



McGowan Park Elementary School

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Principal's Newsletter to Parents and Guardians

May 2014

MISSION STATEMENT

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

I am so proud to be the Principal of this fantastic school! I would like to congratulate all of our students for their participation and talented efforts in our recent Spring Production of the Nifty Fifties! I am so lucky to have such great students - a huge pat on the back to all of the parents! Many thanks to all of the McGowan staff for their hard work and numerous volunteer hours in bringing this production to fruition. You rock!!

Cori Wickes

Message from Joan Cowden, our school Trustee

McGowan Elementary does it once again! Congratulations to you, your staff, students and parents on the very successful production of your Spring Musical "Nifty Fifties". It was a wonderful experience for me this morning to be entertained for over 90 minutes by the cast of hundreds! The costumes were amazing and the set and wall decorations were outstanding. As usual, all the students from K to Grade 7 were very well rehearsed. What a positive experience for all of your students. Please extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Sherri, Lisa and all the staff at McGowan for their hard work, dedication and extra volunteer hours they spent on this production.

School Planning Time!

It's hard to believe that we are already planning for September 2014 start up! We already know that our student numbers have increased for next year and that means one extra division at this school. If you know of anyone in our catchment area who hasn't yet registered at McGowan, please encourage them to do so! Staff will hold collaboration meetings in June to create classes but all of that will be 'up in the air' until numbers are firmly established in September!

Track and Field!

The season is here! Throughout the month of May many track meets will take place. Some activities will take place outside of class time, so students will need to listen to announcements to ensure they don't miss out! There is also

a bulletin board outside the library where important information is posted.

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.

Safe School Drop Off & Pickup!

Just a reminder that all students should be dropped off and/or picked up on Tremerton Dr. and not in the staff parking lots. Better yet, pre-arrange a convenient and safe pick up spot, such as in the church parking lot. Thank you!!

Young Artists Conference!

McGowan Park Elementary had four talented students - Olamide Olabiyi, Emily Armstrong, Brielle Polischuk-Langham, and Elizabeth Austin who attended this District wide event at TRU on May 1st. These students had the opportunity to work with talented artists from our community and attended a variety of workshops including drawing & water colour painting, puppet making, clay creations, block printing, button blankets and more.

Congratulations to Brielle whose work was chosen to be one of the pieces selected to be framed and displayed at the School Board office for one year. Her piece, along with the work of 15 other District students, was also printed into art cards.

Young Authors Conference

On May 2, nearly 200 grades 4-12 students from Kamloops and outlying areas gathered for the 35th annual Young Authors' Conference at TRU. Students participated in writing workshops hosted by eight published authors. Students learned many helpful tips and developed their writing skills. McGowan students who were chosen to participate were Daniel Poirier, Jarrett Dumais, Jaida Lewis, Jaime Saunders, Trevor Shyjak, and Cali Nessman. Congratulations! Congratulations also to Daniel for his Honorable Mention!

Newsletters by Email!

Please send an email to Ms. McParland at bmcparland@sd73.bc.ca to receive an emailed copy of the newsletter each month! We do not yet have all of our parents receiving newsletters this way and we don't want you to miss any of our school information!!

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.

Hot Lunch with the Principal Draw!!

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher: _____

Allergies: _____

***Please submit form to the office
to win the May lunch!***

(Happy lunch winners for April were Svea Engleson & Jarrett Dumais who enjoyed a scrumptious lunch supplied by Ms. Wickes.)

From the Board Meeting of: APRIL 14, 2014

1. The Board recognized six employees for their Years of Service to the school district.
2. The Board received a report on the Cariboo Mainline Regional Science Fair from Principal Don Poelzer.
3. Secretary-Treasurer Stretch provided the Board with a report detailing the Ministry's additional one-time funding Holdback Release.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, April 28, 2014, at the School Board Office, 1383 – 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

From the Board Meeting of: April 28, 2014

1. Chair Harper acknowledged that flags in the District were lowered today in recognition of the National Day of Mourning for workers who have been killed or injured in the workplace.
2. The Board enjoyed a presentation from Student Voice representatives from Sa-Hali Secondary. The students shared their week long plan to raise awareness about Youth Mental Health at their school. The students were accompanied by Vice Principal Sdoutz.
3. The Board passed the 2014/2015 Annual Budget Bylaw.
4. The Board received *Notice of Motion* on the following polices:

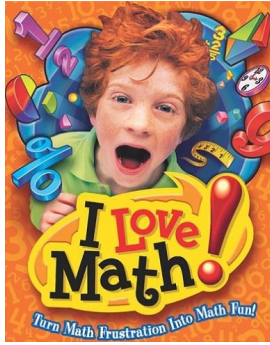
203.1	Trustee Remuneration
1012.1	Smoke Free Environment
1109.2	Lease of School Facilities
1109.3	Disposal of Land or Improvements

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, May 12, 2014, at Haldane Elementary School, Chase, BC.

DATES TO REMEMBER- Updated May 5, 2014

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MAY 2014	
May 6	Salmon Fry Release – Mrs. Weddell's Class – 8:45 to 2:30
May 9	Mother's Day Tea – Mrs. Borden's Class – 1:15 to 2:30
May 14	PAC Hot Lunch
May 14	You can Count on Me for Kindergarten parents/caregivers – 8:15 to 10:00 a.m. In school library
May 15	Zone 1 track – 1500 m -10:30 to noon
May 15	Big Little Science Center – Mrs. McCaugherty's Class – 12:00 – 2:30
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 20	Gymnastics – Mrs. Weddell's and Mrs. Cone's Class – 11:30 to 1:30
May 27	District 1500 m - 10:00 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 3	PAC Meeting – 6:00 p.m. in school library
June 4	Parent Thank You Tea at 1:15 p.m.
June 4	String Concert – 4:00 p.m.
June 6	Pizza Day
June 6	Kindergarten orientation at 9:00 a.m.
June 13	Fun Day
June 24 - 26	Camping – Ms. Oryschak's class
June 25	Splash Park – Mrs. Borden's and Mrs. McCarthy's Class
June 26	Last Day of School – Early Dismissal

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME
TO ALL KINDERGARTEN PARENTS
AND CAREGIVERS



Date: May 14, 2014

Time: 8:15 – 10:00 a.m.

Place: McGowan Park Library

This is how our morning together will look:

15 minutes: Parents and children meet and munch together

First bell: Kindergarten students go to class, parents remain with Facilitator

35-45 minutes: Parents learn ways to support their young mathematician at home

30-35 minutes: Parents and their child do math activities together!

Kamloops Thompson Childrens' Choir
Kamloops Thompson Honour Choir

Does your son or daughter love to sing?

Consider having him or her try out for the Kamloops Thompson Children's Choir or the Kamloops Thompson Honour Choir for next year. These choirs provide wonderful musical experiences for many of the district's most talented elementary students, and they help these students to further develop their musical talents.

The Children's Choir is for students in grades 3 and 4, while the Honour Choir is for grades 5 to 8 students, so any students in grades 2 through 7 are eligible to audition. The groups rehearse one day a week after school at the Henry Grube Education Centre under the direction of some of our district's very talented choral teachers.

If you are interested in finding out more, check with one of your school's music teachers who will set up a short preliminary audition for your child. If a school music teacher is not available, please contact district Fine Arts Coordinator, Don Bennett at 250-376-2266, or email him at dbennett@sd73.bc.ca