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NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC
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NEWS RELEASE

OHS LINK Crew Wins the Ontario School Counsellor's Association's Peer Helping Award

Timmins, November 15, 2012:

O'Gorman High School's LINK Crew has received provincial recognition from the Ontario School Counsellor's Association. Representatives from OHS's LINK Crew travelled to Toronto to receive the 2012 Daryl L. Cook Peer Helping Award at the annual OSCA Conference on November 4th. The Daryl L. Cook Award is presented annually to one elementary and/or one secondary school in Ontario in recognition of exemplary peer helping programs.

Kelly Ann Marks, OHS Guidance Counsellor and OSCA Board of Director, commented "I am very proud of our LINK Crew leaders and the work that they do to support our grade 9 students. It's wonderful that a provincial organization such as the Ontario School Counsellor's Association has recognized the efforts of this incredible group of young leaders. What an honour! OHS is very fortunate to have Doug Basso (a.k.a. Colonel LINK) coordinating this program. Congratulations O'Gorman LINK Crew!"

The OHS LINK program is a transition program that allows Grade 9 students to receive support and guidance from senior students who have been through the challenges that high school poses. The goal of the program is for all Grade 9 students to have a positive experience during their first year of high school.

LINK Leaders are Grade 11 and 12 students who serve as positive role models, motivators, leaders and teachers who guide the Grade 9 students to discover what it takes to be successful during the transition to high school. Students must apply to become LINK Leaders and successful candidates must complete three full days of training during the summer. Additional training is received during the school year as each Link Leader is required to enroll in an interdisciplinary studies course.



Glenn Sheculski, Director of Education, proudly noted "On behalf of the entire Northeastern Catholic District School Board, I would like to congratulate Doug Basso, LINK Crew Coordinator and the entire LINK Crew of students for their dedication in making O'Gorman High School a very special place for all students and for receiving the Daryl L. Cook Award."

In the picture, from left to right: Doug Basso, LINK Crew Coordinator, Daryl L. Cook, Ian Santos, LINK Crew Commissioner, Jessica Tambeau, LINK Crew Commissioner, Marie-Josée Pouliotte, OSCA President

For more information, please contact: Andrew Marks, Community Relations Officer
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