



**Date:** June 19, 2024 **Agenda Item:** 8.1  
**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Shawna Warren, Superintendent  
**Originator(s):** Mr. Dan Requa, Principal, Four Winds Public School  
**Governance Policy:** [Board Policy 710: Employee Recognition](#)  
**Additional Reference:** [Board Policy 700: Superintendent of Schools](#)  
**Assurance Domain:** Teaching & Leading  
Local & Societal

### **Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard (SLQS)**

SLQS Competencies ([SLQS](#) / [Board Policy 700](#)):

Modeling Commitment to Professional Learning  
Visionary Leadership  
Leading Learning

**Subject:** **2024 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence**

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### **Purpose:**

For information.

### **Background:**

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence have been celebrating exceptional elementary and secondary school teachers across all disciplines since 1994, with more than 1,800 educators honoured to date. These awards recognize teachers for their outstanding achievements in education and their dedication to preparing students for a digital and innovation-based economy. The recipients of the Teaching Excellence Awards are celebrated for their remarkable contributions to the field of education, fostering environments that inspire and prepare youth to thrive in an ever-evolving world. Award recipients are determined based on a rigorous two-tier selection process undertaken by over 180 volunteers from the education and early childhood education communities across Canada.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in STEM specifically honours inspirational teachers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) at both the elementary and secondary school levels. These awards recognize educators who excel in keeping students engaged in STEM learning and who contribute to developing the culture of innovation that is crucial for Canada's future. These teachers play a pivotal role in cultivating students' interest and skills in STEM fields, ensuring they are well-equipped to drive the nation's innovation and technological advancements.

Mr. Dan Requa, Principal of Four Winds Public School nominated Christina Dafoe for this prestigious award.

Christine Dafoe is a dedicated STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) educator with extensive knowledge and innovative teaching methods, stemming from her background as a former tech-industry professional. She integrates the latest STEAM resources into her teaching, benefiting students and fellow educators with her enthusiasm, curiosity and creativity.

Christine's teaching approach is modeled on the scientific method: identifying opportunities, experimenting with solutions, evaluating outcomes, adapting and trying again. Her innovative thinking ensures students and others have access to cutting-edge STEAM experiences.

On June 12, 2024, it was officially announced that Christina Dafoe is a recipient of the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence in STEM. Christina headed to Ottawa for the official presentation on June 18, 2024.

Congratulations to Christina for this well-deserved recognition of her outstanding contributions to education!

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the June 19, 2024, Public Board meeting.

**Attachment(s):**

1. News Release - [Canada celebrates its top educators for the 30th year, honouring them with the Prime Minister's Awards](#)