



Renfrew County District School Board

MEDIA RELEASE

RCDSB Students Develop Leadership Skills

Sunny skies greeted the one hundred and five secondary students from the Renfrew County District School Board who attended a Student Leadership retreat at Wilderness Tours on Wednesday, September 24th. The focus of the day was on developing team building skills, promoting unity within and among schools, creating an awareness of the need for civic engagement and enhancing problem solving skills. Student leaders from Arnprior, Opeongo, Renfrew, Mackenzie, Madawaska, Fellowes and General Panet came together to develop and share strategies for engaging the entire student body in school activities and in projects that contribute to communities locally and globally. "I learned a lot of new ways to work as a team and it's a great way to meet new people", said student leader Andrew Tabbert from Fellowes High School.

Student Trustee, Renée Lance, was present at the retreat to address the group and to describe her role as student trustee. She acknowledged the importance of involving all students in schools activities and encouraged those present to stay in touch with her about the activities at each school.



Student leaders collaborate before attempting to assist team members through the spider web.

The activities ranged from discussions on ways to enhance school spirit to more active participation in rock climbing and assisting team members through a spider web. All of the more active activities included strategic discussions before and during the events. "It was a great way to collaborate new ideas with other Student Council members across the county", said Fellowes High School student Kaity Woermke. The activities not only brought together students who had never met, but gave students the opportunity to join forces and strategize to determine the best course of action to take to ensure success.

"Opportunities such as leadership retreats at Wilderness Tours develop strong character and foster personal development in the leaders of tomorrow", said Alex Harris, Staff Advisor of Fellowes High School Student Council.



Director of Education, Eleanor Newman and Student Trustee Renée Lance join others in a discussion on ways to enhance school spirit.

"The Renfrew County District School Board is proud of the academic achievement, character development and civic engagement of its students", said Director of Education, Eleanor Newman, who also attended the event along with Chairperson Dave Shields. Mr. Shields replied that "in recognizing that student leadership is a critical factor in creating a positive school culture, the Board readily agreed to sponsor this leadership day."