Gordon Price Elementary School



PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Weekly Update October 11, 2021

Gordon Price is a diverse school community filled with kindness, acceptance, potential and hope. Learning Together. We help using our kind words, helpful hands and caring hearts to make a difference.

Thanksgiving weekend is here. It gives us time for gratitude and family. For schools, all of us get a chance to take a break, celebrate with family, and enjoy the fall weather. This year is no different. As I was visiting classes this week, I was able to see the meaningful and engaging lessons to support well-being and learning. In-person learning requires full attention and effort to educators. It requires focus, perseverance, and patience. I see students gaining confidence and building relationships with their peers and staff. As principal, I enjoy hearing small and big voices saying "Good morning Mr. Patton". It creates a sense of belonging and connections. This past week, we recognized our caretaking staff and teachers for Custodial Worker Day and World Teacher's Day. Our school is safe and clean because our caretaking team's work everyday. Teachers make a difference for student well-being and learning inside and outside of the classroom. I am grateful for the Gordon Price staff and their collaboration.

Confirmed Case of COVID -19: This week, we experienced our first case of COVID-19 with close contacts. There is a tiered approach to communication. Firstly, an email is sent to the families of the close contacts, indicating there was a confirmed case. Secondly, a second email is sent to close contacts with a letter from Hamilton Public Health indicating next steps. Lastly, a website message is posted to the school website for the entire school community of the confirmed class. To receive these messages, School Messenger and Student Information System must have the correct contact information. Please contact the school if you have to update your contact information including phone number and email address.

Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are documents to support student learning and well-being, IEPs outline the students' strengths, areas of need, accommodations and learning expectations. IEPs are reviewed 3 times each year. In the coming week, IEPs will be sent home for families to review and provide any feedback. I strongly encourage parents to contact their child's teacher and Learning Resource Teacher if you have any questions.

Cross Country Meet is scheduled Thursday October 14 at Christie Conservation Area. Mr. McAvella, Mrs. Palcik, and Mrs. Hughes will be supervising the team. A bus will transport the team to and from the event. Although HWDSB recently announced that spectators can attend outdoor events, this will not be possible for this particular event. **Only competitors, volunteers, coaches, and staff may attend due to limited parking, capacity restrictions, and public health measures.** Event results will be posted immediately after the day's events at www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics

HWDSB provided a COVID-19 Update: <u>https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/blog/covid-19-update-october-2021/</u>

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Daily Screening Tool: All staff and students must complete and submit a daily screener as part of Public Health Measures. It is easiest when parents sgn the calendar so we know the students are healthy to come to school. We have been provided an updated screener tool, <u>https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/</u>.

Parent Opportunities:

HWDSB is seeking applicants for HWDSB Human Rights and Equity Community Advisory Committee. If you are interested, please see the attached information and posted on our website.

HWDSB are welcoming students, families and community partners to participate in *Safe Schools Action Plan Advisory Groups*. If you are interested, please email <u>SafeSchoolsAdvisoryGroup_Student@hwdsb.on.ca</u> <u>SafeSchoolsAdvisoryGroup_Parent@hwdsb.on.ca</u> <u>SafeSchoolsAdvisoryGroup_Community@hwdsb.on.ca</u> For more information can be found at <u>https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/safe-schools-action-plan/</u>.

