

Sandwich Technical Education Project: STEP SD#71 (Comox Valley)

Impact of Stanley and Dewalt Tool Grant 2013

To whom it may concern,

Sandwich Technical School is a unique school in our district that focuses on giving students job readiness skills for the trades. We have students from all over our district attend, so it is available to all students. We place a strong emphasis on Work Safe practices while we teach trade skills. Something that has been working really well in getting young kids using tools is “**try a trade**” day for upper elementary students. We have elementary classes come to our school to learn a bit of plumbing, carpentry, electrical, drywall, concrete and mechanics. Our first groups through had a fantastic time. Our goal is to have every grade 7 in our district, all 700 of them, go through the “**try a trade**” day. We use senior secondary students going into our ACE IT trades programs, and other students that like “hands on learning” to help teach and inspire these students. The new tools that we received through the tool grant definitely enhance the experience for both older and younger students.

The portability of the cordless tools that were included in the Stanley DeWalt tool grant has also been extremely useful. The Career Programs Coordinator can take them to other schools get as many kids with tools in hands as possible. Here are two examples of projects that involved these tools. One grade 7 class teacher removed all the desks and chairs from his class at the start of the year, and the students had to build the furniture themselves. It has been great. Another class had 5 of the cordless jigsaws cutting out wooden paddles that they are going to shape and then use on an outdoor excursion.

The tool donation has been a huge bonus to our school district. I encourage more if possible. Should you have any questions or if you would like pictures of the Stanley DeWalt tools in action feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Randy Grey
Career Programs Coordinator
Sandwich Technical Education Project
School District #71
2947 Rennison Rd.
Courtenay B.C.
V9N 7J3
Phone: 250-897-5632
Fax: 250-334-2506
Careers web site: <http://careers.sd71.bc.ca/>
randy.grey@sd71.bc.ca