



McGowan Park Elementary School

2080 Tremerton Drive Kamloops, BC V2E 2S2 Phone: (250) 374-4545

Fax: (250) 374-6272

Website: <http://mcgowan.sd73.bc.ca/>

Principal's Newsletter to Parents and Guardians

December 5, 2013

MISSION STATEMENT

McGowan Park School is committed to the development of the child as a unique individual.

With the arrival of December, cold weather, and all of the festive happenings, it's time to renew a pledge to take care of yourself, your loved ones and your community. At McGowan many heart warming activities are taking place including the Toys for Kids Breakfast, Cookie Bake, and many other events in each classroom. Delicious smells are wafting through the halls and teachers are working to keep students busy with a balanced academic focus as we also begin the new term now that report cards have gone home! I must congratulate our fabulous students and staff for a job well done this first term! I LOVE being your principal!

Wishing each and every one of you a joyous and safe holiday season!

Come and join us for our Winter Concert!

A performance of our primary music and District Strings students will take place in our school gym on Thursday, December 19th at 1:15. This afternoon concert is for our McGowan students only. An evening performance at 6:30 is for parents and caregivers. This is to ensure that our gym can house both groups safely! Primary students should have received an informational letter this week. Please contact the office if you need any further information. See you all on December 19!

Lunch Time Activities!

Our entrepreneurial youngsters are busy thinking up great ways to utilize their lunch time if they choose to stay inside and are in the process of forming several clubs. The knitting club is

already under way and other ideas in progress are the origami club and the scrapbook club. If any parents are willing to help supervise one of these clubs at lunch hour and/or donate items, it would be much appreciated!

Primary Art Club

Students in grades 1 to 3 have been coming to Mrs. Abraham's room each Tuesday at 12:15 until 1:00 to learn some helpful and fun art techniques and skills. They will come for a total of 9 sessions. In the new year, students in grades 4 to 7 can come for Intermediate Art Club. Thanks to PAC for helping purchase any of the materials that we use!

School Jerseys

A number of students still have their school jerseys from the cross country run season, as well as from the volleyball league. Please return them to Ms. Oryschak as soon as possible; basketball season is just around the corner!

Intramurals!!

We just finished volleyball season and will start Pillo Polo at lunch time on December 3rd for the primary students.

Dress for the Weather!

Brrrr...it's cold!! Students are required to go out for recess and encouraged to go out for some fresh air at lunch as well. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather at all times! Warm coats, hats and mitts are a must! Also, indoor shoes are needed as boots must be placed on the class racks upon entering the school. Thanks!

Book Fair Woes!

Due to some restructuring at Scholastic's Book Club division, there will be no book fair this winter. We will try to book one in the spring.

Popcorn and Hot Lunch Days!

Make sure to keep an eye on the calendar *and* your child's agenda for all of our upcoming hot lunch day, hosted by our grade 6/7 class alternating with our PAC.

Reminder!

Check our school's website to view the newsletter or send an email to Ms. McParland at bmcparland@sd73.bc.ca to receive an emailed copy of the newsletter each month!

Thanks Cori Wickes



Dates to Remember

December 2013

- Dec 13 Skating – Mrs. Abraham's class
 Dec. 13 Intermediate classes to Western Canada Theatre for The Lion, Witch and Wardrobe presentation
 Dec. 16 Cookie Bake – Mrs. Oryschak's class
 Dec. 18 Skating – Mrs. Isakson's class
 Dec. 19 Christmas Celebration -
 - Rehearsal at 1:00 –
 Performance for students only
 - Performance for parents and guardians at 6:30
 Dec. 20 Skating – Ms. Baerg's class
Dec. 23 - Winter Break – No School to Jan. 3

January 2014

- Jan. 6 First day of school following Winter Break – Welcome Back Assembly
 Jan. 15 PAC Hot Lunch
 Jan. 16 Concert/Jazz Band from Sahali
 Jan. 17 Mother Goose Program begins
 Jan. 20 Basketball begins
 Jan. 21 PAC Meeting at 6:30 in the library
 Jan. 22 Kids Can Move Gymnastics Program
 Jan. 24 Pizza Day

February 2014

- Feb. 7 Hot Dog Day
 Feb. 7 Skating – Mrs. Cavani and Mrs. Abraham's class
Feb. 10 Family Day – No School
 Feb. 14 Skating – Mrs. Cavani and Mrs. Kossey's class
 Feb. 19 Skating – Mrs. Reilly and Mrs. Isakson's class
 Feb. 20 Winter Carnival
Feb. 21 Non-Instructional Day – No school

February 2014 (continued)

- Feb. 24 Basketball playoff – Week #1
 Feb. 25 One Woman Circus Performance at 9:00
 Feb. 26 Cross Country Skiing – Mrs. Cavani's class
 Feb. 28 Pizza Day

March 2014

- Mar. 3 Basketball Playoff – Week #2
 Mar. 7 Sun Peaks – Grade 6's to Mar. 11
Mar. 17 Spring Break to Mar. 23
 Mar. 24 First Day back following Spring Break

April 2014

- April 4 Jump Rope for Heart
 April 15 Flag Football starts
April 17 Non-Instructional Day – No school
April 18 Good Friday – No school
April 21 Easter Monday – No school
 April 23 Spring Production – **Cast #1**
 -Dress Rehearsal at 9:30
 Spring Production – Cast #1 at 7:00
 April 24 Spring Production – **Cast #2** –
 Dress Rehearsal at 1:00
 Spring Production – Cast # 2 at 7:00

May 2014

- May 16 Non-Instructional Day – No School**

June 2014

- June 6 Pizza Day
 June 26 Last Day of School – Early Dismissal

From the Board Meeting of: NOVEMBER 18, 2013

1. The Board recognized the donation of School Supplies for Students from the Paddle Wheeler Lions Club and the Telus Communications Ambassadors.
2. Valleyview Secondary presented its Academic Intervention Program to the Board. In attendance were Principal Kirschener, Vice Principals Gartrell and Perry. and teacher Darla Graham.
3. The Board received the Energy Consumption Report and the 2013 Summer Projects Report from Director of Facilities and Maintenance MacDonald.
4. The Board approved Capital Project Bylaw #116020 for the 2013/2014 Bus Replacements.
5. The Board received *Notice of Motion* on the following policies:
 - a. Policy 306.1 Assessment: District Wide
 - b. Policy 1006.6 Head Lice Infestations in the School
6. The mid-term Inaugural Meeting of the Board of Education will occur on Monday, December 2, 2013, at 7:00 pm, followed by a regular public Board Meeting on December 2, 2013, at the School Board Office.

From the Board Meeting of: DECEMBER 2, 2013

Mid-Term Inaugural Board Notes

- Denise Harper was elected as Board Chairperson.
- Kathleen Karpuk was elected as Board Vice-Chairperson.
- Annette Glover was elected as the B.C. School Trustees Association Provincial Council Representative.
- Gerald Watson was elected as the BCPSEA/BCSTA Bargaining Council Representative.

Regular Public Meeting Board Notes

1. The Board enjoyed a presentation from five students from Beattie School of the Arts who participated in the Art4Fun program. The students were accompanied by their sponsor teacher Jody Oetter and Health Promoting Schools Coordinator Sherry Stade.
2. The Board approved the School Improvement Plan for Summit Elementary.
3. The Board approved an out-of-province field trip request from Valleyview Secondary for the Girls Rugby Team to travel to Fullerton, California, from March 19 - 25, 2014. The students will participate in the Fullerton International High School Rugby Tournament.
4. The Board approved an out-of-province field trip request from South Kamloops Secondary for band students to travel to Moscow, Idaho, to attend the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival from February 20 - 23, 2014.
5. The Board approved the following revised policies:
 - 306.1 Assessment: District Wide
 - 1006.6 Head Lice Infestations in the School

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, December 16, 2013, at the School Board Office, 1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.