PDK - University of Toronto Chapter

www.pdk-ut.ca



Presentation of the Outstanding Educator Award to:



Dr. Christopher Spence

Achieving, Believing and Caring!

(a full précis is printed on the reverse side)

Thursday, April 23, 2009

6 pm - Social hour 7 pm - Dinner 8 pm - Presentations **Annual General Meeting**

The Faculty Club, University of Toronto

41 Willcocks Street (immediately east of Spadina Avenue, north of College, 1 block south of Harbord) Accessibility - Wheelchair accessibility on the main floor only

Detailed Parking Information - refer to http://www.facultyclub.utoronto.ca/docs/directions.html Meters accept change or a credit card: Limited street parking, or U.T. lots located just south of Willcocks off Spadina, #1 Spadina Crescent, or St. George and Harbord, at the Rotman School of Management and The Addiction Research Foundation

Fees: *Kappans \$50, Guests \$60, Students \$35 - Cash Bar

We look forward to seeing you. Please bring a guest to share in the fellowship of PDK!

*Patrons \$65 Patrons paying \$65 per person will be listed in the program The patron's contribution will be directed towards supporting the membership of a young teacher

Please make your cheque payable to "PDK, U-T" and mail it together with the information below, for arrival by Monday, April 13, 2009 to Chapter President, Walter H. Winchell, 2250 Leominster Dr., Burlington, ON L7P 3X1 For Additional information: 905 616-2963 (v-m), or via e: walt.winchell@gmail.com

Please detach here. PLEASE PRINT the following information below: PDK-UT A.G.M. - Thursday, April 23, 2009, at the U. of T. Faculty Club, 41 Willcocks Street, Toronto

Name	e-Mail address:
Address	Phone ()
Guests' names:	Amount enclosed:
Total number attending AGM, April 23, 2009: Please specify eit	her: Chicken dinners or Vegetarian dinners

PDK-UT Outstanding Educator 2009 – Dr. Chris Spence

Achieving, Believing and Caring!

As we look to the future we must never forget that no matter what happens within the system to develop capacity, no matter how knowledgeable and effective our system teachers and schools become, the goals of educational reform will remain elusive if we do not also address the diminishing capacity of communities to support and care for our youth.

I say this in recognition that the goals of this reform movement are not simply to improve student outcomes in the aggregate but to do so for all our young people. It is apparent in the data from our schools that many of our students face personal, social, and economic traumas that engage them not only in a struggle for learning but a daily struggle for survival itself. We have no ready answer to the challenge of addressing such stark realities, but in recognition of its importance.

We need a huge creativity – a blurring of the line between school and society. Especially for our kids who don't succeed academically because their energies are devoted to surviving socially. Some of these kids desperately need us to embrace the ABC'S of Achieving, Believing and Caring!

Dr. Christopher Spence, a renowned educator is also a dedicated community advocate. Chris became the Director of Education for Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board on September 1, 2004. He has over 15 years senior administration and teaching experience, much with the Toronto District School Board, and has authored several books. His leadership role in working with the broader educational community to manage issues, develop policy and promote causes that benefit students and achieve measurable results has been widely recognized. He had a significant role in the development of Boys 2 Men, Project G.O. (Girls only) and the Read to Succeed Program, which motivates and teaches boys to read. The successes of these programs were featured in a recent documentary about his life, "Person to Person" and in an article in the Reader's Digest entitled "Man on a Mission."

Dr. Spence has won many awards for his outstanding contributions to education and the community, including the outstanding alumni award from Simon Fraser University, the Positive Impact Award and Canadian Black Achievement Award for Professional Achievement and Community Leadership. He was recognized by the City of Toronto for best practices in education, and by the community group Why We Are Here for his outstanding educational contributions. He has five film credits to his name, including one that was aired on CBC and another that was screened at the Reel World Film Festival in March 2004. Dr. Spence is a former CFL athlete and is married with two young children.

"I believe strongly in communications and being accountable. On the HWDSB website (Director's Place), you can see what I have been doing and where I have been, as I visit schools across our great district."

- Dr. Chris Spence, Director of Education, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board

The Director's Place link: http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/aboutus/director/index.aspx?page=director