



# GARTHWOOD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

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**January 12, 2015      LIBRARY      6:30PM**

- 1. Attendance –Peggy Bell, Shari Nichols, Katherine Hampton, Yvette Lemonius, Kim Moennick, Ariffa Hosein and Jenn Begin**
- 2. Call to Order and Introductions**
- 3. Review and Approval of November Minutes**
- 4. Principal's Corner**
  - A. School Update
    - Mitten and Food drive was a great success.
    - 359 lbs of food was donated.
    - Holiday Musical was fantastic. Children did an amazing job.
    - There was a Holiday Sing-a-long in December. Darcy McCallum from the Erin Mills Youth Centre sang Seasonal Music and Mr. D (School Custodian) played piano.
  - B. Upcoming Events for January, February & March
    - Gator Assembly in January. Theme is Reach for the Stars & Goal Setting. Classes will set own goals. Extracurricular Activities for students will be advertised at Assembly.
    - Kindergarten Registration is now open. School will be open in the evening of Thursday, Feb 5 for parents to register their children for Kindergarten.
    - French Immersion Application Deadline is January 30.
    - Several School Clubs has started again. This includes:
      - Choir & Pop Choir (Grade 4 & 5 and must be in regular choir)
      - PALS – Grade 5 Leadership
      - Bracelet Club (Grade 3s)
      - Grade 4\5 Soccer which ends in a week. It will be replaced by Quidditch
      - Skills/Drills (Grade 3)
      - Grade 4 Bus Patrollers & Office Assistants
      - Dodgeball (Grade 1)
      - Silver Birch – Grade 4/5 Reading Club
      - Caboose

- Kool-Lit which supports Grade 2 &3 and helps students to improve skills. This club helps students prepare for EQAO
- Games Club – Grade 4 Students lead this club and teach younger students to play Checkers

C. Steelhead Game

- Garthwood has the opportunity to sing the national anthem at the Mississauga Steelheads game on Sunday, February 22, 2015 at the Hershey Centre.
- Mrs. LB will organize a new choir for this exciting opportunity.
- It will be open to Grades 1-5.
- This can accommodate 100 students.
- Families are welcome and encouraged to attend. It would be great to organize a large group from Garthwood.
- Tickets are \$11.30 each and will be first come, first served.
- There will be 3-4 rehearsals.
- An information letter will be sent home, detailing this amazing opportunity.

**5. Budget and Financial**

- Peggy presented the updated budget for 2014-15.
- There is 9 cases of water left over from the Holiday Concert. This can be used for the Move-a-thon.
- No refreshments will be sold at the April Concert as Book Fair is on.

**6. New Business**

A. Math Night

- Math Night is March 26
- It is being organized by Mrs. LB & Mrs. Burt.
- It will be a mixture of Math & Science.
- There are lots of teachers volunteering for the event.
- Opening & Closing will take place in Gym.
- There will be 6 stations
- A speaker from Parent Council would be great.
  - Yvette Lemonius volunteered to speak on behalf of Council
- Parental support/help is needed. Parents are needed to help teachers supervise stations, help with set-up and clean up and prepping materials.

B. Move-A-Thon

- Garthwood Annual Fundraiser
- It is an all-day event
- 2015 date is February 13
- Kick Off is January 30
- There will be a teacher meeting to engage staff and review the event and its logistics.
- January 30, a fundraising envelope will be sent home with students. There are incentives to encourage fundraising.

- Prizes include teacher experience incentives which have proven to be popular with students in previous years. Experiences include Wii party, crafts, Lego club and making pizza, etc.
  - Students are encouraged to submit funds early as this increases the chances of choosing their preferred experience.
  - Volunteers are needed. Peggy will create a Take Home note that will be included with the fundraising envelope.
  - Students can pre-order popcorn, juice, water and glow stick bracelets. The popcorn machine is needed and we need popcorn for all students.
- C. Proposed Changes to Sex Education Curriculum
- There has been confusion about possible changes to the Sex Education Curriculum
  - The media has been reporting possible changes and being selective in the details they report on.
  - At this point, Principal Nichols is not aware of any changes.
  - If there were to be changes, it would take at least a year for the new curriculum to take effect. There would be training for staff.
  - Prior to implementing new curriculum the Board would meet with faith leaders to discuss any pieces that might contradict religious values and/or beliefs.
  - Currently there is a Sex Education Unit in Grade 5. It is a scientific unit and discusses the anatomy and function of the body. A letter is sent home prior to the unit.

**7. Next Meeting – Monday, March 2**

- An email reminder will be sent a week before.