

Trustee wants to continue contributions to education

By Mark Pavilons

Peter Adams-Luchowski knows about being a mentor.

The former teacher and trade school advocate wants to continue making a contribution to education in York.

Adams-Luchowski is seeking re-election as trustee of the York District School Board, in the 2014 municipal election.

Adams-Luchowski has spent almost seven years on the school board.

‘I’ve been the only member with experience in classroom teaching, and the only member who employs young people. I am running again to continue advocating for in-school technical trades, as well as expanded alternative and co-operative education opportunities for our students.’

Last year, Adams-Luchowski received the Ontario Public School Boards Association Outstanding Service Award. ‘To me, it’s not the award, but the work that went into earning it which is an accomplishment.’

He worked with area high schools to offer high quality co-op positions resulting in OYAP apprenticeships in skilled trades for both male and female students. He also coaches football at King City Secondary School.

Adams-Luchowski also successfully initiated a policy amendment to enhance field trip opportunities for elementary students, secured funding for over-due facilities renovations throughout Aurora-King.

‘I’m continuing to advocate for a mechanism to protect extra-curricular activities from disruption due to labour disputes. An important advantage is that my business allows me to serve on important board committees which meet during the day.’

Those are things he wants to focus on in the coming term. He also wants to prioritize student achievement opportunities in the event of inevitable funding challenges.

‘My favourite part of the job is sharing in graduation celebrations,’ he said. ‘It’s great to feel the happiness, and to see the result of our collective efforts knowing that we’ve done our best to help young people to succeed.’

Growth was evident when he first joined the board in 2007.

‘When I last taught in York Region there were 163 schools. This September, I think we’ll be up to 208. Things are constantly changing, but kids are kids. That never changes!’

Residents can expect Adams-Luchowski to be available, to respond to concerns, to return calls and emails promptly, to be aware of on-going and emerging issues and to maintain a good working relationship with school councils and administrators in our schools.

‘I’m always excited about opportunity. For students to know what they want to do, they must also figure out what they don’t want to do. The more opportunities they have to explore, the more likely they’ll find their own pathway to success.’