



Hopewell Avenue Public School Council

ParentSpeak

(Council's monthly newsletter)

www.hopewellschoolcouncil.com

E-mail: parentspeak@gmail.com

November 2009

The next Council meeting is: **Tuesday November 10 at 7 pm** in the school library.

Note from Hopewell Council Chair

The year is off to a fast start for Council, with a wide range of issues being addressed, and many new members coming out to join Council. In fact, we have a total of 37 members in At-Large and named roles, and many of those are new to Council from last year. That's terrific, in my view! It means we have a rich new set of talents and points of view to tap into for the year ahead, and we're already setting a quick pace on several key fronts.

* The **Ski & Skate Exchange** is coming back this year, thanks to Hopewell parent Jenni Tipper's organizational efforts (see details elsewhere in this issue).

* Two **musical productions** are underway - one before Christmas, and one in May -- under the direction of Allison Woyiwada, who's coming back from retirement to direct.

* A wide range of **on-campus lunch options** for Intermediates are being developed jointly between Council, the Administration and teaching staff.

* A new **Grass Yard Committee** has been struck, and is looking closely at further options for making that space work better for the kids.

* A new **Educational Policies Committee** is to be formed, to provide a forum for gathering and formulating the community's views on issues that are presented by the local School Board and the Ontario Ministry of Education.

* The Council's **Technology Committee** has been re-constituted under Rob Casey, and will be channeling the community's technical resources into programs and activities that support the Hopewell learning environment.

* A wide range of activities are being planned to celebrate **Hopewell's 100th Anniversary** throughout the year! The 100th Anniversary logo is official (see header and soon to be on clothing) thanks to the creative talent of Hopewell parent Lori Steele.

So lots going on - and lots more to get done! Please come out to Council meetings, or contact any one of us on the Council to get involved!

-Neal Hill
Chair, 2009/10

Curriculum Survey

The Ministry of Education is asking parents for their opinion on potential changes to the Elementary Curriculum. To express your feedback to the discussion paper "**Supporting Learning and Teaching in Ontario's Elementary Schools**" take the **survey** by November 4, 2009. To access the discussion paper and survey visit the **What's New** section on the Hopewell website at www.hopewellschoolcouncil.com

Ski and Skate Sale: November 28



The annual Hopewell Ski and Skate Sale will be held on Saturday Nov. 28 at the Hopewell School underground parking garage. The success of this event depends on a good selection of skis, skates and snowboard equipment for all ages- kids and adults.

This Fall, as you are going through your winter sports equipment (skis, skates, snowboards, toboggans etc.), please put aside the items that you no longer need and consider selling them at the sale and then buy the equipment you are missing.

Equipment Intake: Friday, Nov. 27th 5:30-8:00pm
Equipment Sale: Saturday, Nov. 28th 9-11:30am

75% of sale proceeds go to the vendor, while the remainder is directed to support public education in Ottawa via the Education Foundation (subject to Council's approval).

The entire OOS Community is welcome to participate.

Volunteers are required on Friday and Saturday to make this event run smoothly. If you can spare a few hours, please email parentspeak@gmail.com

Council's Website

www.hopewellschoolcouncil.com

The **What's New** section of the Hopewell Council website is updated weekly to inform parents of breaking news, upcoming events, Council meeting minutes and volunteer opportunities, so be sure to log on regularly to stay-up-to-date. If there is something important, we will email our parent distribution list. If you are not on the Council's email distribution list, please send your email address to parentspeak@gmail.com

Upcoming Community Events

November 12: Book Launch

Hopewell mom and former Hopewell student, Kate Jaimet (Class of '83), will be launching her hilarious new novel, *Dunces Anonymous*, at Kaleidoscope Kids Books on November 12 at 7 pm. In the afternoon before the launch, Kate will visit the grades 4 to 6 classes at Hopewell to give sneak-preview readings of the book. Everyone is invited to the launch, where we will be serving themed cookies.

November 14: Gifted Education Workshop

The Ottawa Chapter of the Association of Bright Children is hosting a workshop with guest speaker Dr. Karen Rogers on the topic of: *Educating the Gifted in Mainstream Schools*.
Date & Location: Nov. 14, 10am to 4pm in the Canada Room, RA Centre
Cost: \$30 per person or \$50 per couple
For more information visit the Hopewell Council website at: www.hopewellschoolcouncil.com

Vacant Council Positions 2009/10

Council is still looking for people who would like to fill the following positions on Council:

- Junior MFI Rep
- OCASC Rep
- Intermediate Gifted Rep

If you are interested in taking on one of these positions, please email Neal Hill at Nhill55@gmail.com

Anyone can join Council as a Member at Large at any time.

Dates to Remember

Council Meeting: November 10 at 7 pm

PD Day: November 13 & 16

Pizza Lunch: November 12 and 27

Hopewell Happenings (School Newsletter)

Check the Hopewell School website at www.hopewellaveps.ocdsb.ca for the latest edition of Hopewell Happenings. This newsletter is not being printed anymore but you will receive a voicemail to indicate when a new edition of the newsletter is online.