



# SPARTAN SPEAKS | JUNE 2020

## Principal's Message

Hello Lorne Park Families,

As I was planning my June letter this year, I looked back at my letter from June of 2019 and the contrast between what we as a school experienced this year in comparison to what we experienced last year was in stark contrast. Last year I spoke at length about our students' extensive accomplishments in academics, leadership, athletics, and the arts: international leadership awards, a national championship in programming, over 200 athletes to OFSAA, a school play, international travel, and various other honours. That's not to say that we didn't enjoy many successes this year in academics, leadership, athletics, and the arts. We absolutely did. But our greatest achievement this year has been our ability to come together as a school community of students, parents, teachers, support staff, and volunteers to make the best of a very difficult year that was challenged by difficult labour negotiations and the COVID-19 Pandemic. Despite being pulled apart on March 13, we have managed to work together to continue our learning, our collaboration, and our celebration of all the great things that make Lorne Park Secondary School such a tremendous community. Thank you for your resilience, patience, and problem solving throughout this year.

None of us know yet what September will look like. You will have seen in the news that Minister Lecce has called on school boards to prepare for three possible scenarios: full return to school, partial return to school, and continuation of distance learning. The Peel District School Board and our school staff will be working hard throughout the summer to shape these plans for our specific school needs and I look forward to sharing further details of this plan as we get closer to September. Please continue to monitor your email and our school website for further information.

I also want to acknowledge the importance of our new level of awareness of racism, and in particular anti-black racism, that has been elevated during this school year. We have all been challenged by the images of violence and racism in the news, but also the reports of racism in our own school board and in our school. Training on anti-racism and social justice is at the center of Lorne Park Secondary School's professional learning and school success plan and has been since I arrived here three and a half years ago. We have made excellent progress in building an equitable climate for learning. We will continue to maintain this focus and use recent events along with current research and writing about anti-black racism and other important social justice issues to strengthen our learning and actions in the coming year. Continued on Page2

For COVID 19 Information School Closure and Updates please check :

<https://twitter.com/peelschools> ; <http://www.peelschools.org> ; news media outlets i.e. CP24, 680 News



Our school has a couple of programming changes coming in September. First of all, we are sad to see our Enhanced Learning Program move to the Woodlands Secondary School. Our Enhanced students have made incredible contributions to our school over the years and have been an important part of our positive school culture. However, we are all very happy that many of these students have decided to stay with us at Lorne Park in the regular stream but with a gifted IEP.

We are excited to be welcoming a District Developmentally Delayed program to our school in September. We will have as many as 8 new students, 2 teachers, and 3 teaching assistants joining us for this program. Mr. Kelly as the lead teacher, and Ms. Vanstone as the head of special education have been very busy setting up this program and have some wonderful ideas for how our new students will be contributing to our school culture.

I have a few staffing announcements to share with you. We have some staff who are leaving Lorne Park at the end of June. Congratulations to Mr. Newhook in Guidance who has retired after a long and successful career as a guidance counselor. All the best the best to Mr. Newhook in retirement! A number of long-term occasional staff will also be leaving at the end of June and moving on to new roles in the fall. Thank you to these amazing teachers for their contributions to our school, and all the best to you in the future: Ms. Barai, Mr. Habete, Ms. Hosein, Mr. Kitchen, Ms. Lovekin, Mr. McAnally, and Mr. Merryweather.

Lorne Park also has a number of new staff who will be joining us in September. We welcome former LP student Ms. Shea who comes to us from Meadowvale Secondary School to teach in our Special Education department. We welcome Ms. Nassor who joins us from TL Kennedy to teach Law and Social Sciences. We welcome Mr. Iafrate who joins us from Port Credit Secondary School to teach Science. We welcome three new Teaching Assistants who are all coming to us from TL Kennedy to support our new District Developmentally Delayed program: Ms. Kowalishen, Ms. Milkowska, and Ms. Vaz.

The Board continues invest in the physical improvement of our school building. Many thanks to the Board, Trustee Brad MacDonald, the City of Mississauga, Counselor Ras, and the advocacy of LP parent Dr. DeAngelis who have led the reconstruction of our worn-out tennis courts into fresh new multi-sport courts. The courts look amazing and I hope that we will have access to these spaces soon. We are mid-way through the installation of a permanent outdoor sound system for our athletics field. We are looking forward to the completion of a large project to upgrade our girls change rooms over the summer. The plans for replacing our school windows is underway. Finally, we have installed an additional power winch in our front gymnasium which will improve the functionality of our gym and stage spaces for learning and school events.

A special thank you to Parent Council. Mrs. Hickman and the entire Council have been a tremendous support over the past year. They have worked collaboratively with me to problem solve a wide variety of challenges during both the labour negotiations and during the COVID 19 Pandemic. In addition to their feedback and support, they have managed to raise money for three Spartan Red outdoor tables that will be installed out front of Lorne Park this coming fall. They also managed to organize a virtual guest speaker event earlier this month which provided guidance to parents around communicating with their youth during this period of isolation. We are all very lucky to have their support.

We also had an incredible student council this year who provided strong leadership on behalf of the student body. Best wishes to our out-going president Callum Donnelly and the rest of the graduating members of the executive. We are all looking forward to electing the new executive team in September.

As well, all the best to our graduating class! What an incredible and unusual year to be completing your high school life. I am sorry that so many of the things that you were looking forward to this year did not happen as you expected they would. However, I know that you have learned many lessons about resilience, problem solving, and communication that will serve you well in the future. I have enjoyed hearing about your plans for next year, and I wish you the greatest success in your achievement of those goals. Please come by for a visit when you can.

All the best to everyone for a safe and happy summer. I am hopeful that we will be back together soon; ready to grow Lorne Park Secondary School's incredible tradition of excellence.

Craig Caslick  
Principal



### FROM LPSS DIVERSITY COUNCIL:

This summer, the Lorne Park Diversity Council invites you to learn with us. We want to deepen our understanding of the protests against white supremacy, systemic racism, and police brutality. We will start with these bestselling books:

- The Skin We're In: A Year of Black Resistance and Power by Desmond Cole
- Policing Black Lives: State Violence in Canada from Slavery to the Present by Robyn Maynard
- From the Ashes by Jesse Thistle
- How To Be an AntiRacist by Ibram X. Kendi
- So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
- White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo

We look forward to continuing our work in the upcoming school year. You can learn more about us by watching our keynote presentation at York University's Faculty of Summer Education Institute 2019. In it, we discussed our research on anti-Black racism in several Peel schools and offered recommendations for teachers and administrators. Search up "FESI 2019 - Student Panel - Aug 22, 2019" on Youtube.



**FROM GUIDANCE:** Grade 12 students who have not received an offer from a University may check <http://www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-101/ais/> for programs that are still available for September. College programs that are still available for September or January entry can be found on [ontariocolleges.ca](http://ontariocolleges.ca).

Summer School Walk-in Registration will not be available for Peel District School Board nor for Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board summer school. Dufferin Peel Catholic summer school registration forms can be submitted until noon on July 7. Parents and students are encouraged to continue exploring post-secondary programs, Secondary School graduation requirements and occupations using MyBlueprint Planner ([myblueprint.ca/peel](http://myblueprint.ca/peel)).

After much finessing to minimize conflicts and give as many students their first choice of courses, the school timetable has been set for next year. Students who have conflicting courses have been contacted by their counselor to resolve the conflict and build a workable timetable. Students may request a change to their timetable upon returning to school, but please recognize that course availability is limited and often requested changes cannot be implemented.



**MODEL UN:** Model UN UTMUN 2020 conference: In February, Lorne Park sent five students (Matthew DeFrancesco, Yusuf Al-Sharqui, Carmen Kossakowski, Noosha Aval and Yash Jain) to participate in Model United Nations at the University Of Toronto downtown and three of the five delegates won awards in their committees. Carmen Kossakowski and Matthew DeFrancesco both won honourable mentions and Noosha Aval won the position paper award. As a group, these five students managed to accomplish a first in the history of Model United Nations at Lorne Park, they won the best small delegation award. This is a massive achievement as there were many amazing schools and delegates attending the conference.



**FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION & STUDENT SUCCESS:** All students who currently receive accommodations and Special Education support are encouraged to visit the Transition Resource Guide for Post-Secondary Education: <https://www.transitionresourceguide.ca/>

This resource is a comprehensive guide to all of the available student services at Canadian Colleges and Universities.

Any graduating student who is in need of a copy of their Individual Education Plan (IEP) can email a request to [sarah.vanstone@peelsb.com](mailto:sarah.vanstone@peelsb.com)

The Special Education Department would like to acknowledge all of our ELP students who will be making the move over to The Woodlands, we wish you well!

Have a safe and restful summer, Spartans! The Academic Resource Room (rm 212) and the Contact Room (rm. 211) are eager to support your needs once we return to school!



### FROM LPSS LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS:

This year a new club was initiated through the library: The Forest of Reading, White Pine Awards Club. The White Pine Awards is a program run by the Ontario Library Association. Each year 10 books by Canadian authors are shortlisted for the prize. High school students from across Ontario have six months to read the books and then, if they read at least five of the nominees, they get to vote for the winning book. About 35 LPSS students joined the club and a number of staff stepped up to read the books shortlisted for this year's award. When it came to picking a winner, LPSS students were tied in their choice of best book, but they were on the right track as their two faves were chosen by Ontario students as best book and 2nd honourable mention. Ms. Anthon would like to thank the following staff members for supporting the White Pine Club by reading one (or several) of the books: Mr. Newhook, Ms. Shell, Ms. Rai, Ms. Lovekin, Ms. Zilkey, Ms. Faulkner, Ms. Vanstone, and Mr. Kern. To view the White Pine Awards - which had to go virtual this year - go to: <https://bit.ly/2AQ6loE> And check out the Forest of Reading's suggested summer reading lists (for readers of all ages) at <https://bit.ly/37NTc18>

In both 1st and 2nd semesters, the Library hosted guest author Mark Newman. Mark is an environmental and social activist and the author of the Sooper Yoooper series of picture books for children. During his presentation to the grade 9 Geography classes, he spoke about the issues of pollution and invasive species in the Great Lakes. Mark related his experiences in environmental and social activism to the grade 11 & 12 HSP, HSB, and TDJ classes, who were fascinated by his use of "subversive" billboards to educate the public. Mark's humour, energy, and passion for the environment engaged students of all grades. To learn more about Mark and his work, go to <http://sooperyooper.com/> And yes, sea lamprey pie is a real thing - although no one copied down the recipe....

Then in March, the school closed and everything changed. Luckily, we had already purchased an extensive nonfiction eBook collection (over 6000 titles!) that students were able to use for their research projects. We also started a Spartan LLC website where "library lessons" were posted to support students with their research from home. It's definitely a work-in-progress, but if you'd like to take a peek at it, go to <https://lpsslibrary.weebly.com/>

The Library Team - Mr. Huang, Ms. Alexeeva, and Ms. Anthon - would like to wish all the 2020 grads the best in their future endeavors, and hope that everyone has a relaxing summer. You deserve it!





**DECA:** This year, the DECA Team at LPSS really made a name for itself. DECA is a competition for business and entrepreneurship students whereby they compete (either individually or as a team) at a regional, provincial, and possibly international level. In total, 50 enthusiastic students joined the team, meeting twice a week for training and practice. Three students participated in the online Stock Market Game (placing in the top 300 out of 1200 teams) while the rest of the team participated in the main competition. The DECA competition consists of a written exam and a role play - the role play being a business case study in which students are given 10 minutes to study the case, decide upon a solution, and then present that solution to a judge. It is a very high-pressure competition that involves countless hours of studying, training, and preparation, and the LP team performed outstandingly this year!

In November, the team travelled to North Park S.S. to compete at the Regional level. Over 1900 Peel students attended the competition! Seventeen LP students brought home a total of 25 ribbons, with 33 of our team members qualifying to attend the Provincial competition. Special mention goes to Harshul Gupta, who placed Top 10 on his written exam, Top 10 on his role play, and Top 10 Overall in the Restaurant and Food Management event. Also to Crystal Zhang who placed Top 10 on her written exam, Top 10 for her role play, Top 10 overall, and ..... First Place in Peel in the Principals of Marketing event!

In February over 7600 students from across Ontario attended the DECA Provincial Championships in Toronto. Lorne Park's DECA Team sent 28 students to compete in 14 different events across a variety of marketing and entrepreneurship categories. Again, they had to write an exam and compete in one or two role play competitions. Five of our team members brought home a total of 8 awards:

Teya Plastich, Top 20 Role Play in Principals of Finance

Sydney Norrie, Top 20 Role Play and Top 10 Overall in Principals of Hospitality Tourism

Ethan Lumley, Top 18 Role Play in the Business Finance Series

Angela Su, Top 15 Written Exam in the Apparel and Accessories Marketing Series

Crystal Zhang achieved Top 20 on the Written Exam, Top 20 in the Role Play, and Top 20 Overall in her event, the Principals of Marketing. Way to go Crystal! You are going to be a force to be reckoned with over the next three years!

A big shout out goes to DECA Co-Presidents Andrew Zuhovs and Cooper Koreen, and their Executive for all their hard work and dedication to training the team this year. Also big thanks to Ms. Wasley, Ms. Zilkey, and Ms. Anthon. We could not have done it without you!



**FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL:** Three red picnic tables have been purchased as the Legacy Item for the Class of 2020, from our Legacy Funds and School Council Funds. These should be delivered in June and installed by next September. Thank you to all who donated!



**FROM ATHLETIC COUNCIL:** Congratulations to all our team award winners:

**Sr. Football: Offensive MVP** - Liam Bowman / **Defensive MVP** - Liam Jeewan / **Coaches Award** - Max Henry

**Jr. Football: Offensive MVP** - Josiah Nguyen / **Defensive MVP** - Meedo Hegazi / **Coaches Award** - Kyle Roach Marinaro

**Field Hockey: Jr. MVP** - Sophie Steele / **Sr. MVP** - Maddie Devoe / **Coaches Award** - Sarah Davies

**Girls Basketball: MVP** - Carmen D'Orsay / **Coaches Award** - Ernestine Kari Kari Mensah

**Flag Football: Offensive MVP** - Abigail Chu / **Defensive MVP** - Renee Boughner / **Coaches Award** - Megan Adams / **MIP** - Emily Roman

**Cross Country Running: Sr. MVP** - Katrina Kobal and Andrew Batek / **Jr. MVP** - Victoria Moore and Kamran Maharaj / **MIP** - David Giacomodonato and Veronic Vologodskaya

**Rugby 7's: MVP** - Rob Halka and Noel Hancocks / **Breakthrough Player** - Baqir Hussein

**Golf: MVP's** - Bo Brown, Thomas Latter, Ishaan Sandhu, Gurmehar Sandhu

**Sr. Girls Volleyball: MVP** - Victoria D'Acre and Carly Anderson / **Coaches Award** - Brianna Beausoleil

**Jr. Girls Volleyball: MVP** - Emily Pardy and Elise Teixeira and Teya Plastich

**Curling: Coaches Award** - Jodi Emerson and Rianne McIlwraith

**Nordic Skiing: MVP** - Katrina Kobal and Peter Kobal

**Alpine Skiing: MVP** - Braden Jauernig and Tessa Koreen

**Girls Hockey: MVP** - Sarah Davies / **MIP** - Simrit Grewal / **Coaches Award** - Jamie Etter

**Boys Hockey: MVP** - Carter and Kyle Edmonds / **Captain Award** - Carr Hogan / **Rookie of the Year** - Luke Ahonen

**Junior Female Athlete of the Year** - Sarah Davies

**Junior Male Athlete of the Year** - Josiah Nguyen

**Senior Female Athlete of the Year** - Victoria D'Acre

**Senior Male Athlete of the Year** - Liam Bowman

**Kyle Ondrey Leadership Memorial Award** - Katrina Kobal & Zander Castro-Weiss



**Graduates, We want to remind you that Commencement will be on Thursday October 8th, 2020 at the Oasis Banquet Convention Center.**

**"Lorne Park is dedicated to fostering academic and personal excellence, pride and spirit in a dynamic and supportive environment."**

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Website: <http://schools.peelschools.org/sec/lornepark/Pages/default.aspx>