



ÉCOLE GLENMORE SCHOOL

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May 5, 2017 - Learning Log

Dear GME Parents and Guardians;

RE: The Fascination with Superheroes

My fascination with superheroes began a few years ago with a new friend who is an expert facilitator for TC2, the critical thinking consortium in British Columbia. She explained lessons that she had done with her students at KSS on the question about whether an historical character, such a Louis Riel, was a hero or a criminal based on criteria that she had co-created with her students. She told me that each time she has done the lesson with her students the only difference in criteria was that a hero's motivation is for the greater good above personal gain. That really made me want to be a hero and so I made my Capitaine Canada costume. I have gone on to make capes and costumes for people that I know to be heroes. I really like to sew and create with fabric so this has become my special hobby.

In the next few weeks, two of our grade 3 classes will be exploring the critical and creative thinking lessons on the similarities and differences between a hero and a villain. They will then be creating their own personal identity as a hero. Both classes will be travelling by school bus to Fabricland to select fabric to make their own superhero cape, which represents their identity. We now have 12 sewing machines and I will be teaching them how to sew their own cape. One student asked if he could be a villain. I responded, "No, I am encouraging you to be a hero and not a villain".

In our school, community, province, country and world, we need more heroes. Apparently, there have been studies on the rare people who do heroic acts. They have found that their brains are different from most others because they could not even think to do otherwise than the heroic act. However, I believe that we can nurture the heroic qualities in each of us. In fact, I think that it is our responsibility as educators to encourage your genius children to be heroes instead of villains. This week I read the school one of my newest found books that rhymes. Please read one of my favourite parts quoted below.

"When superheroes don't get their way, when they're sad, when they're mad, when they've had a bad day . . . they could super-rampage-they could, but they don't, because real superheroes just wouldn't-they won't! Instead, they dig down to their super-best part, the strong super-powers contained in their heart! And using their talents as true heroes should, they battle the urge to do harm (though they could)" from Even Superheroes Have Bad Days by Shelly Becker.

Be a Hero,
Wendy Briggs
Principal