parent Council for the last three years. From serving refreshments, to gathering resources to securing renowned international speakers, Sandy put her heart into it all.

You will be missed.

### Ed Baginski

The gym students will miss his positive attitude and friendly disposition. Staff will miss his giving nature. All the best in retirement.

### Brent Kratz

Student Success will miss Mr. Kratz. His energy and athleticism will be missed by staff and students.

### Bill Ironside

Bill Ironside is no stranger to Jean Vanier. We enjoyed Bill's commitment to the school and parent council two years ago. He was the VP at the school and will now be returning to assume his new role of Principal.

Welcome back!

### Retirements

#### Mr. Labreque-Mireault

Everyday students enjoyed French and the fun learning environment that he created for his students.

All the best in your retirement. You will be sorely missed.

### Kathy Doey

Guidance will surely miss Mrs. Doey. She was compassionate and empathetic. All the best with your retirement.

### Kenya Trip

Next year students and staff will be embarking on a pilgrimage in Kenya to learn about and appreciate communities outside of their own. The chaperoning adults attending are Maryanne Giannini, Marianna Knights, Marie Varcoe, Claire Pearson, Kevin Pickett and John Michalenko accompanying 25 students in the spring of 2014. Help support their fundraising efforts throughout the year. Check the school website.



If you would like to receive this Newsletter and other news and information in electronic form, contact us at:  
[jeanvanierparent@hotmail.ca](mailto:jeanvanierparent@hotmail.ca)