



WELCOME TO  
THE OPENING OF  
**VISTA HILLS  
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*Vista Hills*  
**HAWKS**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Vista Hills Public School is located on the western edge of Waterloo, near the city limit and Wilmot Township. Built on the height of the Waterloo Moraine, the largest such landform in Waterloo region, the name of our school is taken from the pleasant views of the naturally raised areas of land that were created during the ice age and the retreating of the Laurentide ice sheets.

In early 2016, we asked our community to nominate a school mascot, and the best-suited suggestion was the red-tailed hawk. We are proud to be known as the Vista Hills Hawks and have already adopted some of the main characteristics of the red-tailed hawk: proud, territorial and protective of its home.

The exterior design of our school is inspired by the winter landscape in rural Ontario with the dark earth tone brick and white metal panels representing snow drifting over the open fields. The building is an incredible facility with futuristic curves, artistic entrances and two-storey lobby, large outdoor play and protected areas and bright, modern colour accents. Corridors filled with natural light and bright learning environments filled with the latest technology can be seen and enjoyed by all.

The vision for the school and its community is “living and learning in a 21st-century culture of innovation and collaboration, with a foundation of solid character and strong community.” Since our doors opened for the first day on September 6, 2016, we have taken

pride in creating a “learning hub” for the residents of the Vista Hills Community. Opportunities for collaboration between and amongst the staff, students, parents and community-at-large have resulted in a positive school culture and foundation for learning.

We have established an innovative, 21st-century approach to character and community development at Vista Hills. We have become a “HERO Generation” school, a first of its kind. We are engaging and empowering our students, creating happy, successful and high-performing individuals through an emphasis on the key drivers and attributes of Hope, Efficacy, Resilience, Optimism as well as Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness.

As a result of this focus, our motto is “Vista Hills Hawks are HEROs. We give others GEMs every day.” Students, staff and parents of Vista Hills look forward to living out this motto and having it spread to the surrounding neighbourhood, the city and region of Waterloo and into the global village in which we live, contribute and impact.

## OPENING CEREMONY

### Processional

Drumline to lead in Dignitaries

### O Canada

Vista Hills Grade 7 Choir

### Welcome

Mr. Don Oberle, *Principal*

### Greetings from the Board of Trustees

Scott McMillan  
*Chairperson*

### Student Performance

I Am a Small Part of the World  
*Vista Hills Student Choirs*

### Presentation of School Bell

Greg Weiler

### Dedication

Elaine Ranney  
*Superintendent, Student Achievement and Well-Being*

### Greetings from the Ministry of Education

Diaene Vernile  
*MPP Kitchener Centre*

### Student Drumline Performance

### Presentation of School Key

Paul Sapounzi – *The Ventin Group Architects*

### Remarks from the Director of Education

Mr. John Bryant

### Greetings from MPP Catherine Fife

Catherine Fife,  
*MPP Kitchener-Waterloo*

### Time Capsule Presentation

### Closing Remarks by the Principal

Mr. Don Oberle

### School Song

Music written by Mr. Lee McWebb  
Lyrics written by Vista Hills staff  
Ms. Laura Dicknoether  
Mrs. Tina Giannopoulos  
Mr. Lee McWebb

### Recessional

Drumline to lead out  
Dignitaries and Staff

We have become a “HERO Generation” school, a first of its kind. We are engaging and empowering our students, creating happy, successful and high-performing individuals through an emphasis on the key drivers and attributes of Hope, Efficacy, Resilience, Optimism as well as Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness.

## VISTA HILLS STAFF 2016 -2017



Mr. Paul Bednarek	Mme. Alma Kentel	Mr. Ben Ripley
Mrs. Krista Bergsma	Mrs. Cyen King	Mrs. Luanne Roth
Mrs. Tania Bumstead	Mrs. Ann Koenig	Ms. Laura Ruetz
Mme. Paula Capa	Ms. Stephanie Laflamme	Mrs. Julie Sadler
Mme. Jennifer Catton	Mrs. Karen Lang	Mrs. Laura Sayer
Mrs. Samvang Chanthalya	Mlle. Katie Lepold	Ms. Ria Schofield
Ms. Laura Dicknoether	Ms. Lori Ludwig	Ms. Karen Snelgrove
Ms. Kristy Elinesky	Ms. Angela MacKinnon	Mrs. Melissa Stark
Ms. Naomi Fox	Mrs. Melissa Marshall	Mlle. Kenya Stewart
Ms. Charity Frey	Mrs. Amy McPhee	Ms. Karen Stirling
Mme. Tina Giannopoulos	Mr. Lee McWebb	Mrs. D'Arcy Terpstra
Ms. Tara Glachan	Mr. Don Oberle	Ms. Emily Upshaw
Mrs. Carrie Heathcote	Ms. Tonya Parry	Mrs. Trudy Veltman
Ms. Samantha Hill	Mrs. Kristy Patten	Mr. Joe Wilton
Mr. Marc Hoare	Ms. Crystal Perry	Mme. Crystal Woodworth
Mr. Andrew Karley	Ms. Shannon Pollard	

## I CAN BE A HERO

*Music by Lee McWebb*

*Lyrics by Lee McWebb,*

*Tina Giannopoulos, Laura Dicknoether*

I wake up in the morning,  
The sun is shining bright.  
I've got a funny feeling,  
The day's gonna be alright.

### **Chorus:**

I can be a HERO,  
You can be a HERO, too.  
I know my friends will help me,  
And I will help them too.  
We can make a difference  
It's the right thing to do.

### **Chorus:**

I can be a HERO,  
You can be a HERO, too.

Take time to look around  
And find good in all you see.  
Stand up for each other,  
A moment's all you need.

### **Chorus:**

I can be a HERO,  
You can be a HERO, too.  
At Vista Hills, we care about each other.

We wanna be, the best that we can be.  
It only takes a little bit of kindness.  
The world needs HEROES! (clap, clap)  
I can be a HERO,

You can be one too.  
I've got all I need  
To help me see it through.

### **Chorus:**

I can be a HERO,  
You can be a HERO, too.

I can be a HERO,  
You can be a HERO, too.

## TRUSTEES AND SENIOR STAFF

### TRUSTEES

Colin Harrington	Scott McMillan	Natalie Waddell
John Hendry	Carol Millar	Cindy Watson
Ted Martin	Kathi Smith	Kathleen Woodcock
	Mike Ramsay	

### SENIOR STAFF

#### John Bryant

*Director of Education*

#### Lila Read

*Coordinating Superintendent,  
Student Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Scott Lomax

*Coordinating Superintendent,  
Student Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Matthew Gerard

*Coordinating Superintendent, Business  
Services & Treasurer of the Board*

#### Michael Weinert

*Coordinating Superintendent,  
Human Resource Services*

#### Ron DeBoer

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Evelyn Giannopoulos

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Angela Mercier

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Scott Miller

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Elaine Ranney

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Peter Rubenschuh

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Bill Lemon

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

#### Graham Shantz

*Superintendent, Student  
Achievement & Well-Being*

VISTA HILLS HAWKS ARE **HEROS**. WE GIVE OTHERS **GEMS** EVERY DAY!

Hope

Gratitude

Efficacy

Empathy

Resiliency

Mindfulness

OPTIMISM

