

Maple High School

*"Working Together toward Student Success"
"Home of the Timber Wolves"*

Mr. J. Tsourounis, Principal
Ms L. Agard, Vice Principal
Mr. J. Perri, Vice Principal

Newsletter - Issue #1 - November 2008

Principal's Message

Hello Maple Community,

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIOR BOYS' SOCCER TEAM AND OUR BOYS' CRICKET TEAM – BOTH YORK REGION CHAMPIONS -- THANKS TO OUR COACHES – MR. COZZETTO, MR. DREKOLIAS AND MR. FOGG.

We have many committed coaches and players here at the school. Sport helps to build character, perseverance, and cooperation. I am glad to see the variety of team sports offered to our students. Volleyball, basketball, and wrestling seasons are starting. Thanks to our football team and their coaches Mr. Rodrigues and Mr. Liaw for another season of hard work and effort. Thank you Cheerleaders for your continued support and to their coaches Ms. Giffen, and Ms. Brown.

We are rapidly approaching mid-semester. Now is the time for students to increase their intensity level and strive to reach the academic goals that they have set for themselves. Academic Excellence is part of our culture now here at Maple High School, and I will be sharing with you in December how many students will be on the Honour Roll and the Principal's Honour Roll this year. We will be setting up a new display in our front hall to put student names up for all to see.

November is a very busy month as well. November 5th will be "Take our Kids to Work" day for the grade nines, as well as a day for our grade eight feeder schools to visit. In addition, the Guidance Department will be doing a Post Secondary Information Fair in the afternoon. November 6th at 7:00p.m., we will be holding our awards' night for grades 9, 10 and 11. Report Cards will be available on Monday November the 17th. Make sure that you take the time to sit down with your son or daughter and discuss their results and strategies for improvement and continued success. The Semi Formal this year will be on November 27th. Maple students have always displayed maturity and respect at these out of school events. We always are complimented by the staff that is supervising these events. Keep up the great tradition !!!

If you haven't gotten yourself on the e mail list, please do. Mr. Perri one of our vice-principals e mails a newsletter weekly. He can also include your son/daughter's attendance for the week. This is a great way to stay in touch, and to know if there is an attendance problem. Attendance is a critical component to academic success. If you would like to be included, just send us your e mail by calling the school or e mailing it to the school -- maple.hs@yrdsb.edu.on.ca --- we would be glad to add you to our list.

If you have any other concerns or comments, please feel free to e mail or call the school at any time. We are very committed here at Maple High School to always work together with the community. Our website address is: Please visit regularly !!!

<http://www.maple.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/>

Sincerely,
John G. Tsourounis
Principal
MAPLE HIGH SCHOOL

Guidance and Career Education

Maple's annual **Post-secondary Fair** took place on November 5 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Grade 11 and 12 students were dismissed at 1:55 to enable them to meet with representatives from colleges, universities, trade unions and private colleges. Students attended two half-hour sessions with any two of the representatives between 2:00 and 3:00 and then visited the representatives in the assigned classrooms to ask specific questions between 3:00 and 4:00. We encouraged students to take this opportunity to research their desired post-secondary destination, and we welcomed parents who were interested in joining us on that day as well.

Information is also available to students in the Maple High School Guidance and Career Education department in the following areas:

Apprenticeship – Canada is experiencing a severe shortage of skilled trades people and the average age in the skilled trades is over 50. In the area of carpentry alone, the Carpenters' Union in Toronto has estimated that they will need to hire 300-400 new apprentice carpenters each year in the next 8 to 10 years, just to keep the levels of available carpenters constant. Students interested in becoming an apprentice have over 150 apprenticable trades to choose from in four sectors: Construction Sector, for example Brick and Stone Mason, Plumber, or Steam Fitter; Industrial Sector, for example Industrial Electrician, Tool and Die Maker, or Welder Fitter; Motive Power Sector, for example Motorcycle Mechanic, Auto Body Repairer or Transmission Technician; and Service Sector, for example Network Cabling Specialist, Early Child Educator or Hairstylist. It is possible to become an apprentice while still attending high school through the Accelerated Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). Students interested in looking at an apprenticeship as a possible career direction should speak with their Guidance Counsellor and make an appointment with the Co-operative Education Department Head.

College and University – Many of our Grade 12 students are gearing up to apply to Ontario's colleges and universities. **The deadline for applying to college programs is February 2, 2009 and the deadline for applying to university programs is January 14, 2009. All applications must be submitted on-line.** Grade 12 students wishing to apply may want to plan to attend an **application workshop** which will be planned for mid November during lunch periods and after school to learn how to apply on line. Students should listen for announcements for the dates and times of the workshops.

Information is also available in the Guidance Office for students in other grades to look through. It is valuable for students to have some post-secondary direction ideas before choosing courses for the following years because many college and university courses have specific requirements for entry. Students have many options for the "route" they choose to get to a specific goal. For example, a student who is interested in achieving a Bachelor of Social Work degree has the following three available routes to that goal, all achievable in four years: apply to York University for direct first year entry into the Social Work degree program; or apply to the Seneca College 2-year Social Service Worker diploma program, and upon completion, apply to transfer to the third year of the four year Social Work degree program at Ryerson University; or apply to the University of Guelph Humber (located on the Humber College campus on Highway 27) in the Family and Community Social Services program and gain a Bachelor of Applied Science in Family and Community Social Services and a diploma in Social Service Work in four years. Students are encouraged to begin to

research career ideas using the resources available and the Internet.

The Guidance Counsellors are also available to speak with students about Community Involvement, course selection and any other issues they may be dealing with. Mr. Weinstock counsels A-Dh; Mr. Reid counsels Di-Mor; Mrs. Brown counsels Mos-Son; and Mrs. Pittiglio counsels Spa-Z.

Check out the Guidance and Career Education Department webpage at www.maple.hs.edu.on.ca ⇒ Guidance (under Current Information on the front page).

Music Notes



As always, the Music department has been very busy this semester. Field trips included the opportunity to hear the Toronto Symphony Orchestra at Roy Thomson Hall and a trip to Markham Theatre to hear the Ontario Provincial Honour Band. This year Maple was represented by two talented musicians in this audition only ensemble, Matt Di Cesare on percussion and Matt Della Pia on alto saxophone. We are very proud of their accomplishments.

Music night is early this year so save the date. Thursday, December 4th is our annual Winterlude concert and you are all invited to hear your children play and sing. The show begins at 7:00pm and tickets can be purchased in advance from your child's teacher or at the door. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students.

We thank you all for supporting the hard work of the Music students at Maple High and we look forward to seeing you at Winterlude.

Sincerely,

Ms. C. Wilson and Mr. J. Taylor



Library News

Another enthusiastic year is underway in our school library. We have provided an orientation session to grade 9 students on the first day of school so that they would feel welcome and familiar with the environment. We have added a 21st computer to the class lab area of the library. We are continuing to add to our print and electronic resources so that they will be current and relevant to both curricular needs and student interest. At this point we have already booked 127 classes of varying grades and subject areas with many more booked throughout the semester. Our school library is

also very busy through the day and during all lunch periods for students to sign out materials and to complete school work. Due to the large number of students and classes using the library, we are reminding everyone to *please leave bags and backpacks in lockers*. We also have a beautiful new library page. Check it via our school site: <http://www.maple.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/index1.htm>. Wishing everyone a great semester!

N. Sturino (teacher-librarian)
Maple HS

The Visual Arts Scene

We are well into the start of Semester One here in the Visual Arts Department and lots of great projects are underway. The Gr. 10 Visual Arts class has made some fierce looking gargoyles for the unit on Medieval Art. The Grade 11's are doing realistic food illustrations and students in the Gr. 11 Digital Photography class are capturing photographs of found objects or environmental structures that can be used to spell the letters in their names. In October, Grade 10 Photography classes participated in a field trip to the B.C.E Place in Toronto to view the World Press Photographic Exhibit. They also enjoyed a photo shoot at the Brick Works and the Distillery District, putting their camera skills to the test. There is also an Art Club running on Wednesday's after school. If you are interested in creating some artworks for the school, please join us in Room 207.

Have you ever thought about travelling the world? Well here's a place to start.....The Visual Arts Department and the International Languages Department are putting together a proposal to travel on March Break, 2010 to London, Paris and Barcelona (pending School Board Approval). Stay tuned for announcements in the New Year.

Last but not least, the annual Winter Arts Night is scheduled for Thursday, December 4th. Come out and enjoy a display of student art works and a great night of music.

Maple School of Business

GRADE 8'S VISIT MAPLE

On Wednesday, November 5th, Maple High School was buzzing with the presence of Grade 8 students from our feeder schools. In Business, they experienced creating their first professional document on computers. They seem eager to explore the many opportunities that Maple has to offer in the area of business throughout

their high school career. They were excited to learn that not only can they walk away with their O.S.S.G.D. by the end of Grade 12, but also a Business Certificate as well upon the completion of only five business courses. Welcome Grade 8's and we look forward to seeing you in September 2009!

CLASSROOM NEWS

Students in the **Grade 10 Introduction to Business** classes have been exposed to various aspects of business, including corporate social responsibility, the concept of supply and demand, types of businesses, the production process, human resources and management, and most recently marketing, where they have been working on branding, slogans and logos. This course represents a cornerstone of our business department as it acts as a springboard to the more specialized senior courses.

The **Grade 11 Accounting** students are proud to be embarking on a career path that will open many doors for them as they develop a strong foundation in the field of accounting. Guest speakers from The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, The Certified General Accountants of Ontario, Certified Management Accountants, and Canada Revenue Agency have been informative in their presentations to our students. They have enlightened the students on the broad specializations within the field of accounting; dispelling the myth that accountants are just "bean counters".

The **Grade 12 International Business** students have been busy learning about world commodities, booming areas of the globe such as Dubai, while understanding global politics. In the coming weeks, the students will be engaged in understanding world organizations, international business trends, and will convert the class into an international, cultural, extravaganza.

MAPLE DECA DOES IT AGAIN!

Once again, the DECA Club at Maple High School has made the school and our community proud. For the third year in a row Maple has hosted the Deca Regional Competition.

On November 1st, Maple hosted 420 students from across York Region in the public, separate, and private school systems. The students came dressed as young aspiring business professionals to show off their creative abilities as they presented solutions to real-life business problems to judges from different areas of business.

This competition was a mandatory qualifier for the Provincial Competition which will take place in downtown Toronto in February 2009. We are proud to announce that 35 of our DECA members will represent Maple High School at this renowned annual event.

Honorable guests were on hand to congratulate the students on a great day of competition. Mayor Linda Jackson addressed the students on “*Dreaming Big*” and to continue their drive for success. Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio also spoke to the students about the importance of serving the community through volunteer efforts and the recognition businesses give to those students that show such citizenship. She praised our Maple DECA students for this tremendous undertaking.

Maple would like to thank our local businesses for their generous donations to the event. Thank you to Tim Hortons, Longo's, Ital Vera Pizza, Toppers Pizza, Backerhaus Veit, Sicilia Bakery, Gourmet Coffee, and TARI.

What's happening in French class!!

En 12ième année....

On December 4th, the grade 12 French students will be visiting the R.O.M. to receive instruction and lab guidance entirely in French. One of the R.O.M.'s bilingual instructors will talk to us about the importance of the written word in Ancient Egypt. This activity blends well with the study of Champollion, one of Napoleon's men who deciphered the hieroglyphs. The beauty is that students will produce a write-up of the information presented and hand it in on December 5th. Quelle joie de vivre!!!!

En 11ième année...

The Grade 11 French students are working on a number of different assignments at this time. First, they are creating presentations on “*Le fantôme de l'opéra*”, then they are working on *ET Maple* (similar to *ET Canada*) and then they will be constructing magazines. Juste un peu occupé, eh?

En 10ième année...

Madame Jamal's grade 10 students are writing and producing their own songs as a method of consolidating grammar and vocabulary. Students have incorporated R and B, Rap and ethnic sounds into their presentations.

En 9ième année...

The grade 9 Applied French, students are heavily involved with Food in the Unit 2 of “*Quoi de Neuf*”. They will be discussing food preparation and favourite food items in some detail. Wonder if this unit will have them gaining weight. Better call Jenny....

In grade 9 Academic French, students have just started the Monster unit. Look for home-made monster posters

and frightening costumes in the hallways surrounding the French rooms. It's the Maple version of “Screamers”.

MAPLE FOOTBALL

Congratulations to all the boys who played on Maple's Football Team this year. They had a challenging season having to play against very experienced and difficult opponents, including some of the best in the province. While the team did not win a game, the players did get to experience the very demanding sport of football. They also managed to learn and grow a great deal, and, have fun in the process. Playing on a team that faces difficult game after difficult game can be a great life lesson in dealing with adversity. When you see a Maple Football Player, congratulate him for the tenacity, the commitment, and the character he displayed in sticking with it and never giving up. Well done, boys!

Cooperative Education Information and Regional Co-op Opportunities

Cooperative Education is an experiential method of learning that gives students an opportunity to work outside the school while earning secondary school credits. Cooperative Education combines a **subject studied in school** (one credit) **with a job placement out of school** (2 to 4 credits). For example, if a student has taken or is taking grade 11 or 12 U/C biology, she/he may then work in a biology related career, such as a hospital or vet clinic, earning 2 biology co-op credits for the semester. Cooperative Education allows students to explore a career of interest, develop job skills, obtain career related practical experience, gather references for a resume and develop attitudes necessary for success in the workplace.

Cooperative Education placements are possible for most grade 11 and 12 courses and packages may be assembled for students to earn 2 to 4 credits. Most senior level courses can be attached to a Cooperative Education program. Enrolment is limited by the number of appropriate work placements.

Students must be 16 years of age and have earned 16 credits to enroll and participate in the Cooperative Education program.

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)

The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) is described in the York Region District School Board calendar. This program is designed for students who wish to pursue a skilled trade while meeting the academic requirements to graduate secondary school. Students may enroll in OYAP in grade 11 and may

continue with OYAP in grade 12. Enrolment is limited by the availability of employers willing to take on apprenticeship trainees.

Accelerated OYAP

This co-op program is offered to students in their last year of secondary school who have acquired at least 26 of the 30 credits required to graduate high school. Students work in a skilled trade while obtaining their level 1 apprenticeship certification in the skilled trade at a designated college. Students who are highly focused and are able to complete the secondary school co-op requirements in conjunction with the college requirements may benefit from these reach-ahead opportunities. Students must be in good academic standing and have excellent attendance and punctuality to be considered.

Regional Cooperative Education Programs

Militia Co-op

Students may earn up to 4 secondary school credits in semester 2 with successful completion in this co-op program. To enroll students must be in good academic standing, have excellent attendance and punctuality and not have a criminal record. Students become active members of the Canadian Armed Forces and receive their basic training in Aurora at the Aurora Armories. Students receive a salary, plus 4 high school credits and have the opportunity to enlist either full-time or stay on as a summer recruit in the Armed Forces. Students must be in excellent physical condition to be successful in this program.

International Co-op (ICE)

Students travel to and live in Ecuador for 3½ months in semester 2, where they live with a host family and work as a Cooperative Education student in a related field of their interest in agriculture, education, health care, small business or social work. Students earn 6 credits for the

semester, four of which are 12U credits, which may be used in their application to university. The cost for this program is approximately \$5200, much of which is raised through fund raising opportunities by the students before they leave for Ecuador in March.

Summer School Co-op

This co-op program is designed for students who are unable to fit the regular full semester co-op into their timetable or for students who require one last credit to graduate high school. Students work for 4 weeks over the summer to obtain valuable work experience while earning 1 high school credit.

Note: For the summer of 2009, YRDSB is offering Summer School International Co-op in Ecuador. This unique opportunity is being offered to grade 10 students who have an interest in traveling and working in Ecuador for the summer.

Please see the Cooperative Education department head for information regarding the International Cooperative Education (ICE) program, the Militia co-op program and summer school co-op opportunities.

For each of the programs listed above, a Cooperative Education application form must be submitted with 3 teacher references, the course must be listed on the student's course selection sheet and then an interview will be conducted. Upon acceptance into the co-op program, students will be required to purchase a course pack for a fee of \$8.00.

Contact the coordinator of Community Based Education in room 128 or call 905-417-9444 to enquire about Cooperative Education or any of the related regional co-op opportunities.

Maple High School - 2008/2009 Dates to Remember

November 17, 2008	Report Cards Issued
November 18/19/20, 2008	Fall Comedy Festival
November 21, 2008	Club Photo Picture Day
November 26, 2008	School Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
November 27, 2008	Semi Formal
November 28, 2008	P.A. Day
December 4, 2008	Music/Art Night
December 8 -17, 2008	GRAD Photos
December 9, 2008	Eid-UI-Adha
December 11, 2008	Fall Comedy Festival Final
December 19, 2008	Frostfest
December 22 to January 2, 2009	Winter Holiday
January 7, 2009	Christmas (Eastern)
January 8 – 23, 2009	EQAO - Grade 9 Math Assessment
January 14, 2009	Grade 8 Information Night – 7:00 pm
January 21, 2009	School Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
January 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 2009	Final Examinations
January 26, 2009	Lunar New Year
January 26, 2009	Instructional Day
January 30, 2009	P.A. Day
February 2, 2009	First Day of 2 nd Semester
February 9, 2009	Report Cards Issued
February 16, 2009	Family Day
February 24, 25, 26	Sears Drama Festival
February 19, 2009	School Dance
March 9 – 13, 2009	Interim Reports Issued
March 16 – 20, 2009 (inclusive)	March Break
April 1, 2009	Parents' Night
April 2, 2009	Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
April 9, 2009	Passover
April 10, 2009	Good Friday
April 13, 2009	Easter Monday
April 14, 2009	2 nd half of Semester begins
April 14, 2009	Baisakhi
April 17, 2009	Holy Friday (Eastern Orthodox)
April 21, 2009	Report Cards Issued
April 21, 2009	Ridvan
April 24/25, 2009	30 Hour Famine
May 2, 2009	BLITS '09
May 18, 2009	Victoria Day
May 19, 2009	Blood Donor Clinic
May 26, 27, 28	Spring Drama Production

