

Planning Your Child's Education *Parent Seminar*

On the evening of January 15 a parent seminar entitled, "Planning Your Child's Education" was hosted by the school. The focus of the program traced the student's potential educational path from junior high school, through high school and on to post-secondary studies.

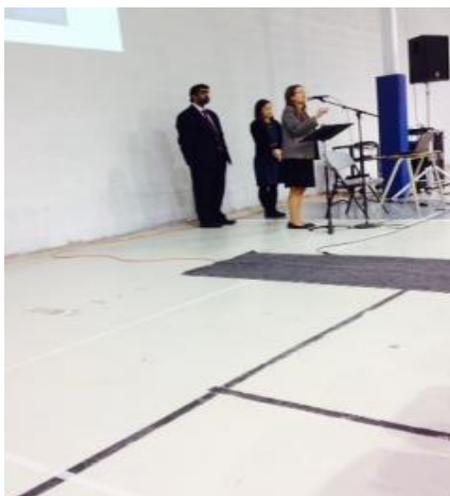
The first presenter of the evening was Guidance Counsellor, Mrs. Jennifer Lee. Mrs. Lee gave a very detailed view of the graduation requirements, the course selection process, support systems in place at PCA and the university admissions process. She also addressed the pros and cons of IB and AP programs.

A copy of Mrs. Lee's presentation, with accompanying audio, can be viewed on the school's website, www.pca.ca. Click on Senior School → Curriculum → Academic Excellence to view the video. Kindly let other parents know of the video so that, if they missed the seminar, they can still benefit from Mrs. Lee's presentation.

The other presenter was Dr. Alex Philip, Senior School Chaplain. Dr. Philip reassured the parents of the quality of individual spiritual guidance that is given to the students as they prepare for the independent life of post-secondary studies. He highlighted the strong biblical grounding that PCA students receive and spoke of how he personally stays connected to the students even after graduation.

Mrs. Jocelyn Paas, Senior School Vice Principal, chaired the Q & A segment. This proved to be a good time of interaction as the parents put forward meaningful and thoughtful questions.

We thank God for our dedicated staff who are so passionately devoted to their profession and calling and are so willing to share their expertise.



Mrs. Paas, Mrs. Lee and Dr. Philip address the gathering.

Wynne Government Delivers On Its Promise

True to its promise, the Ontario Government is set to implement, in September 2015, the new sex education content within its Health and Physical Education Curriculum. The mainstream media are generally lauding the program as being current with the times we live in, and even long overdue. There are some features within the new program that are indeed of some value. Such issues as informing children of the dangers of the internet, having respect for another's feelings, or the benefits of abstinence are valued by all.

However, it's the absence of a moral code and the inappropriate content for various age levels that set off alarm bells for Christian parents. Dr. Teresa Pierre, who is President of a group known as PAFE (Parents As First Educators), identifies some of the actual content that our parents would find offensive. "Here are some of the age-inappropriate things the Premier wants to teach your children that shocked parents back in 2010.

- Grade 1 (age 6): ***the names of all the sexual body parts***
- Grade 3 (age 8): ***gender identity and sexual orientation; same-sex families***
- Grade 4 (age 9): ***romantic dating***
- Grade 6 (age 11): ****... and rejection of the use of words such as "husband" and "wife"***
- Grade 7 (age 12): ****[various types of perverted sexual activity]; contraception; STDs"***

* Actual wording deleted at author's discretion.

Dr. Pierre goes on to say, "And, just when you thought it couldn't get any worse, **it did!**" She points out that the revised 2015 program has slipped in some new directives that were absent from the 2010 document. "Now the government . . . will introduce the theme of consent in relationships to students in Grade 6. By Grade 7 they will be sitting them down for a talk about how pre-teens should make sure their partner consents to sex."

Where Does PCA Stand?

Thankfully, PCA will not be adopting the new curriculum. Nor can we be forced to. Under current law (Section 18 of the Ontario Human Rights Code), we are protected as a faith-based organization and are not required to implement policies that conflict with our Statement of Faith. Please pray that our rights to conduct our own programs based on our adherence to biblical morality will continue to be protected.

While all our teachers are ready to provide biblical answers to questions of sexuality and morality, PCA introduces sex education at Grade 6 and in early Senior School through our Physical Education programs.

In summary, here is our approach. Information on human reproduction is presented to boys and girls in separate sessions, and, of course, from the perspective of Bible truth. God's standards of morality with reference to sexuality are emphasized from the Scriptures. Students are taught that our sinful condition places all mankind on the same level—all in need of God's grace. We all need forgiveness and cleansing which is found in Christ alone. We honour Him by walking in purity and in obedience to His Word.

