

## **Volunteers Make the World Go 'Round**

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." Elizabeth Andrew, an American author.

This volunteer quote is iconic because it encapsulates the concept that the time that volunteers give is valuable and deeply appreciated.

This week École St. Adolphe School (ESAS) would like to highlight the involvement and dedication of their volunteers, including parents, community members, and staff who enthusiastically support the school's athletics program.

A former parent and coach, who runs the St. Adolphe Badminton Club, opened their doors for free during the month of April to all the ESAS students who tried out for the team. This was done as a reward for the student's efforts and to build their self-confidence while promoting the sport. His eldest son has learned the value of volunteering from his dad and has taken over coaching badminton for the last two years. As well, ESAS is extremely grateful for an anonymous community member, who donated the fees to pay for all of the badminton players this year!

While portable classrooms were being constructed, the gym at ESAS was being used as a classroom. One parent, who is also a Physical education teacher, noticed the difficulty and organized a volleyball camp for all the students at the La Barriere Crossing School's gym until they were able to return to their own gym.

Countless parents and staff members have volunteered their time to coach and referee multiple sports including volleyball, basketball, badminton, and track and field. Because of this support, most ESAS grade 7/8 athletic extracurriculars have a very high rate of 80% participation. These programs provide an opportunity for students to find a new passion/interest to explore before they get to high school. They're building memories, connections, and friendships while learning new ways to live a healthy active lifestyle.

"We are a very proud school with an abundance of participation, school spirit, and good sportsmanship! I don't know if our volunteers truly understand how valuable their work is to our students. They enrich their experience with movement, teamwork, and competition and create long-lasting memories. The cherry on top is the profound impact they have on the students' confidence in maintaining healthy, active lifestyles long after their days at ESAS," Chantal Dubois, ESAS Phys Ed Teacher.







**HONESTY** 

**EMPATHY** 

