

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MEDIA RELEASE

CONFERENCE 2007 “1000 EDUCATORS WILL CONNECT THE DOTS WITH MARC KIELBURGER”

Marc Kielburger, of the Free the Children organization, will be the keynote speaker at *Connecting the Dots for Student Success*, a conference for 1000 educators to be held at Fellowes High School in Pembroke on Friday, October 26.

The annual conference, staged by the Renfrew County District School Board, brings together all the Board's teachers, administrators, support staff, and trustees, to be inspired together by a well-known inspirational speaker and to engage in workshops to hone their skills for the upcoming year.

The speaker at Conference 2007 will be Marc Kielburger, and his topic will be “Me to We: Educating Creative, Compassionate and Committed Leaders”. Marc and his brother Craig direct the Free the Children organization that is active around the world in the areas of education, health care, water, sanitation, alternative income, and peace-building. They have also established Leaders Today, a youth leadership organization that provides young people with the inspiration and tools to effect positive social change.

Marc's address will pursue the theme of his most recent book, a *New York Times* best-seller titled “Me to We: Finding Meaning in a Material World”.

Marc will also focus on Character Education, a major theme of the Conference. During the rest of the day, participants will attend two in-depth workshops chosen from the more than eighty workshops on offer. Workshops will “connect the dots” between the three themes of Character Education, Differentiated Instruction, and Assessment and Evaluation, all essential to student success in school.

Some workshop titles that show their diversity are “Honouring Differences through Character Education”, “Adapting Physical Education”, “Depression and Anxiety in Children and Adolescents”, “Writing in Kindergarten”, “Python Programming for Computer Teachers” and “Using Stats Can Resources to Enhance Geography”.

Most of the workshops will be presented by Board employees who have specialized expertise, training, and experience. Outside presenters include experts from CHEO, the Phoenix Centre, the Ministry of Health, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, and Statistics Canada.

For most children, the PA Day is just a day off school to catch up on homework and friends. But for all the people that make school happen every day, October 26 is the year's biggest opportunity to learn about new ideas, trends and strategies that will make a difference in the classroom.

For more information, please contact:

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