

# Rousseau Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

103 McNiven Road Ancaster, Ontario L9G 3T7 Phone 905.648.6142

EMAIL: rousseau@hwdsb.on.ca www.hwdsb.on.ca/rousseau

Mailing Address: PO Box 2558 Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1

ACTING PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Moojean Seo

March 30, 2023

Dear Rousseau Families,

I hope you had a restful, rejuvenating March Break and are keeping well!

I just wanted to take this time to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Moojean Seo, I am Rousseau's new (acting) Principal. I've been part of this board for a good 20 years as an educator and have had many different roles and have supported many different schools in my career. I've been a teacher, an Instructional Coach, a Math Facilitator and have worked in many different schools across the district. I started my leadership journey as a Vice Principal 4 years ago and have worked at a variety of schools -Sir William Osler, Tiffany Hills, Remote school, Adelaide Hoodless and now at Rousseau as Principal.

I am looking forward to supporting the Rousseau students, staff and families!

Thank you for a great first week at Rousseau! Staff, students and parents/guardians that I've met have been very welcoming!

As we head into April, there are a few updates to share with you, key dates and reminders as special events are quickly approaching.

## **Parking and Supervision**

Due to our small staff numbers, we have system itinerant board staff who have supervision duty at Rousseau at entry and at dismissal. They have found parking to be a challenge, especially late in the day when they may be driving from across the city from a different school. I have ordered two "Reserved for staff" signs for the parking lot closer to McNiven for this reason. Until then, there will be pylons on two parking spots reserved for our board staff.

Please do not park in the exit lane beside the accessible parking spot – it has caused some frustration for people exiting the parking lot. Please consider parking along Tuscarora Drive and using the pathway to drop off/pick up your student(s).

Supervision on the playground begins at 9:00am everyday. Please do not leave your children unattended until supervision begins in the morning. Afterschool, supervision is in place until 3:50pm. If you are running late for pick up, please call the school to inform us.

## **Junior Girls and Boys Basketball**

Junior Basketball is in full swing!

Parents Stelios Georgiades (with Mrs. Bennett) and Andrew Baillie (with Mrs. Stinson) are Rousseau's AWESOME coaches. Game schedules can be found on the HWDSB website under Elementary > Athletics



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- https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/middle-school/senior-elementary-basketball/. We encourage cheering at any/all games. Go Rousseau Rams!

#### **Scholastic Book Fair**

The Scholastic Book Fair will be back with an online sale as well as an opportunity for students to purchase books in person at school and one final day with their parents/families.

- April 4 14, 2023 online sales will be available
- April 11 14, 2023 students can purchase merchandise at school
- April 14 from 3:35-5:45pm students/parents/families can purchase items in person Please see attached flyers for more information. Thank you to Ms. Filice for organizing and Ms. Filice/Ms. Sawchuk for conducting the final in-person sale on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **Primary & Junior Choir**

Primary & Junior Choirs continue to rehearse weekly, with Mrs. Stinson/Mrs. Bishop and Ms Fawcett, respectively. Our choirs look forward to performing this spring!

## **Junior Flag Football**

Thank you to parent coach, Bryan Crawford and Mr. Berg, Mr. Johnson for starting a Grade 5/6 Flag Football team. Tryouts and practices will begin April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The team will be selected to participate in a tournament on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Grade 6 Celebration**

Grade 6 "Class of 2023" t-shirt orders will be available soon. More information to follow through Ms Fawcett and Mr. Middlebrook. Planning will begin for the Grade 6 Celebration with details and date to be shared.

## **Upcoming April Dates:**

- April 7<sup>th</sup> No school (Good Friday)
- April 10<sup>th</sup> No school (Easter Monday)
- April 14<sup>th</sup> Rousseau School Speech Competition for Grades 4-6

Thank you for your continued support at Rousseau! I look forward to meeting and working with you!

Moojean Seo Acting Principal

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

**HWDSB** 



## Dear Parents and Families:

Get Ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them to become Bolder, Prouder, and Stronger Readers. AND—as always—every book they buy earns Rewards for our school.

Here's what you need to know about the Fair, which will take place from **April 11**<sup>th</sup>, **2023 to April 14**<sup>th</sup>, **2023 at Rousseau Elementary School in the Library.** 

If you can't make it to the Fair, then shop at our school's **Virtual Book Fair** from **April 4<sup>th</sup>**, **2023 to April 14<sup>th</sup>**, **2023**. All orders ship directly to our school and we will arrange for a pickup time when they arrive. Your online orders will also benefit our school.

Visit our Virtual Book Fair homepage to watch some trailers and look through our digital flyer: <a href="https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5205692">https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5205692</a>

The countdown to more Bookjoy is on! Catch you at the Fair! Happy reading,

Moojean Seo Principal Rousseau Elementary School







## Save The Date!

Dear families,

Mark your calendars! The fun and excitement of a **Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to our school!

So, save the date! Our **Scholastic Book Fair** will take place on **April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** 

For parents, friends and family that can't join us in the school, be sure to join us online with our **Virtual Book Fair** by using the link below! Our online shop will be open from **April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5205692







# BOOK FAIRS

## Dear Parents and Families,

We are building our Book Fair Team! The Scholastic Book Fair at Rousseau Elementary school is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with a special Family Event on Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The Book Fair is the perfect place for kids to explore must-read books, enhancing their home libraries with the stories they want to read.

Please complete the form below, and circle any areas where you would like to participate! Return the form to Mrs. Filice.

Thank you so much for helping us inspire independent reading!

Sincerely,

Name

Mrs. Filice Book Fair Chairperson

# Sign me up to help at the Book Fair!

Telephone

Email			
Availability _			
	I have circled areas where I'd like to help:		
	<ul> <li>Advertising</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Decorating</li> </ul>	
	• Setting/Packing up the Fair • Securing community sponsors		
	<ul> <li>Helping shoppers at the Fair</li> <li>Preparing food/baked goods</li> </ul>		
	· Checkout	<ul> <li>Packing up the Fair</li> </ul>	

# Trustee Amanda Fehrman Wards 11 & 12 Newsletter



Amanda Fehrman

Wards 11 & 12 Trustee afehrman@hwdsb.on.ca 365.889.4415

ENGAGE HWDSB

Register at <u>engagehwdsb.ca</u> to learn about projects and consultations in your school community.

Hi Wards 11 & 12,

It has been a busy time since Inaugural Board in November, and I am excited to share with you my first newsletter.

Over the last couple of months, I have had the opportunity to visit all but one of the schools in Wards 11 & 12, and will visit the last school in the upcoming weeks.

It was a great opportunity to meet the students and staff of all the great schools in these wards, get to know the school cultures better, and hear the concerns of students and staff. I also had the opportunity to visit one of our schools with Director of Education Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini.

In January, I attended the Public Education Symposium and had the opportunity to learn more about concerns impacting all students across the province. Attendees discussed how we can all work together to provide opportunities for all students to learn to the best of their abilities.

Some of the concerns I have been working on are addressing the ongoing bussing issues impacting the Ancaster family of schools. Staff members are diligently working on this with the transportation consortium, and we have seen some improvements with more to come. I have also been working with Councillor Tadeson and Councillor Cassars offices to address issues with crossing guard shortages.

Ancaster High recently held the Golden Horseshoe Music Festival, a prestigious event in the music community. In March, we will start consultation about the future of HWDSB and the priorities we need to focus on.

This is part of our strategic directions. Details should be out shortly.

Sincerely, Amanda Fehrman

**HWDSB** 

## **School Renewal Updates**

Ecole Michäelle Jean Elementary – Plans are underway for a benchmark project that includes replacement of windows and the corridor ceiling, as well as washroom and gym renovations. The intention is to commence work in summer 2023, with construction extending into fall 2023 for windows.



Ancaster High - Renovations for Hospitality and Tourism classroom, cafeteria, washrooms, and changerooms. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2023, and will continue throughout the school year in a phased approach with completion in March 2024. Parking Lot repaving will also take place in summer 2023.

## March Break in the Ward

## Westfield Maple Syrup Season

March 5 - April 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Westfield Heritage Village 1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton

## Hamilton Bulldogs v. Ottawa 67's

March 12 at 2 p.m. First Ontario Centre 101 York Blvd, Hamilton

## A Monumental March Break

March 13 - 17, 12 - 4 p.m. Battlefield House Museum & Park 77 King St. West, Stoney Creek

## Hamilton Public Library

Various activities
Various dates and locations
Visit https://www.hpl.ca/ to learn more



Sharing news about Board of Trustee work and activities is important to keeping you informed!

## **Emphasis on Human Rights**

At HWDSB, we believe that all students need to be safe, supported, and included in schools. Trustees passed a collection of policies that support this direction. Policies approved include the <u>Human Rights</u>

Policy, Anti-Black Racism Policy, Whistleblower Policy, and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy.

## **School Environments**

Indoor and outdoor school environments are important to student learning and well-being. Trustees have approved investments that will support students during severe weather.

- Snow Clearing: In response to feedback from families and staff, the Board of Trustees approved the removal of snow from sections of blacktop areas. This change will improve student safety and increase accessibility for students with mobility challenges during snowy or icy conditions.
- **High Heat/Humidity:** Trustees approved the investment in new monitoring units that allow measurement of indoor school conditions when there is extreme heat with high humidity. Schools have plans to reduce activities and provide access to cooler spaces when needed. In extreme circumstances, severe heat and humidity in a school may result in a school closure under the Inclement Weather Policy.

## **Strategic Directions**

Trustees are preparing to set a renewed vision and focus for HWDSB to best serve students and school communities now and in the future. We will be seeking your input on HWDSB's strategic directions in the coming months. We are excited to set new priorities, and look forward to hearing from students, staff, families, and the community this spring. Please watch for further information.

