



GREG ADNEW/TIMES & TRANSCRIPT

Riverview High School science teachers Nicole D'Entremont, Tim Beatty, Alison Bartlett and principal Jason Reath work on one of the new smart board systems.

Riverview High goes high-tech

School joins global network of SMART Showcase School program

BY GINABETH ROBERTS
TIMES & TRANSCRIPT STAFF

A Metro Moncton high school has recently been equipped with new technology thanks to the innovative vision of a teacher.

Riverview High School has been selected to join an exclusive, global network of 300 schools as part of the SMART Showcase School program.

"Riverview High School prides itself on setting high expectations for learning as staff helps students prepare for their future," said principal Jason Reath.

"In one approach to learning, teachers use hands-on technology such as SMART boards and SMART interactive responders, to help students engage with their learning and the world around them."

Reath says as a SMART Showcase School, RHS serves as a host site for educators who are inter-

ested in learning more about the use of SMART products in helping students engage with their learning. It also provides for continuing professional learning for teachers at RHS.

The project started under teacher Ian Fogarty, whose vision for using interactive technology to help students collaborate and achieve high standards of learning helped the school earn the designation.

"Fogarty had a vision of not one interactive whiteboard in a classroom, but five," said Reath.

"SMART's vision is 'inspired collaboration' and Ian Fogarty is living that vision at RHS," he added.

"If you have one interactive whiteboard in the classroom, it's a teacher tool," said Fogarty, who is currently in China. "But if you have five in a classroom, the interactive whiteboard becomes a student tool."

Fogarty credits SMART technology with improving his students' test scores.

"On the most difficult problems we are seeing as much as a 50 per cent increase in scores when students are gathered around a

SMART board, instead of laptops," he said.

Because of Fogarty's vision, SMART technologies has donated more than \$40,000 in technology to RHS.

In January, Fogarty attended the British Educational Technology Tradeshow in London, England to give a talk on collaborative student-centred classrooms. He spoke to ministers of education and VIPs from the Middle East, European Union and African nations on how his students are using interactive whiteboards collaboratively to solve physics and chemistry problems at RHS.

SMART even re-created Fogarty's classroom for the attendees to see what it's like to be part of his classroom. Now, SMART is in the process of creating 50 worldwide classrooms that are being modeled after Fogarty's and calling it the SMART Collaborative Classroom, Reath said.

In June Fogarty will travel to Colorado as a keynote speaker at the TEM Educator Symposium sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Intel.