

AHS Gala to showcase successes in math and arts

Aidan Labossiere

Atikokan High School will host a gala to celebrate students' success in art and math next Wednesday, May 30, six to eight p.m.

The night is being planned by principal Beth Fairfield, school council secretary Jennifer Learning, and parents Bella Ojala, Leslie Strom, and Sheri Bailey. The evening will begin with a dinner in the downstairs gym prepared by the food class. At the same time, the AHS band will be playing for entertainment. There will also be videos to showcase different moments from throughout the school year.

The robotics team is planning a display to occur after the dinner. Following the show, certified accountant Britney Beyak (2009 Governor General Medal Winner at AHS) will talk to parents and students about saving money and preparing for post-secondary education. This will be very useful, especially for graduating students on their final stretch before college or university.

The evening will end with a scavenger hunt which will have participants venturing all around the school to find different things. "It will be like a little quest," said Fairfield and Learning. After the scavenger hunt there will be door prizes to be won, and everyone who registers will leave with a gift bag.

The gala is completely free, thanks to volunteers and a school board grant. This grant gives the school a discrete amount of money to showcase art and math achievements. Art is covered by the scavenger hunt, which will have participants viewing artwork all around the school, as well as the school band performance. Math is covered by the robotics demonstration.

The gala promises to be fun and informative, while showcasing what the kids are doing, said Learning. The night acts as an opportunity for parents to engage in their child's school work, something that is less common in high school than in elementary. You do not always get to see some students' talent and it will be nice to highlight that, said Fairfield.

The school has hosted a showcase in previous years, but none compare to this. Last year, it featured a senior mixed OFSAA volleyball game, followed by the Outers 50th video screening. Sports and Outers are featured very frequently, and this gala works to highlight the school's other successes. The meal and guest speaker are entirely new this

year; you won't want to miss it.

To register for the AHS Gala (and reserve your dinner), either call the school (597-2703), or go to the AHS website where there will be a registration form. The registration deadline is May 24 to ensure the proper number of dinners and gift bags. There will be extras, so if you happen to miss the deadline you are still encouraged to come, as the night will be a lot of fun, said Fairfield, but you may not get a dinner or a gift bag.