



McGowan Park Elementary School

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Principal's Newsletter to Parents and Guardians

March 2014

MISSION STATEMENT

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

March has come in like a lion with some frosty weather to tease us for a couple of weeks! Here's hoping that spring blossoms are just around the corner!

Winter Carnival - Wow!! Many thanks to our fabulous PAC and many other volunteers who turned our school into a very popular festival of fun on February 20th. Your support and dedication to our school as helpers or attendees is very much appreciated. Congratulations to all of the winners of the baskets!

Please have a safe and restful Spring Break! We'll see you all back at school on Monday, March 24th!

Change in Morning Routine!

Now that the warm weather is upon us, the doors will be open for students to enter the school at the 8:25 warning bell. Classes begin at 8:30. Parents are asked to drop students off at school as closely to the bell as possible. Bus students from Pineview are supervised until school entrance.

School Planning Begins!

Following the break, school configuration planning for the 2014 - 2015 year begins. The School Planning Council and PAC will be consulted in this area. Staff will begin collaboration meetings in June to create classes that will be in the best interests of our students academically. Placing students in the most appropriate class for an academic year is a complex process for

the school and will be handled carefully and thoughtfully. Fortunately, experience proves that the vast majority of students quickly accept their new teacher, become involved in classroom routines and relationships and work towards creating a successful year.

ART Club

Primary Art Club finished up their lunchtime art sessions with Mrs. Abraham in February.

Intermediate Art Club will start their sessions this week, meeting Tuesdays at lunchtime in Mrs. Abraham's room.

A reminder that any student in grades 4 to 7 is permitted to enter the Young Artists' Contest at our school. Students must have their 2 dimensional art (the size of a student's desk or smaller) submission in to Mrs. Abraham by March 24 at the latest. All entries are judged by the McGowan staff and 4 pieces are chosen to represent McGowan at the Young Artists' Conference at TRU in May.

Science Fair News!

Our McGowan Science Fair was a great success! The community judges enjoyed our students' projects and hope to see more students from McGowan participate in the future. Congratulations to the 5 student projects that have been selected to move on to the Cariboo Regional Science Fair on April 3rd and 4th: Grace Heise, Kieren O'Neil, Rahman Tawhid, Rahma Tawhid, and Hannah O'Neil. If you would like some inspiration for next year, take the family down to the TRU gym for the public viewing of the top projects in our area on Thursday April 3rd from 3:30-5:00 pm.

School Parking

Please use the round-about or the curbside when dropping off or picking up your children. We are also asking that you please refrain from using the Staff Parking lots as we do have very limited parking for staff.

Hot Lunch with the Principal Draw!!

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher: _____

Allergies: _____

Please submit completed form to the office to win the March lunch!

(Happy lunch winners for February were Gabby Trestain and Bennett Kossey who enjoyed a scrumptious lunch supplied by Ms. Wickes.)

Student Transfers for 2013/2014

Requests for student transfers that will commence in September will be accepted starting on March 1, 2014, and ending at 12:00 noon on August 29, 2014. All submissions must be made in writing and forwarded to the receiving school's principal. All decisions regarding student transfers will be in accordance with Board Policy 300.1 School Boundaries and Student Transfer Requests.

Request For Host Families

The School District 73 International Student Program is looking for good families to host international students attending our secondary schools. The families are asked to bring the student into their homes providing a private room, 3 meals plus snacks each day and a nurturing, English-speaking environment. These students attend short term programs, one semester or 1 year programs and sometimes stay until graduation.

We ask that the family include their student

in family activities and look after their student as they would their own child. The compensation is \$720 per month.

Currently, we are receiving some special requests for horse families that can give the student an opportunity to look after a horse, help around the yard and ride occasionally. If you, or any other families you know, would like to fill this need and would like to have the International Experience, please let us know. Thank you.

Viewing Newsletters

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

ERIN VALLEY STABLES

Spring Break Horsemanship Camp at Erin Valley

*"ENJOY THIS SPRING BREAK IN THE
FRESH COUNTRY AIR!"
with Kaylee Mills*

March 17 - 19 for ages 3 -9
March 20 - 22 for ages 10 & up

Groups will be split into two

Morning class from 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.
Afternoon class from 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Investment: \$240 + GST

Child care available for other half of day
for an extra \$20 per day.

Early pick up and drop off available
upon request.

Contact us to hold your spot.

erinvalley@millsranch.ca
erinvalleyridingstables.com
250-299-1773

15 minutes east of Kamloops
across from Eagle Point Golf Course

**From the Board Meeting of:
FEBRUARY 17, 2014**

1. The Board approved the six recommendations contained in the Boundary Review Report prepared by Superintendent Sullivan.
2. The Board enjoyed a presentation from teacher Blake Buemann and students who recently attended the Vancouver Model UN. Eighty-two secondary students from SD73 participated in this recent conference. Schools represented were South Kamloops Secondary, Westsyde Secondary, Beattie School of the Arts (JP Campus), Valleyview Secondary, NorKam Secondary and Sa-Hali Secondary.
3. The Board enjoyed a presentation from Student Voice students from NorKam Secondary. These students, accompanied by Vice Principal Sdoutz, provided the Board with a student perspective on the use of Technology.
4. Nathan Matthew, Chair of the First Nations Education Council, and Dr. Renee Spence presented the 2012/2013 Annual Report on First Nations/Aboriginal Students. This marks the 18th year this report has been prepared.
5. The Board received a school calendar presentation from the Sun Peaks Parent Advisory Council.
6. The Board approved the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for 2013/2014

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, March 10, 2014, at the School Board Office, 1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

**From the Board Meeting of:
MARCH 10, 2014**

1. The Board approved a recommendation to permit the use of school district buses to support the upcoming 4-H Judging Event on April 12-13, 2014.
2. The Board approved Capital Project Bylaw 126724 for the Carbon Neutral Capital Program.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, March 24, 2014, at the School Board Office, 1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

Dates to Remember - Updated March 2014

MARCH 2014	
Mar. 14	Report cards go home
Mar. 17 to Mar. 23	Spring Break - No School
Mar. 24	First day back following Spring Break
APRIL 2014	
April 4	Jump Rope for Heart Day
April 4	Pizza Day
April 10	RIH Tour - Mrs. McCarthy's class
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 . Performance at 7:00
April 24	Spring Production - Cast #2 - Dress Rehearsal at 1:00 Performance at 7:00
April 24	Swim Meet - 8:30 to 1:00
April 29	"The Little Shoemaker" performance with Roger Dallaire in the school gym at 1:30
April 30	McGowan Parloff at Hillside Stadium - 10:30 to noon.
May 2014	
May 2	Hot Dog Day
May 15	Football Jamboree
May 15	Zone 1 track - 1200/1000m - 10:30 to noon
May 16	Non-Instructional Day - No school
May 19	Victoria Day - No school
May 20	Zone 1 Track meet - 8:30 to 2:30
May 26	District 1200/1000m - 10:30 to noon
May 28	District Track Meet - 8:30 to 2:30
June 2014	
June 3	Kindergarten Parent Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
June 6	Pizza Day
June 6	Kindergarten Orientation at 9:00 a.m.
June 24 to 25	Camping - Ms. Oryschak's class
June 26	Last Day of School - Early Dismissal

Board of Education

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 3X7

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www.sd73.bc.ca

PUBLIC MEETING

**TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE SCHOOL CLOSURE AND
SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION**

**STUART WOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BEATTIE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**

The Board of Education of School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) is serving notice that Stuart Wood Elementary School is being considered for closure, effective July 31, 2016; and, that Beattie School of the Arts K-12 be consolidated into one building at the John Peterson Campus on 9th Avenue, effective September 2016.

YOUR INPUT IS ENCOURAGED AND WELCOMED HENRY

GRUBE EDUCATION CENTRE

245 Kitchener Crescent, Kamloops, BC

March 27, 2014, at 7:00 PM

The Board will hold a public meeting to discuss the proposed closure and consolidation, and to receive petitions and/or presentations from interested parties and members of the community. During this meeting there will be an opportunity for people to express their concerns. However, time may be limited so if you wish to ensure an opportunity to speak you can schedule a presentation. To schedule a presentation at the public meeting, please contact Elaine Burns at 250-374-0679 at least one week prior to the meeting date. A written copy of the presentation should be provided in advance of the meeting. Those who do not want to make a presentation at the public meeting may submit a presentation in writing. Please forward written comments, at least one week prior to the meeting date to: 1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC V2C 3X7, Attention: Board of Education, or electronically by e-mail to: facilityinput@sd73.bc.ca

**For additional information, you may contact the
Superintendent's Office at 250-374-0679.**