

A bit of background:

Each school board in Ontario has an OYAP co-ordinator whose job is to promote skilled trades and technology to students from Gr. 7 - 12. Integral to Student Success Pathways programming is the Career Continuum that is a planned progression of career education that includes a role for each subject teacher. One of my responsibilities is to provide teachers with a variety of resources and opportunities.

At Upper Grand and Wellington Catholic District School Boards, (my appointment is a co-terminus one, so I represent both boards in our region!) our emphasis is on the following:

1. **Class Presentations:**

- I am prepared to speak to secondary subject classes (tech, science, math, family studies, careers, co-op) about careers in the skilled trades and how preparation in your subject area is crucial to their success

2. **Teacher Resources:**

- I can provide you with brochures, posters, videos, etc., as well as provide you with industry links, etc.
- there is a local OYAP website that can be accessed at www.oyap.info or from the School to Career Website at <http://schooltocareers.ca>

3. **Teacher PD opportunities:**

- OYAP Annual Teacher In-service
- SCWI (School College Work Initiative) with Conestoga College, Teacher Forums, Open Houses
- Regional and Provincial OYAP meetings

4. **Student Programs:**

- Gr. 8 Trades and Technology Days at Conestoga College campuses
- Co-operative Education placements in the skilled trades - both semester, as well as summer school
- Dual Credit OYAP programs in Cook/Chef, Truck and Coach, Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, and Welder & Metal Fabricator (Fitter), that combines Co-op with Level One Apprenticeship Curriculum
- Technological Skills Competitions
- Participation in Grade 7 and 8 Career Days

Enough said! Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in any way. It is a known fact that students are best engaged in a course that shows a link or application to their interests.

Careers in the skilled trades have respect, opportunity and good pay!

Sincerely,

Susan W. McPhedran
OYAP Co-ordinator