



McGowan Park Elementary School

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Principal: Cori Wickes

Principal's Newsletter to Parents and Guardians

November 6, 2013

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Wow, it's November already! The days are shorter, colder and it's truly time to break out the winter gear!

October was a whirlwind that included several cultural and extra-curricular events for our students: Hoop Dancer Teddy Anderson, Jack and the Bean at the theatre for our primary students, Axis Theatre's performance of Raven Meets the Monkey King, and many other activities that included gymnastics, skating, McQueen lake, First Nations homework and cultural club and trips to the pumpkin patch! Volleyball is in full swing now too! Our students are very privileged to have so many wonderful activities provided for them!

November is a month where teachers are solidifying good work and study habits and students are heavily involved as learners in the curriculum of their particular grade. We encourage parents to ensure to establish a routine at home so that agendas are being signed and students are practicing daily the responsibilities of doing homework, good study habits and improving organizational skills. Don't hesitate to call and make an appointment with your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns! Report cards will be issued on November 29th.

Thanks to our PAC!

Our PAC, at the last meeting, kindly approved several funding items that help to support our school's programs and activities throughout the year. Many thanks for all of the great support! Big thanks also, to all of our parents and families who supported and helped at the recent Family Dance! This night was a big hit so your efforts are super appreciated!

Volleyball Season is Here!

A new volleyball season has started for this school year. Once again, McGowan Magic has 4 teams competing in the district league. Ms. Oryschak and Mrs. Borden are coaching the tier 1 boys, while the tier 1 girls will be led by Mrs. Isakson and Mr. Heshka. Also volunteering their time to coach are Mrs. Cavani and Ms. Baerg, coaching the tier 3 boys and tier 3 girls respectively. Students are strongly encouraged to write out their practise schedules in their agenda books to ensure everyone shows up when they are supposed to. In addition to the district league play, an intramural league will soon get started. Intermediate students will need to listen to the announcements so that they can sign up if they are interested in playing. All students are invited to watch and cheer on their favourite team!

It's ALL About Safety!

Folks, please stop to check in at the office when you are dropping off something for your child(ren) or volunteering in our school! We love to have you here but we need to know WHO is in our building at all times!

Math Expo!

We are having a Math Expo on Thursday, November 14th. This extracurricular activity is for students in grades 5 to 7 and is being coordinated by Miss Baerg. If you would like more information, please pick up an information letter at the office. The top four projects will be submitted for the District Expo on Friday, November 29th from 8:45 - 12 at the Henry Grube Education Centre.

Dress for the Weather Too!

Brrrr....it's cold!! We encourage our students to go outside for exercise and fresh air at both recess (mandatory) and lunch (by choice). 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.

Remembrance Day Assembly

Our school wide assembly in honour of Remembrance Day will be held at 9:00 am on Friday, November 8th in the school gym. All are welcome to attend this special ceremony.

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 days, hosted by our grade 6/7 class and the PAC. Also, November 6th will be the first of our popcorn days and popcorn will be available at recess for \$1.00 (50 cents for Kindergarten students)

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

From the Board Meeting of: OCTOBER 21, 2013

1. The Board received the Secondary Athletic Council report presented by Principal Lamoureux. Two student athletes highlighted the significance that high school sports have played in their lives.
2. The Board approved an out-of-province field trip for Biology 11 students from Valleyview Secondary to travel to Honolulu, Hawaii.
3. The Board adopted the Secwepemc Protocol presented by Superintendent Sullivan.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, November 4, 2013, at Savona Elementary School, Savona, BC.

From the Board Meeting of: NOVEMBER 4, 2013

1. The Board enjoyed a presentation on Inquiry Learning from Savona Elementary Students and Principal Grant Reilly.
2. The Board received the Class Size Report for 2013-2014.
3. The Board approved an out-of-province field trip request from Sa-Hali Secondary for students in the Digital Design Tech Academy to travel to Redmond, Washington, to participate in activities related to programming and video game design.
4. All schools in the District will be closed on November 11th to observe Remembrance Day.
5. The Board received the 2013/2014 Enrollment Report which compares the results from the previous year.
6. The Board approved the recommendations in the Changing Enrollment Patterns and Boundary Reviews report prepared by Superintendent Sullivan. The Board will invite written or electronic responses to the report until December 31, 2013. The information will be circulated by e-mail and posted to the school district website.

The next regular public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, November 18, 2013, at the School Board Office, 1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC.