

OPERATION BACK TO SCHOOL

MOTIVATING KIDS TO STAY IN SCHOOL FOR MORE THAN 15 YEARS.



FROM MARCH 1 TO APRIL 30, 2012

OVERVIEW

Operation Back to School is an annual event of conference-testimonials held in public and private, French and English high schools in the Greater Montréal area. Community organizations in the Montréal area that work to keep kids in school are also encouraged to host speakers.

Thanks to this project initiated by the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal, in the past 15 years, around 3,800 businesswomen and businessmen have gone "back to school" to share their experience and their passion with more than 140,000 high school students to encourage them to stay in school.

2012 EDITION

Since the program was created, our organization has been inviting its members to meet high school students to motivate them to continue their studies.

Operation Back to School 2012 is made possible through the financial support of MR³ Montréal Relève, and produced in cooperation with Youth Fusion, Montreal Hooked on School and Universitas Trust Funds.

OBJECTIVES

Operation Back to School was developed to stem the drop-out rate among high school students. The encounters help young people understand that success involves work, perseverance and determination. They also demonstrate that it is normal to face obstacles along the way and that it is important to forge ahead and pursue one's dreams.

The encounters surpassed the initial objective soon after they began. They create closer ties between schools and companies by providing students and teachers better information about the job market and businesspeople an understanding of the reality of young people, who are our future.

THE IMPACT OF OPERATION BACK TO SCHOOL

Each year, more than 350 groups — some of them in schools with the highest dropout rates — receive visits, involving around 10,000 young people. It is hard to quantify the impact of Operation Back to School. But the positive effects are clear from reading the comments of students, teachers and businesspeople.

Operation Back to School is made possible through the financial support of:



Operation Back to School is produced in cooperation with our association partners:



Thank you to the Operation Back to School Ambassadors who provide stay-in-school scholarships:
 Gold Ambassadors:



Silver Ambassadors:





CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE
DU MONTRÉAL MÉTROPOLITAIN
BOARD OF TRADE OF METROPOLITAN MONTREAL



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STUDENTS ARE MORE MOTIVATED, MORE ENTHUSIASTIC AND BETTER INFORMED ABOUT THE WORKING WORLD, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND REQUIRED SKILLS.

SOME COMMENTS FROM STUDENTS

"Since the day you came to visit us to talk about what you do for a living, I have been more motivated to continue in my studies."

"You gave me the desire to try harder and to hang on to my dream..."

"Before meeting you, I wasn't sure that I wanted to continue my studies. Thanks to you, I am definitely going to go farther than high school."

THIS PROGRAM HELPS TEACHERS FEEL SUPPORTED IN THEIR TEACHING EFFORTS AND CREATES A SPECIAL CONNECTION WITH THE WORKING WORLD.

COMMENTS FROM TEACHERS AND GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS

"After the presentations by businesspeople, I saw flickers of light in plenty of eyes... encouraging little flickers of hope."

"It was the ideal opportunity for our students to hear the personal testimonials of successful people, who talked about the importance of staying in school and pursuing post-secondary education... In our changing economy, it is important that our young people have access to accurate, timely information about the future job market, employers' expectations and how to prepare for the demands of the global economy."

"It's this kind of initiative that allows the people who love teaching to continue to do our jobs in spite of EVERYTHING and to believe that we aren't alone on board this ship!"

BUSINESSPEOPLE HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF THE CHALLENGES FACED BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE, WHO ARE OUR FUTURE.

COMMENTS FROM SPEAKERS

"Every year, I think I manage to touch two or three students, and I tell myself that there is a real need out there."

"I probably learned as much as if not more than the students."

"Thanks for this great opportunity to encourage young people to take themselves seriously."

"This is my third year, and it is always a pleasure to meet and talk to young people to open their eyes to the possibilities of the future."



Youth Fusion implements projects in schools to motivate, stimulate, engage, and call out to youth to stay committed through innovative partnerships with universities.

www.youthfusionquebec.org/en

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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