

MINUTES

George L. Armstrong Elementary School Council

Thursday November 14th, 2024 | 6PM Meeting called to order by B. Fraser

In Attendance

Name	Email		Voting
Sophie Heijselaar	sheijselaar@gmail.com	Co-chair	Y
Britney Fraser	britney.culm@gmail.com	Co-chair	Y
Alicia Noel-Eisenberger	allthingspurple@gmail.com	Secretary	Y
Vacant		Treasurer	Y
Eddie Gratton	egratton@hwdsb.on.ca	Acting Principal	
Paula Wardle	pwardle@hwdsb.on.ca	Teacher Rep	
Carrie Gerdes	carrienschultz@gmail.com	Member	Y
Christine Turcotte	chrissycarlile@gmail.com	Member	Y
Elisha Cobb	chrislishacoughler1@hotmail.com	Member	Y
Regrets:			
Andrew Carreiro	andrewcarreiro@gmail.com	Member	Y
Carly Hepworth	cjh316@icloud.com	Member	Y

Opening Land acknowledgement

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty. The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity. We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October, 2024 were circulated prior to the meeting.
Minutes approved as circulated. Moved by S. Heijselaar. Seconded by B. Fraser.

Principal's Report – E. Gratton

Progress Reports

- Reports will be sent home next week

Admin Update

- E. Gratton continues as Principal for 2 weeks
- Lindsay Williams continues as Vice Principal for 2 weeks
- Email will be sent to families on Friday
- After the 2 weeks is TBD

School Council Money Carryover

- Action item: Add to January Agenda (B. Fraser, S. Heijselaar)

Teacher's Report – P. Wardle

Athletics

- Junior Girls Volleyball has had multiple wins! Daily practices continue
- Junior Boys Volleyball continues to work hard after their first loss

Kilometer Club

- Golden shoes are making their way around the school!

House Color Challenge

- First challenge will take place November 15th

iPad Usage

- Defer to Agenda Item #6

Council Updates

Fundraiser Sub-Committees

- Request to provide monthly updates at Council meetings
- Sub-committees as follows:
 - o Terra Greenhouse Pointsettias (December 2024)
 - Leads: S. Heijselaar, B. Fraser
 - o Terra Greenhouse Spring Flowers (? April 2025)
 - Lead: B. Fraser
 - Support: C. Gerdes, A. Noel-Eisenberger, C. Turcotte
 - o Spring Gift Basket Raffle (TBD)
 - Lead: S. Heijselaar
 - Support: Britney
 - o Ice Cream Day (TBD)
 - Lead: Carrie
 - Support: S. Heijselaar, A. Noel-Eisenberger
 - o Little Caesar's Pizza Kits (January/February 2025)
 - Lead: A. Noel-Eisenberger
 - Support: A. Carreiro, C. Turcotte, C. Hepworth

ProGrant

- Vote to submit ProGrant application for GLA Spring Carnival
 - o Proposed by B. Fraser. Seconded by C. Gedes
 - o None opposed
- C. Gedes will send previous carnival games to B. Fraser
- Results of ProGrant application will be available in early spring
- Action Item: Add to January Agenda (B. Fraser, S. Heijselaar)

Fuel for Kids

- iPad usage information gathered by P. Wardle
 - o Primary classes
 - Used for centres activities, small groups, reading, math games, writing apps
 - o Middle classes
 - Used for research, team assignments, ruberic
 - o Junior classes
 - Used for math manipulatives
- Some IEPs need iPads to do curriculum
- Other uses include EEL for translations, Music for metronomes, Coding, Lexia, Phonic Skills (teach my monster to read)
- iPad sets are allocated by HWDSB
- Currently in Primary classes approx. 5 iPads per class
- Need to pool iPads for whole class to use at once
- Desktops in Libraries changed to iPads approx. 15 years ago
- Vote to purchase iPads with Fuel for Kids profit
 - o In Favor: A. Noel-Eisenberger, C. Turcotte, S. Heijselaar, B. Fraser
 - o Approved. E. Gratton will proceed with purchase of iPads
- Action Item: Discuss Tech Requirements (B. Fraser, S. Heijselaar)

EQOA Results

- D. Barlow is working on this. Defer to next agenda
- Action item: Does licensing stay with individual teachers if they transfer or does it belong to GLA? (E. Gratton)

School Council Goals

- Council By-laws can be found on HWDSB website
- Action Item: Add By-law discussion to January agenda (B. Fraser, S. Heijselaar)
- Council to decide direction for funds raised in 2024/2025 school year
- Action Item: Add Use of Funds 2024/2025 discussion to January agenda (B. Fraser, S. Heijselaar)
- Spring Carnival planning
- Action Item: Add Carnival planning discussion to January agenda (B. Fraser, S. Heijselaar)

Community News

Deferred

Budget/Treasurer's Report

Deferred

New Business

Donations to GLA

- Council members and other families of GLA students expressing desire to give donations to GLA. Suggest that it would be helpful if there was a “wish list” of items. Suggestions from Council include arts/craft supplies, games and other inclement weather activities as well as items for GLA staff room.
- Action Item: P. Wardle will survey GLA staff and collate into a “wish list” to bring back to Council.

Next Meeting

Date Thursday January 16, 2025 | 6-7:30 PM, Staff Room or Virtual