



Ontario Public Supervisory Officials Honour Outstanding Leaders

At the annual Ontario Public Supervisory Officials Association (OPSOA) conference in April 2011, two OPSOA members were presented with the Distinguished Leadership Award. This award is presented annually to Supervisory Officials who demonstrate outstanding ability and leadership in public education.

The 2011 recipients are Helen Fox, Superintendent of Schools, York Region District School Board and Robert Dunn, Superintendent of Schools, York Region District School Board. Both of these individuals have demonstrated exemplary leadership in public education at the district and provincial levels.



L – R:
OPSOA Past President Tony Pontes, Helen Fox,
OPSOA President Ken Bain, Robert Dunn

Helen Fox has had a long and distinguished career in public education. Helen initiated Restorative Approaches as a focus to student discipline and as a method to engage others and build relationships. Through this work she initiated the Risk/Assessment program, developed Bullying Prevention Programs and created partnerships with York Region Police and community agencies. Helen has worked to build system understanding and capacity to support the implementation and development of learning environments that are safe and inclusive. As an elected Director of the Ontario College of Teachers, Helen continued to strive for equity and inclusion. At the district level, Helen provided leadership in student-led equity conferences, supported the work of the initiation of Sexual Orientation and Gender

Identification Action Committee, the Race Relations Advisory Committee and the Director's Advisory Committee on Race Relations. Helen is a strong supporter of arts education as a vehicle for engagement. She works tirelessly with teachers, administrators and superintendents to support the review and analysis of data and programming. OPSOA is extremely pleased to recognize this outstanding educational leader.

Robert Dunn has demonstrated significant leadership throughout the province of Ontario and York Region District School Board through this work in the field of School Improvement Planning within an evidence-informed decision making framework. Multifaceted in his approach to building capacity both locally and provincially, Robert has brought together a variety of teams to examine school improvement planning, has delivered numerous workshops and presentations on data informed and driven school improvement planning and has worked extensively and intensively with teams of administrators. As part of his work, Robert developed and shared a process which links student achievement data with the School Effectiveness Framework. He is a curriculum design specialist who supports student improvement and well being with passion and conviction. In addition to his contributions at the Board level, Robert serves on Inter-Agency planning committees including the Advisory Forum on Children, Youth and Families and Families and Schools Together. Robert is respected for his willingness to learn alongside his colleagues in order to provide the best opportunity for every child. Robert's commitment to learning for all truly reflects the OPSOA vision and the mission of public education.

Ontario public supervisory officials continue to provide vision and leadership across thirty-two district school boards and as representatives and leaders on all provincial education initiatives. The 2011 recipients of the OPSOA Distinguished Leadership Award provide outstanding role models for all educational leaders in the province.

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