



# ADMINISTRATORS' REPORT

NGEPAC September 10, 2013

**School Start-Up** – went very smoothly! Quite the 3-dimensional puzzle re-organizing for 48 new students and an extra classroom! Students have settled positively into their classes and teachers are well under way in their programs. Special “thanks” to our families and teachers for their flexibility. Staff Professional Development in August was excellent and a great way to kick off the year .... Staff attended a variety of workshops, predominantly focused on Cooperative Learning strategies. Our staff development theme this year is "Clarity" – getting clear on the best ways to engage students in their learning.

**Enrollment** – presently at 460 students. We are in compliance with the new Ministry requirements regarding class size and composition, and presently have minimal room for growth.

**School Goals 2013/2014** – From our School Planning Council Report, the school will continue our efforts in Literacy (focus on reading levels and written composition) and Numeracy (focus on computation, balanced with problem solving). We will also continue with our Parents as Partners initiatives, building on our great success last year with our series of parent workshops.

**Ministerial Implementation Day** – non-instructional day – Oct 11 – this is the day our staff collectively looks at school goals and action plans. This year we are joining Dr. Knox staff to look at assessment for learning.

**Fall Conferences** - October 3 & 4. These first conferences are important opportunities for parents to meet their children’s new teacher, provide input and insight into their children’s strengths and needs, and help set learning goals for the term and/or year. We encourage students to attend with their parents!

**Effective Behaviour System** – we will be continuing our emphasis on consistent, responsible behaviour under 3 main Respect Rules (Respect Yourself, Respect Others, Respect Your Environment). We used our first week to rotate students through a series of stations that helped set expectations for appropriate behaviour at school – The Gator Way!

**Celebration Assemblies** – will typically take place the last Friday of each month at 8:45. Grades 1-6 will attend, parents always welcome. Emphasis is on celebrating the many great things happening at school. Classes will be encouraged to share their learning in informal presentations. PAC is always welcome to be part of the agenda. September's assembly took place during our Orientation week. Next assembly October 31 ( Their month to celebrate Hallowe'en!).

**Parent Previews** – Teachers are encouraged to send home Term Themes, Topics and Learning Outcomes at the beginning of the term (instead of inserted with report cards) so that parents and students can preview their learning. Helpful to parents who wish to assist, reinforce, or participate in classroom themes.

**Terry Fox Run** – Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> at Noon. A very brief video presentation will be followed by a short warm up and then the run. “Toonies for Terry” will be collected again this year. We will be asking for parent volunteers to help give juice and water to students in the courtyard following the run. K's have chosen not to participate as they feel their students are not ready at this early date. Gr 1's meet in the MP room, and run the field. Gr 2-6 meeting in the gym and run the community route.

**Parking Lot Safety** – looking much better this year.... due to all that great training last year ☺ Please continue to encourage parents to "move up to the end of the line!"

**Traffic Calming** – special thanks to parent Darren Schrenk who has been placing our Safety Sally at the end of his driveway on Snowsell to try to slow down traffic. He has further applied to the City for speed bumps to be installed – the City has agreed to send out letters of proposal to the neighbourhood, and if support is there we should see speed bumps this fall.

**Room Parents** – we implemented this system as an effective way for coordinating handouts, class helpers, volunteers etc. It seemed to be a great success! We're hoping to continue with this system this year – PAC coordinator?

**Annual Funds for Playground Equipment** – thank you once again for your continued support!

**To be read and approved by the PAC**

Please accept these Math Flash Cards as a gift from the North Glenmore Elementary Parent Advisory Council. In an effort to support our School Planning Council goal to continue to improve student achievement in Numeracy, the PAC has chosen to annually present all Grade 3 students with a gift of multiplication cards to help motivate mastery of Math facts. These cards are a gift and meant to be used for home practice. Have fun mastering multiplication facts with your children ☺

## North Glenmore Elementary PAC Meeting Sept. 10/13

Welcomed by Maeve Buckley

Present:

**PAC Executive:** Jane Hardy, Janine Cornett, Crystal White, Jody Crumb, Robynn Robertson, Simone Wittenberg, Clara Tonn

**Parents:** Diane Bondaroff, Shelley Foley, Kathryn Rexin, Kim Romano, Jodi Newton, Lindsay Houghton, Melodie Sharma, Dana Cotton, Terry Farquhar, Teri Loney, Robyn Dunbar, Nicole Pattie, Charmaine Wilson, Jeff Davies, Harp Singh.

**Staff:** Maeve Buckley, Jordan Kleckner.

Introduced the PAC executive and everyone else.

Robynn Robertson made a motion that Dianne Bondaroff be elected as co-treasurer, seconded by Jane Hardy. Motion carried.

Janine Cornett approves that we accept the minutes from the last meeting, seconded by Harp Singh.

### Administrator's Report

School start up went well. 48 new students and a new classroom. Wilden and Dilworth are growing neighbourhoods, a lot of family homes are selling to school age families. We have added a new teacher, Michelle Moerkoert, grade 3. Enrolment is at 460. Our school goals are literacy and numeracy as well as a parents as partners goal. Last year we hosted 4 parent education sessions. Lots of info on the website, using email to let you know what is happening. We have also been doing surveys online. We are also using things like synervoice to communicate to parents.

Partnering with Dr. Knox Middle School on the implementation Day – October 11.

Fall conferences are Oct. 3 and 4.

We used the first week of school to rotate students through a series of stations that helped set expectations for appropriate behaviour at school.

Celebration assemblies typically take place the last Fri. of each month at 8:45. Grades 1-6 attend. Parents are always welcome. PAC is always welcome to be part of the agenda. Next assembly Oct. 31 to celebrate Halloween.

Teachers will be sending home parent previews which include Term themes, topics, and learning outcomes.

Terry Fox Run will be held on Sept. 16 at noon. K's have chosen to not participate this year as they are not ready. Grade 1's run the field and Grade 2-6 run the community route. A special thanks to Elaine Weigel for helping with the juice and water afterwards.

Parking lot safety is looking much better this year.

Special thanks to Darren Schrenk for placing Safety Sally on Snowsell. He has petitioned the city for some speed bumps along Snowsell. If there is support in the neighbourhood, we should see speed bumps by next fall.

Maeve Buckley has asked if we can have a bus for Wilden, but the main problem is that the streets are so narrow. They have agreed to take the children up the hill and use the round about to turn around and go back to the school. Jordan Kleckner and Maeve Buckley are going to survey Wilden parents to see what they think and if that works for their family.

Room parents are working very well and Maeve Buckley would like us to continue this program for this year.

Flash Cards. PAC approves that we buy these for the grade 3's and we also are going to give the school \$750 for playground equipment.

Maeve Buckley reminds parents that we need to be careful what we put on the internet, talk to the teacher if you have a problem or Maeve Buckley and Jordan Kleckner.

#### Room parents

Every class has a room parent. Their job is to create an emergency phone list. They are also asked to get volunteers for us for events. Our biggest event is the Spring Fair. We also have pizza night coming up. Janine Cornett was our coordinator last year. She is willing to do it again

#### Special Events

Pizza night September 27 a Fri this year. 5:30 – 7:00

We have changed the schedule to 2 delivery times one at 5:30 and then another delivery at 6:00. We are going to do it on paper just for this year, hopefully it will be online next year. The info will go out on Fri. We also do a cake raffle on that night.

#### Fundraising

Family photos are also happening on September 26-28.

The PAC gets all of the money for sitting fees. Last year it was \$25. The photographer gets the rest of the money from the pictures. The sitting fee includes an 8x10 picture. More details to come.

#### Treasurer's Report

Gaming investment –\$ 2808.04

Chequing gaming – \$9876.14

PAC General – \$13698.42

Investment PAC general – \$4489.61

#### Goals for the new school year.

Our technology goals for last year were a document camera and smartboards. We have an extra classroom this year that doesn't have everything plus the grade 6's don't have smartboards yet.

A small group of grade 6's is going to help us with an iPad trial throughout the year. Talk about getting a set of iPads for the school. Pilot projects are good because we can try it first.

Question asked about playground equipment. The district keeps saying no to upgrades. Maeve Buckley and Jordan Kleckner will ask again and keep trying.

Harp Singh motions that we give the money to the school for a smartboard and a document camera in the extra classroom. This will cost about \$5800. We will take this out of the gaming fund. Janine Cornett seconded it.

Question asked about more computers for the library. Maeve Buckley will think about it. Kindergarteners can use iPads and they have some really good programs on them.

Teri Loney really wants to do a yearbook this year. Jordan Kleckner will look into the getting the program that goes along with the yearbook.

#### Gatorwear

We will send in an order for more gatorwear. It will be exactly the same as last year. Green t shirt, black hoodie, and black sweatpants. Shelley Foley suggests that we look at a gym strip package that Knox does. For \$20 you get shorts and a t shirt.

We still have water bottles left, just don't put them in the dishwasher.

#### IGA and Coopers Gift Cards

IGA and Coopers gift cards. IGA cards are re loadable and come empty. You just load it in the store and use it and the school gets 4% The IGA is usable anywhere. Coopers cards come empty, but you can only put \$25 on them and then you have to get a new card for them every time. We get 5% back. Jane Hardy will have some of these out on a table to give away on Pizza Night.

#### New Business

Question about hot lunch for the kindies. We are not going to do hot lunch for the kindies. It is really hard to do hot lunch for the kindies plus the food has to be delivered quite a bit earlier because they eat a half hour before the other students. We had lots of problems last year with them not understanding how it worked and not eating the food.

Changes for lunchtime. Playing classical music. Trying to calm the kids down at lunch.

Hot lunches and field trip money are also going to be online.

Next meeting October 8/13