

WHAT'S IMPACTING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT?

If media coverage of a recent Statistics Canada report comparing achievement levels of public and private high school students piqued your interest, you may want to delve into the actual report. [Academic Outcomes of Public and Private High School Students: What Lies Behind the Differences?](#) looks for the reasons behind private high school students' higher scores in reading, mathematics, and science assessments at age 15, and higher levels of educational attainment by age 23. Two factors were found to consistently account for these differences: students who attended private high schools were more likely to have socio-economic characteristics positively associated with academic success, and to have school peers with university-educated parents. School resources and practices accounted for little of the differences in academic outcomes.

AND SPEAKING OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT . . .

Check out the April 2015 issue of [PISA in Focus](#) for an examination of the impact of student-teacher relations on students' well-being at school. It probably won't come as a surprise to anyone that students who reported good relations with their teachers also reported being happier at school. But PISA also suggests that positive and constructive teacher-student relations are associated with better performance in mathematics, and can be a key vehicle through which schools can foster the social and emotional well-being of students. As well, in schools with better teacher-student relations, students were less likely to report that they arrived late for school or skipped classes or days of school.

CONVENTION FOLLOW-UP

[The Record of Proceedings](#) for our 2015 annual convention has now been posted to our website. This document contains an overview of the program, the president's address, text and disposition of all resolutions, and election results. We have also posted a [photo gallery](#) of convention images—keynote speakers, award winners, business sessions, and more—to our YouTube channel. If you would like one of these images for your own personal or divisional collection, email your request to Communications Officer [Karen Harrington](#).



WELCOME, DARREN!

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Darren Thomas as Manitoba School Boards Association Risk Manager, effective May 4, 2015. Darren has worked in the areas of risk management and insurance services for the past seventeen years, the last nine of these with Western Financial Group Insurance Solutions. In his capacity as risk advisor and loss prevention analyst with Western Financial, Darren has worked with the Manitoba Schools Insurance program and has an in-depth knowledge of the legislative and regulatory parameters governing school division operations. He has conducted numerous site inspections of school facilities and is a certified playground inspector. Darren has also completed Level 1 Thermography Training and holds a Canadian Accredited Insurance Broker Level 2 (CAIB) designation, as well as Canadian Risk Management (CRM) certification.



THIS AND THAT

- TADD Manitoba is sponsoring two [Students Leading Change Scholarships](#) worth \$500 each. Deadline for receipt of applications is April 30, 2015.
- Possibilities and Promise in Aboriginal Education is the theme for the final day of our Aboriginal Education Institute (April 24). This day, like the two that came before it, is virtually sold-out, but we may be able to accommodate a small number of additional registrants. Contact [Janis Arnold](#) to learn more.
- We've posted [resources](#) provided by Aboriginal Education Institute speakers, as well as links to a wide variety of documents, videos and websites relevant to the topic of Aboriginal education, to our website. Additional resources will be included as they become available.
- Our on-demand library of professional development resources continues to grow! These [webinars](#) and [videos](#) (including [Division Dispatches](#)) can be accessed at your convenience, anytime, anywhere, even on your mobile device.



Aboriginal Education
Leadership Institute