

MINUTES

George L. Armstrong Elementary School Council

Date | time Thursday April 24th 2025 | 6PM *Meeting called to order by* B. Fraser

In Attendance

Name	Email		Voting
Britney Fraser	Britney.culm@gmail.com	Co-chair	Y
Sophie Heijselaar	sheijselaar@gmail.com	Co-chair	Y
Carrie Gerdes	carriemschultz@gmail.com	Secretary <small>(temp)</small>	Y
Brian Playfair	bplayfai@hwdsb.on.ca	Principal	
Paula Wardle	pwardle@hwdsb.on.ca	Teacher Rep	
Jennifer Sired**	jsired@hwdsb.on.ca	VP	
Christine Turcotte	chrissycarlile@gmail.com		Y
Andrew Carreiro	andrewcarreiro@gmail.com		Y
Alicia Eisenberger**	allthingspurple@gmail.com		Y
Stephanie Robinson**			
Hunsa's Dad			
Maninder Singh (Manny)			
DIEPRIYE OPUDA			
Regrets:			
Carly Hepworth	cjh316@icloud.com		Y
Elisha Coughler	chriselishacoughler1@hotmail.ca		Y
** online			

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 February 2025 were circulated prior to the meeting.
Approval of minutes moved by ___Sophie___, seconded by ___Brittney___.
No one opposed.
Minutes of February 2025 approved.

Approval of the Agenda

An agenda for today's meeting was circulated prior to the meeting.

Approval of agenda as circulated moved by ___Brittney___, seconded by ___Carrie___.

No one opposed.

Agenda for April 2025 approved as circulated.

Principal's Report – Brian Playfair

Farewell

Brian's time at GLA will come to an end on April 30. We do not yet have a replacement. It may be a month by month replacement.

Retired principals' are only allowed to work 50 days in a school year. You can exceed 50 in the same month as you hit.

Hoping to have someone in place by Monday.

Report Cards

We had a PA Day recently & report cards went home

School Facility Updates

Announcement about the roof was sent out today. School renovations - we will include a few pictures of the renovated spaces. The administration hopes to have a newsletter sent out in June

School Events

Trips occurred for

- Grade 3: Ancaster Fairgrounds
- There are a lot of trips being proposed by teachers and Brian is trying his hardest to get those packages reviewed in time to have those trips
 - Fire truck is coming in for the 4 JK/SK classes

EQAO updates

Networking with learning resource teachers and EAs about accommodations for the EQAO testing.

Everything is on schedule for this year's writing.

Some discussion about the ways the tests can be written.

- There are pros and cons to completing it on paper vs online
- Language online and math on paper is the request from the educators at GLA

Our math ability facilitator has closed many gaps in the learning for the kids in grade 3 & 6.

FYI Results do not publish until the fall.

Discussion: Calendar on GLA website

- need to have access to the calendar
- What kind of items the community want
- Can we include a calendar, we can hyperlink into the calendar from newsletter.

Teacher's Report – Paula Wardle

Clubs

- Athletics/Clubs
- Positive space
- Robotics
- Lego Club (needs more Lego)
- Music group – Ms. Silverglen & Ms. Zaineab
 - talent show is being prepared

- unsure if presentation will be during the school day only or will include an after hours

Earth day events

Playground clean-up coordinated by Ms. Biggus

RBG mini-marshes - aquatic plants and snail in displays through partnership with the RBG

Sports teams

- Volleyball coming up
- Swimming on going

Grade 8 graduation

Planning and fundraising - pizza, milk, popcorn sales - continues

End of Year play date

Things are starting to come together

Will be in later June

Council Updates

Fundraising Updates

Poinsettia 700

Pizza 1200

Spring bulbs 400

Ice cream update: Parlor will price at \$2/per if we can guarantee 50 orders – will guarantee. Carrie to start GoogleDoc for information in this last fundraiser. Date discussion: First week of June

Future Ideas

- art auction of the children's projects perhaps at a French Cafe type item.
- Carnival/Meet the teacher ideas - pyramid with the mini prizes or school supplies etc.

Silent auction is part of the carnival - 5-6 baskets ~700 worth of items

Rules for a silent auction will need to be posted

Plan to have it posted

Carrie - send in the Tupperware

Christine - Brad will provide a sports gambling thing

Email to Lisa, office admin, of approved minutes for posting

Education Week Teacher Appreciation Event

May 8th Breakfast/Nutrition Break for teachers

- Food options
 - No teachers with nut allergies, but a nut free facility
 - It is a short break so grab and go options

End of Year Carnival

Advertising

Flyers for carnival have gone out this week.

- on social media email out
- Sent out
- FB page
- Posters for the school

Expenses

Currently will have about \$900 in account still to purchase

- henna artist
- Magician
- Pizza
- Water
- Misc supplies

Volunteers

Now 17 volunteers not including the school council

- GLA parents
- Supply GLA teacher Miss O
- Sherwood students
- Westmount students still trickling in

Christine has a spreadsheet

- where we are going to send the students
- Communication "the week before we will assign duties"
- Arrive by 4-6 & 6-8
- Will meet by basketball hoops

Teenager wants to do the face painting

- yes
- Will find a way to send something

Print off the form for volunteer hours in case students forget theirs.

Food

- pizza ~275 for 20 pizza's will increase the order to 300 slices
- Timbits- it's for free
- Liaise with the Gr8s - Ms Hutchison
- Any chocolate bars that remain

Activities

- Face painting added to tattoo table
- Magician is booked 40 min magic show then balloon twisting
- Henna tattoo
- Self tattoo
- Chalk
- Bubbles
- Food
- Rec centre in to talk about summer jobs
- HPL - story time @ learning centre
- HBSPCA - table

Note: I have removed mention of businesses that were unable to attend to avoid negative advertising

Rain plan

- move it all into the large gym

- Big activities like soccer and baseball will be cancelled if thundering
- Small gym for the book fair, limited space

New Business

Budget/Treasurer's Report

Budget Figures include Some but not all

- PROGrant is housed separately

Treasurer's Report needed from Office

Other Business

Playground painting – discussed pre-meeting

Mr. Foreman is also arranging a quote for the pavement

Mr. Foreman needs to email the info to the School Council email. He thinks his guy would come in substantially cheaper. Kingsmount Line painting.

Need quote ASAP otherwise council will engage Creative Playgrounds.

Next Meeting

Carnival planning subcommittee: May 1 Townhall 7PM

May 15th is next school council meeting | 6-7:30 PM, Learning Commons

AGENDA ITEMS

May meeting items

- kindie EOY whatever
- Parent engagement
- Freezies for play date

June meeting items

- recruitment for the meet the teacher night
- Parent handbook - get it printed for September
- Survey of parent engagement

Kindie info night

May 14th – parent council presence?

Miscellaneous items to discuss

- balance bike (helmets)
- Bikes with training wheels & tricycles only are okay
- Donations of this type are not allowed through the board

Motion to adjourn was made at __7:30__PM by __Brittney__, seconded by __Sophie__