BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Michael Barrett, Chairperson
Carolyn Morton, Vice Chairperson

Patrice Barnes          Larry Jacula
Chris Braney            Linda Stone
Paul Crawford           Christine Winters
Donna Edwards           Kimberly Zeppieri
Elinor Hansen

Michelina Aguanno*  Melanie Manning*  Kevin Zheng*
* Student Trustee

Director of Education
Interim Director, Luigia Ayotte

Associate Director, David Visser

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John Bowyer            Anne Marie Laginski
Janet Edwards          Lisa Millar
Richard Kennelly       Silvia Peterson
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Richard Kennelly       Silvia Peterson
John Legere
PROGRAM

Welcome/Emcees
Anne Marie Laginski, Superintendent of Education, DDSB
John Legere, Superintendent of Education, DDSB

O Canada
Intermediate Concert Band, Eastdale CVI

Greetings from Durham District School Board, Board of Trustees
Michael Barrett, Chairperson, DDSB

Greetings from Durham District School Board
Luigia Ayotte, Interim Director of Education, DDSB

Presentation of Awards/Board of Trustees
Michael Barrett, Chairperson
Carolyn Morton, Vice Chairperson
Patrice Barnes
Chris Braney
Paul Crawford
Donna Edwards
Elinor Hansen
Larry Jacula
Linda Stone
Christine Winters
Kimberly Zeppieri

Guest Speakers
Michelina Aguanno, Student Trustee
Melanie Manning, Student Trustee
Kevin Zheng, Student Trustee

Please join us for refreshments served cafeteria following the ceremonies.
April 14, 2016

To the Attendees at the Durham District School Board Student Recognition Night:

On behalf of the Ministry of Education, I would like to congratulate all of the participants at this year’s Student Recognition Night.

Let me begin by thanking the Durham District School Board for organizing this exciting ceremony to honour these outstanding students.

Those being recognized this evening have demonstrated exceptional citizenship, made exemplary contributions to their schools and communities, and have overcome major obstacles to reach success. You should be very proud of your accomplishments. It is because of bright and passionate students like you that I believe Ontario’s future is so promising.

Once again, I extend my best wishes to you and hope that you have a most enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

Liz Sandals
Minister
Tyler Gould

Tyler is an Eastdale CVI student in the Practical Learning Program. Tyler works extremely hard at school and at his work education placements at Apex Auto, Quality Packaging, Oshawa Seniors' Centre, and FreshCo. Tyler demonstrates a pleasant and friendly demeanor at work and school. He is the first to volunteer for any extra work such as taking out the recycling for class, the co-op department and the staff room. Tyler is polite and courteous with staff members and students and routinely helps support other students within the program.

Kaelyn Nichols

Kaelyn is a grade 12 student with an exemplary mark in art. She has overcome multiple spinal surgeries over her years at Eastdale due to a genetic condition. Each time she goes in for surgery, there is a risk of paralysis. Despite this, she is positive and continues to make amazing art based upon her fears and resiliency in the face of difficult surgeries. Kaelyn has had to miss school, but has always worked very hard to maintain her average. In May, Kaelyn will have her work showcased in the Art for Art’s Sake show at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa.

Shahram Shahzada

Shahram is an Eastdale CVI student who started high school in a small class placement. His tireless work ethic and determination have contributed to his moving to mainstream classes and will result in him achieving his Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Shahram has overcome physical and academic challenges to be successful at school. He has a very pleasant demeanor and represents Eastdale in a positive manner at all times.
Jayden McCollom

Jayden demonstrates great spirit and pride in the school community. Over the past two years, she has dedicated her time and energy to ensuring grade 9 camp at G.L. Roberts is successful. Jayden’s warm, inclusive and energetic personality has allowed her to be an outstanding student leader for camp. Jayden is one of the wonderful voices on the announcements in the morning. She uses her cheerful disposition to welcome her peers to school each day and ensures they are up to date with current information. Jayden is dependable and a fabulous role model to those around her. We thank Jayden for her contributions to our school community.

Jennifer Saensombath

Jennifer has an excellent attitude! She is always positive and displays a fantastic work ethic. She is known to be a wonderful team player both in class and throughout the school. This year, Jennifer is acting as a counselor for our grade 9 camp. She is warm, inclusive, and excited for those around her to enjoy themselves and hone their strengths and abilities. Jennifer is a dependable member of Student Council where she is an enthusiastic voice for the student body and is keen to do whatever is asked of her. Jennifer’s radiant personality and positive attitude ignites and inspires those around her to strive to do their best.

Connor Sykes

Connor is a kind, dedicated, and hardworking individual who is always willing to lend a hand to help others. He has exceptional leadership skills. Connor has been an active member of Student Council over the course of his high school career. He can always be counted on for his enthusiasm and dependable support. This year, Connor was the assistant coach of the senior girls’ volleyball team and has successfully completed his volleyball referee certification. He has worked both in the school and throughout the community. Connor is known to stay focused and on-task in the classroom, motivating others through example.
Elaine Cube

Elaine is an extremely committed, reliable and responsible student. She is our Deputy Prime Minister on Student Council, is on the Leadership Committee and she is the yearbook editor. Elaine’s creativity is impressive and her fabulous painting skills will be a part of Maxwell forever as she has been involved in the Grade 12 mural project. Elaine is extremely committed to creating a positive school experience for everyone, Maxwell Heights has been fortunate to have had her as a part of our school community for the past four years. Elaine plans to combine her passion for visual and graphic arts with business in her post-secondary studies.

Drew McMahon

Drew has demonstrated significant personal and academic growth over the course of her high school career. With perseverance, determination, and tenacity, Drew has successfully transitioned from a small class placement to college level courses. She has also developed coping skills and resilience. Drew is a member of the IMPACT group, and is a very active member of her faith community. She sings in the choir, is involved in theatrical productions, youth activities, and community outreach programs. Drew sets her goals high and never waivers in her determination to achieve them, Drew will be studying Early Childhood Education at Durham College in September.

Kesidha Raajakesary

Ever since Kesidha arrived at Maxwell Heights Secondary School in her tenth grade, she has demonstrated outstanding dedication to making the school community a better place. She is student Prime Minister, Chairperson of the Me to We Committee, involved in the Leadership Committee and many other activities. Kesidha is equally involved outside of school, She has volunteered with the Footprints for Autism program, Sunrise Youth Group and recently co-chaired the Operation Medical School Conference for high school students. Her positivity, kindness and energy have impressed tremendously, Kesidha will be studying medical science in the fall.
**O’NEILL COLLEGIATE & VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE**

Principal: Jamila Maliha  
Vice Principals: Pamela Koster & Stephen Rae  
School Community Council Chairperson(s): Kim Woods-Pennell & Charmaine Gregory

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**Bailey Ashton**

Bailey combines a superior work ethic with terrific natural talent. A pillar of support for the O’Neill Arts community, and very accomplished visual artist, she has worked tirelessly on numerous art initiatives during her graduating year. Bailey has also given back to the program by taking on vital leadership roles. As a Program Ambassador, she has contributed to the Visual Arts Information Night, Feeder Schools tours, and the audition nights that are the life-blood of the program. She is similarly leaving her mark on the school through her work on a monumental mural. She seems to genuinely delight more in the achievement of her peers than in her own exquisite efforts.

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**Beatrice Frasca**

Beatrice is a splendid example of the healthy mind, healthy body paradigm and her contributions to O’Neill sports have been immense. Captain of both girls rugby teams, Beatrice inspires her teammates with her admirable conduct both on and off the field. She has mentored many less experienced players over the years. Beatrice’s leadership skills have also been formally put to use in Leadership Class for which she has organized the annual Leadership Camp, Me to We Day and a semi-formal. As O’Neill’s Athletic Association president, she is responsible for all intramural activities and brings a wealth of athletic experience having participated in many activities herself.

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**Espy Salas**

Espy exemplifies student leadership with her selfless contributions to both the school and the local community. She has organized a community clean up, participated in Ontario Nature’s Pollinator Campaign while also serving as member of the Youth Council. As Prime Minister of the Eco Club and member of the Envirothon team, she has organized seminars, movie days and helped O’Neill win two trees for our school’s greening project. Due to Espy’s energetic activism, she has been appointed to the Planning and Economic Development and Environment Advisory Committees under the auspices of Regional Council. Espy also finds the time to take on humble roles like Reading Buddy and Food Bank worker.
OSHAWA CENTRAL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Principal: Lucy Sharp
Vice Principal: Eugenia Samara
School Community Council Chairperson: N/A

Tyler Strickland

Tyler is an amazing person who is hard working, responsible, and kind. Both staff and students say there is a drive in him that is unmatched as he is always determined to do his best. His positive attitude radiates with those around him. He has come a long way since starting in the modified program at Central Collegiate and always sets a good example for others. In fact, he returned to the program as a peer tutor and is known as one of the best and most responsible peer tutors in the program. He looks forward to a positive future and we know he will accomplish his goals.

Courtney Wilson

Courtney is an excellent role model who epitomizes what it means to be an exemplary student. She has played a significant role in the organization of many charitable and spirit events within the school. She is a talented athlete on numerous sports teams and was a driving force behind numerous fundraisers, food drives, and dances. Courtney continues to be highly involved and demonstrates academic excellence at all times. She is interested in nursing with hopes of pursuing medicine as a family doctor. Courtney’s dedication and ability to support and encourage others will serve her well in the future.

Ahmed Youssef

Ahmed is an outstanding student who exemplifies citizenship, academic excellence, and sportsmanship. He is deeply involved with his school and community, including leadership roles in the senior boys’ volleyball team, yearbook club, and ambassadors. In addition to his busy schedule, he manages to volunteer at the Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre and assists with organizing special events. Winning second place nationally in a writing competition and earning exemplary marks throughout high school are some notable accomplishments. Ahmed looks forward to studying health sciences with hopes of continuing in medicine. Ahmed’s drive and commitment to others will definitely ensure a bright and successful future.
Allison Finer & Rachel Finer

When it comes to organization, leadership and a profound work ethic, twin sisters Rachel and Allison emulate all these qualities and so much more. From their academics to their involvement and facilitation in a number of extra-curricular activities, it is an understatement to say both these young ladies are destined to do amazing things in life.

Most notable are their roles as Co-Prime Minister within the school's Student Council. Rachel and Allison have this group running like a well-oiled machine with staff never witnessing such a happy group willing to work so hard for these two young ladies because they know how hard Allison and Rachel work for them.

Isaiah Kidane

Isaiah has managed to impress his teachers with his willingness to work hard and take responsibility for himself by going for extra help in his French Immersion studies. With the encouragement of his teachers, Isaiah continued to seek out teacher advisors and transformed his work ethic into leadership roles within the school's extra-curricular programming. Isaiah rallied his peers and brought in students from other grades to join him in forming the school's Black History Month committee. Isaiah also joined Model United Nations whereby students initiated social justice events and causes to support our local communities.
Samantha Byrne

Samantha came to Durham Alternative Secondary School (DASS) two years ago with no credits. Samantha struggled with depression and social anxiety in her early years of high school. She came to DASS in February of 2014 and immediately began to experience success. She attributes her success to the support she received in the hospital that winter. The counselling received as follow up, and the support she received from DASS Staff, Youth Outreach Workers and Community Partners enabled her to achieve success and to reach her goals. Sam has developed strategies that allow her to manage her anxiety and frustrations and is on track to graduate this June.

Laura Carey

Laura is a grade 12 student at DASS in Pickering. She began high school in Ajax, but left after struggling with mental health issues and bullying. When she was 18, Laura became pregnant and her Child and Youth worker told her about the Teen Parent program available at DASS. She attended the Teen Parent program with her son, Michael. In September, she transitioned to DASS Pickering and is a natural leader who embodies the resilient and hopeful characteristics of DASS students. Laura will graduate in June, with honours.

Shalanda Rodney

Shalanda came to DASS in 2013 in her grade 11 year. Her family moved to Durham from North York following the sudden passing of her 15 year old brother. It took Shalanda time to adjust to living in Oshawa, overcoming the barriers faced by moving to a new neighbourhood and dealing with the loss of family, Shalanda was able to shine in her last year at DASS. Her teachers all remark on her strong work ethic and have enjoyed watching her develop critical thinking skills and positively channel her keen sense of social justice. Shalanda graduated in January this year and has been accepted to Durham Colleges’ Paralegal program.
Teresa Ayala De Atilano

Teresa is an adult English as a Second Language student at Durham Continuing Education. Teresa was chosen by her teachers for this award because she embodies what it means to be a true Canadian. Teresa is an avid volunteer and loves to assist her instructor with class activities. On one occasion, she surprised her instructor and her classmates by planning an educational activity for the entire class. Teresa not only planned the entire lesson, she also brought in the materials required for all students to participate.

Melanea Lopez

From the first day Melanea joined the Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC)/English as a Second Language (ESL) Program for Adults at DCE, she demonstrated a high level of care not only for her own learning, but also for the success of her fellow classmates. Instead of excuses, Melanea has suggestions. She represented LINC/ESL students in a presentation to the Durham Board of Trustees, thanking them for their work in maintaining the high quality of education for adults at DCE. She is now a volunteer in the LINC/ESL program, continuing to help other newcomers in the community. Melanea is also being enrolled in the credit program at DCE.

Li Wang

Li, also known as Lily, is a student in the DCE ESL Adult Language Program who, in the words of her instructor, “connects people, and brings a positive attitude to everything that we do.” Lily is an excellent student who rarely misses a class. She has a passion for finding community programs that help language students transition to life in the Durham Region. She is always positive and full of ideas. Her creativity has made many class activities more fun for all students and staff.
Delaney Keenan

Delaney is an outstanding student leader who has been involved in multiple initiatives to create a safe and inclusive school. She is currently a student council co-president and has been instrumental in starting two new clubs such as Demonstrating Excellence Celebrating Achievement (DECA), and the Model United Nations and even submitting a Speak Up Grant to support them. Delaney has helped plan our charity events Dodge for a Cause and Relay for Life. Within the community, she volunteers with the local theatre and a youth advisory group. Last year, Delaney participated in Explore, a French Immersion Program in Quebec, and was 1 of 200 students chosen to attend Yale University’s Young Global Scholars. Delaney plans on pursuing a career in law in the future.

Joshua Kelly

Josh is truly worthy of recognition as an outstanding student at Port Perry High School. He has been fundraising for Sick Kids since he was eight years old. This commitment to charitable organizations precipitated the development of a new project Josh founded called Dodge for a Cause. He organizes this annual event, which involves more than 300 students, and has raised more than $5000. Josh has also helped organize a school-run food drive for the local food bank. He is a high level baseball player and also volunteers as a coach for the Port Perry Angels Girls’ softball team. Josh plans on attending Seneca College where he will study fitness and health while continuing to play baseball.

Michael Kiiskinen-McNeill

Michael is a hardworking and dedicated student at Port Perry High School. He entered grade 9 as part of the multiple exceptionals program and thrived within the classroom. In his early years in the class, Michael worked very hard and demonstrated a strong work ethic and an initiative to be successful that set him apart from his peers. Michael’s quiet and easy going nature allowed him to succeed academically and socially. When Michael entered his senior years, he elected on his own to leave the multiple exceptionals program and enter the mainstream where he has earned full credits unsupported. Michael has been successful and will be graduating with his high school diploma in June and has applied to Durham College.
BROCK HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Lucy Black  
Vice Principal: Tracey Running  
School Community Council Chairperson: Sherry Doble

Kierra Meacham
Kierra is a grade eleven student who has demonstrated resilience and courage while dealing with a life-threatening illness. She is a very strong academic student who has set her sights on university and is a talented artist who loves to draw. Kierra is a hard-working student who hopes to one day work in the music industry. She is very social and loves spending time with her friends and family.

Amber McKay
Amber has overcome personal tragedy and hardship in her life. She demonstrates courage and real strength in working towards her goals and is currently taking the dual-credit program at Fleming College in make-up artistry. Amber is extremely personable and has a loving disposition which is appreciated by everyone who meets her. She is also a very talented artist and loves to sketch. Her impressive art work has been on display in the school library.

Taneeka Lewis-Rouse
Taneeka has consistently made good choices in her high school career. She is determined to succeed and works hard to overcome personal challenges. She enjoys her part-time job at McDonald’s and has a great smile! Taneeka also helps her family look after their foster children when she is not at school or at work. She is currently doing a co-op placement at Sunderland Public School where she works with a Kindergarten class. Taneeka also participates in a dual-credit program at Fleming College in make-up artistry.
Taylor Anderson

Taylor is an extremely well-rounded individual who has achieved academic success and has been highly involved in various aspects of school and community. An honour roll student, Taylor has also earned multiple subject awards in a variety of disciplines. She has made significant contributions to the school and community as an integral member of our Student, Leader, Advisor and Mentor (SLAM) program. She has been a key member of many sports and academic teams at Uxbridge Secondary School, in addition to being a recognized and outstanding member and leader of the Model United Nations Debate Team. Taylor’s leadership extends to the local community as she volunteers with several not-for-profit organizations.

Devyn Fraser

Devyn is a great athlete and an exceptional person who has overcome many obstacles. She is co-captain on her volleyball team and captain of the golf team. Devyn has been one of the best players on each of her LOSSA championship teams this year. People don’t know that she struggles to play because of her health issues. She suffers from a condition that is aggravated by exercise, yet she perseveres and has been a key factor in the team’s pursuit of success. She never complains and always has a contagious smile on her face. Devyn always finds the positivity in everyone and everything.

Brodie Schmidt

Brodie is a leader in every sense of the word. An honour student for four years, Brodie also shines as co-president of the Student Council, a Leadership Camp Committee member, a student-representative on the School Community Council, and a phenomenal athlete in rugby, rowing, and swimming. Brodie has an active life outside of school. She plays provincial rugby and was invited to attend the National Women’s U18 Rugby camp. She also has two jobs, and volunteers hundreds of hours. What sets Brodie even further apart from her peers is the personal character she consistently exhibits; she is genuinely kind, respectful, and reliable.
John arrived at Dunbarton in September 2012. John is legally blind and has severe short term memory loss causing an inability for him to remember. He has a love of music and wanted to take part in the music department at Dunbarton. Due to his special needs, he was not able to read music and he would not be able to learn music theory, but John just wanted the opportunity to play. Now in his fourth year at Dunbarton, John has taken 10 music courses. He achieves full credits in all music courses performing at or above the expected level. He has great positive energy and an infectious personality, and is truly an exceptional student.

Alexandra is a multi-talented, spirited, dependable, responsible and caring student, leader and athlete who has persevered through many challenges and achieved success in many domains. As Leadership camp chairperson, she designed, developed and implemented a four-day leadership camp for 130 of her peers. She has chaired and worked on countless student council events throughout her time at Dunbarton, Alex is a talented and dedicated athlete who played basketball, volleyball, soccer and track. She has performed as the lead in the musicals The “Cat in the Hat” and “Guys & Dolls.” Alex is a confident, articulate and reliable young woman who should be proud of her accomplishments at Dunbarton.

David came to Dunbarton in his grade 11 year. Staff remember David’s arrival at Dunbarton coincided with the grade nine orientation. Even though this was his first day at Dunbarton, he immediately offered his assistance. This example of leadership and willingness to assist with everything has defined David’s time at Dunbarton High School. He has been part of the leadership camp committee, joined the Student Association, and worked tirelessly with the mentorship program, a program that assists students in making proper choices and making friends. Moving to a new school is difficult for all students. David embraced this change and has been a great leader in school. He is currently one of the co-presidents of the Student Advisory Council.
Armand Ali
Armand is a grade 12 student who has worked diligently to be successful. Armand’s artistic talents and passion for art has helped him develop strategies to overcome the challenges he has faced both academically and socially. Armand was a leader for Student Voice and was influential with his peers in presenting ideas to support youth and transitions. Armand has worked towards his goal of attending post secondary school with determination while developing his skills as an effective self-advocate. He looks forward to attending Durham College in the fine arts field.

Chris Graham
Chris loves learning and sharing ideas with others. He now seeks the long term value of knowledge and being part of the process of learning. He was nominated by staff in recognition of his maturity and the manner in which he has shown ownership for his education and his actions. He is confident, proud of himself and willing to take on future challenges. He continues to show strong support for others who are often seen as outsiders and never judges them for their individuality. He celebrates the variety of people who make up the school community valuing each person’s contribution.

Colin Steele
Colin is a grade 10 student who has recently experienced many transitions that could be difficult for a young person his age. Nevertheless, Colin is an excellent role model to his peers. Despite challenges stemming from his neurodevelopmental condition, Colin strives to maintain excellent academic work skills and behaviour management skills. In his integration classes, he has one of the highest grades. He has made friendships with others and helps his peers with creative projects. Colin is a member of a band and manages a busy practice schedule. Every day, Colin demonstrates to his peers that they too can be involved in school, excel academically and have a positive attitude.
Douglas Forsyth

Douglas is a student who has overcome his own academic challenges to obtain his Ontario Secondary School Diploma. He is in his final years at Pine Ridge preparing for the college application process. He also works to raise the necessary funds to go to college. This semester, Douglas has been volunteering in the Practical Learning Program classroom for two periods every day. He often even stays to help out at lunch. He is kind and caring and sets a good example for the students with special needs with whom he works.

Matt Lescano

Matt immigrated to Canada from the Philippines and integrated into Canadian life only a few years ago. Despite the many challenges that come with learning a new language and culture, Matt was able to excel in his studies. This year, he is in our musical, “Les Misérables.” He has a gentle spirit and a kind soul. While he has been at Pine Ridge, his average has consistently been in the high 90’s. Matt has been a champion for all kids from all backgrounds at Pine Ridge.

Sydney Van Sickle

Sydney exemplifies student leadership in school, the community, and globally. She understands what giving back is all about. As a student leader at Pine Ridge, she has worked to develop leadership skills in her peers. In the community, Sydney volunteers on an ongoing basis with Sunrise, an organization for youth with developmental challenges. Sydney has also worked globally as a leader volunteering her time in Thailand to teach English. She is an honour roll student with ambition and drive for helping people from all walks of life.
AJAX
HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Andrea Pemberton
Vice Principals: Basil Broumeriotis & Monique Muller-Law
School Community Council Chairperson: Carolann Bell Prue

Eden Mekbib

Eden has demonstrated a commitment to excellence throughout the Ajax High School community. Although she has experienced great personal struggles, she illustrates incredible levels of resilience by achieving outstanding academic successes. She is very passionate about business and is a member of Demonstrating Excellence Celebrating Achievement (DECA), Me to We, and is a co-founder of the Young Entrepreneurial Society (YES). She has volunteered extensively at the Durham West Arts Centre, exceeding well beyond the minimum number of required community service hours.

Tyler Munro

Tyler represents the spirit of athletics and academics at Ajax High School. He is a member of our senior hockey and football teams. He has overcome incredible personal tragedy in the past year. In the community, he also plays in the Ontario Varsity Football League (OVFL) and AA hockey for Ajax. Tyler maintains a part-time job and has more than tripled the requirement for community service hours by volunteering at hockey camps teaching children and youth how to shoot, pass, and skate. He hopes to pursue a potential opportunity in the United States, all while maintaining a high level of academic standing.

Emily Ritchie

Emily exemplifies Ajax High School’s mission statement of inspiring passion for learning. She consistently demonstrates her commitment to learning and excelling. She is an authentic, polite, creative young woman who has a passion for the arts. Despite personal mental health struggles, Emily continues to persevere and amaze. She maintains a strong academic standing, she does community volunteer work with animals, and is an avid hockey player. She is also an active member of our visual arts program and continues to express herself through various art forms.
Mitchell Daniels

Mitchell is a grade 12 student at J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate in the special education program. Mitchell has entertained students, staff, and the community with his exceptional musical voice for many years, including playing lead roles in the school musical, performing at Richardson’s Intergenerational nights and community events, Mitchell has overcome obstacles and has done so with his driven, committed personality. He continues to inspire to achieve academic success working towards his diploma, completing the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) component all the while not allowing his learning exceptionality to get in the way. He is truly a passionate student who ignites greatness and music in all of us.

Davina Mukinav

Davina arrived at J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate halfway through her grade 9 year, after her family moved to Canada from South Africa. Since her arrival, she has excelled academically and is resilient in the face of any barrier. She stood out as a leader in a Summer Mentorship Program for black female students pursuing the field of medicine. At school, she has been an integral member in the “Cultures of Richardson” student group. In addition to other school events and activities such as volunteering for the Settlement Worker Program, her passion and ability to overcome obstacles are truly an inspiration.

Zain Zahid

Zain is a passionate student who has gone to great lengths to help make J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate a safe and engaging school community. Zain has been a very active member of several student leadership groups, including DECA, Student Council and the school leadership class. Zain is a driven student who has met challenges with integrity and determination and has persevered through many obstacles that have been thrown his way. He has helped bring the Youth in Policing Initiative to the student population and has been a role model and mentor for younger students wishing to make a difference within our community. Zain holds himself to a high standard academically and is well respected by students and teachers alike.
Ameer Khan
Ameer has obtained the highest proficiency in the transportation technology course in grade 12 of semester one. He has been involved with various clubs in the school such as the electric car cub and robotics club. He has a great passion for cars and is always tinkering and applying some sort of modification on his car. Ameer has shown a great deal of knowledge when it comes to Ohm’s Law Theory and practical work on electrical systems. He is currently practicing for the Durham Skills Competition taking place at Loyalist College in Belleville. He always shows a great attitude in the classroom as well as a great work ethic.

Hassan Maghrabi
Hassan is a grade 12 student at Pickering High School in the Practical Learning Program (PLP). Hassan has worked diligently throughout his high school experience. He has contributed to the school culture through his work as the senior boys’ basketball team manager. His dedication and support have been a great asset to the program. Hassan has also worked toward valuable employability skills through his involvement in the co-op program. As a result of this, he now works part time at the McLean Community Centre in Ajax.

Colton Yeoman
Colton’s perseverance and desire for a high school diploma is evident. Colton has faced many obstacles over his young life including the passing of his mother and grandmother. When Colton moved to a new school, the transition affected his life. After the adjustment, Colton realized that his future lies in completing an electrician apprenticeship. Despite the challenges Colton has faced, he has never allowed his determination or resilience to waiver. His remarkable persistence deserves to be recognized.
Jaire Bernard

Jaire is graduating from the Anderson CVI's Multiple Exceptionalities program this year with his Ontario Secondary School Diploma and is planning on attending the Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) program at Durham College in the fall. Jaire is a student with autism who over the past five years has left his mark as an athlete in our building. As a member of the senior boys' basketball team, Jaire has represented Raider Nation on the court not only during the regular season, but during the annual Rivalry Week competition. This past year was Jaire's best basketball season; he finished with 16 points, 14 rebounds and a LOSSA silver medal. Jaire is an inspiration to all!

Kiana McDowell

Kiana's success has come from a true understanding of herself and her ability to self-regulate in order to move forward at school. Over the four years Kiana has been at Anderson, there has been an amazing transformation in her. Kiana found her niche in the student success classes and cooperative education program. Her attitude towards school improved to such an extent that staff wholeheartedly supported her move into the Centre for Success program at Durham College where she could have the opportunity to graduate on time with her peers. Staff are very proud of Kiana and her new outlook, not only herself, but on her future.

Wafa Wasif

Wafa is a very special part of Anderson's grade 9 gifted class. Anderson is proud to nominate her as someone who exemplifies perseverance. Wafa was unable to attend the majority of her grade eight year because of her battle with cancer. She began grade 9 with large gaps in her learning that she very quickly overcame. As a survivor, Wafa has a broader perspective on the world around her and the importance of determination. She always comes to school with a positive attitude and outlook on the day. We see a great future for her and are proud to have her as a member of Raider Nation.
Carter Brownlee

Carter has made significant exceptional contributions to Brooklin High School and the Home of the Bears in a student leadership role, ensuring that an inclusive and caring community was developed during the inaugural school year. Despite obstacles, Carter is a Peer Helper and a member of the Student Leadership and Mentoring Program. He lead Black History Month initiatives, is a lead in the Student Parliament and a member of the Model United Nations club. Carter has two part-time jobs and volunteered in the most recent election, all while maintaining tremendous academic standards.

Emily Williamson

Emily has made exceptional contributions to Brooklin High School and the Home of the Bears, while overcoming personal obstacles to achieve academic and personal success. Emily's academic achievements have been remarkable, progressing from not attending school to being a student leader and peer tutor. She has assisted with the Bears Wear Pink Shirt Day campaign, was integral in coordinating the holiday food drive, and lead a design project decorating the new bulletin boards throughout the school. In the community, Emily volunteers with Scouts Canada and her future goals include working with people in a helping capacity.

Emory Wynn

Emory has made significant exceptional contributions to the Bears’ Arts Department and Brooklin High School, helping to develop a positive school culture. Emory participates as a leader in our Student Leadership and Mentoring Program and is also a Peer Tutor. Emory has a passion for music and is an active contributing member of the Bears’ Music Council, and an integral part of our concert band and jazz band, Prospect Park. He is an extremely talented dancer and member of the Bears’ Dance Club. Emory also volunteers at a local elementary school as he understands the importance of giving back to his community.
DONALD A. WILSON SECONDARY SCHOOL

Principal: Stephen Nevills
Vice Principals: Ann Armstrong & Andrew Lue
School Community Council Chairperson: Sandra Leith

Meaghan Doyle

Meaghan has volunteered countless hours to the Donald A. Wilson Secondary School community as a leader through the Student, Leader, Advisor and Mentor (SLAM) program, the Wilson Leadership Camp, Student Body Prime Minister 2015-16, Relay for Life, Special Olympics, Football for the Cure, Me to We, and We Scare Hunger food drive. She is passionate about her work with students with special needs at Wilson, Meaghan is involved in extra-curriculars including rugby, lacrosse, art, and theatrical productions. She has received a number of academic awards while juggling two part-time jobs, and recovering from a serious concussion which she suffered in 2014. Meaghan manages everything with a caring disposition and a commitment to helping others.

Liam Price

With an average of over 95 per cent, Liam has been actively involved in the Wilson ski, rugby, cross country, and squash teams, and shows extensive leadership with the Student, Leader, Advisor and Mentor (SLAM) program and Relay for Life. Liam consistently gives his time to assist others and has been instrumental in ensuring a safe and supportive environment, specifically for the students in our Practical Learning Program (PLP) classes where he has been a lunchroom supervisor since grade 10. Liam has more than 500 hours volunteering in a variety of Whitby day camps and recently completed the Youth in Policing program, receiving The Future ACES Award for his outstanding leadership skills. Liam has a way of making those around him feel valued, and is highly respected at Wilson.

Trisha Snow

Trisha has supported Wilson's special education department for the past three years as a lunchroom supervisor, co-operative education student and peer helper. Her passion for helping others and concern for her peers has been appreciated by the teaching staff and educational assistants in our Practical Learning Program (PLP). Trisha is a creative and passionate individual who has developed into a self-confident, reliable, and nurturing member of the Wilson community. She is a positive role model for all Wilson students and is a constant example of how a single student can positively influence school climate.
HENRY STREET
HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Chrystal Bryan
Vice Principals: Andrew Carnovale and Jackie Williams-Leacock
School Community Council Co-Chairpersons: Sue Grech & Carol Smith

Samer Mokhtar
Samer is a grade 11 student and a member of Leadership Council, Student Council Co-President and is also a Safe School Ambassador. Samer is always among the first students to lead or participate in any leadership activity or school initiative. This year, Samer represented the student body at School Community Council meetings, participated in organizing Hey Days, Pink Shirt Day activities, and represented Henry Street High School as a Safe School Ambassador at the DDSB Standing Committee meeting. Samer demonstrates his commitment to student leadership while maintaining his excellent academic achievement as an honour roll student.

Reece Themen
Reece is a grade 12 student who is hard working, conscientious, committed and mature beyond words. He works well alone and with others; he is an excellent collaborator and leader. His masterful dedication to music and performance has allowed him to maintain his own high standards. Despite hardship in his family, Reece continues to mature. Overall, his positivity, resolution, strength, willingness and eagerness attribute to his wonderful character. He leaves judgment at the door and encourages others to achieve. Reece is a pleasure to teach and is an outstanding member of the Henry Street High School community.

Danielle Thom
Danielle is an incredibly creative, reliable, student who leads her peers with compassion and kindness. Not only is Danielle the president of Henry Street's leadership council, but she is also an active member of the choir, the Safe Schools Ambassador Program, and an avid soccer player. Danielle’s maturity is beyond her years. She is mentor to many students with special needs as she works with them in the school’s store. She is a humble soul who puts the needs of others in front of her own, while still managing to meet all of her personal and educational goals.
Sara Beech
Sara overcame shyness and humility to produce, edit, and appear in eight student parliament videos for the school website. Her duties were to collect consent forms from participants, organize interview times and locations as well as produce and edit the videos for the website. At first, she was camera-shy but she stepped up to interview the student parliament representatives and did a great job. Each video represents the effort and coordination of many people and dozens of hours of work. The student-produced website videos help students and parents select courses, choose a club, and learn about machine safety. Sara is also involved with student parliament and musical theatre.

Derek Manderson
In his early years at Sinclair Secondary School, Derek had strengths in academics, but wasn’t actively involved in extracurricular life. In Grade 11, he was persuaded to audition for the play, “Inherit the Wind.” After earning a part in this production, Derek’s untapped natural leadership skills were set free. Derek has since been involved in several dramatic productions. He has become a true leader and role model. His calm attitude, creative ideas, reliability and positive personality have been essential. Derek has proven to others, and finally himself, that he is a leader, all leading to his early acceptance into concurrent education at a prestigious university.

Alissa Sallans
Alissa’s passion for volunteering, the environment and serving her community is remarkable. Alissa formed the Environment Council, organized community clean up, attended climate change summits, ran recycling drives, awareness initiatives, terracycle pickups, and reusable bottle sale. She has been a member of anti-bullying teams, philanthropic clubs, and Model United Nations. Alissa has volunteered in a community garden, Girl Guides, YMCA, library, been a kindergymnastics instructor, and a mentor for children to boost their literacy skills and self-confidence. She has visited Nunavut and Antarctica, been a camp leader in both English and French, while maintaining honour roll marks.
Congratulations to all of our honourees!

We would like to extend special thanks to:

Rob Isabella, Arts Department Head and the
Eastdale Intermediate Concert Band, prelude in the Auditorium

Food School Coordinator, Jade Tran and the students and staff from
the Culinary Arts Program at Eastdale CVI
for preparation of the refreshments.

Audio/Visual Tech Support
Students: Lawrence Bruusgaard, Phil Carr and Evan McMartin

Organizing Committee
Principal Maharaj & Vice Principal Dicks, Eastdale CVI
Andrea Pidwerbecki, Terri-Lee Sanford, Charles Senior
and Student Intern, Justin Stewart
Communications Department, Education Centre

Thank you for joining us!