

## Planning the Next School Year

I realize that it is early in the year and most of us are not certain of our plans for the future. However, I will have to put forth proposals for the number of teaching staff we should have next year based on a projected school student population.

It is in this light that I would request that anyone who is aware that their children will not be attending Manitouwadge Public School next year please notify the office so that we can better plan for next year.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter.



Dave Passi  
Principal



Kids Are Authors Participants

## Kids Are Authors

MPS is participating in the Scholastic Book Fair's annual picture book "Kids Are Authors" competition. This year our program runs from September 2005 to March 2006. Our dedicated team of fourteen students, from grades 2 to 7, Mrs. Gould, Mrs. Stuewer, Todd Begin and Mrs. Woodrow meets twice a week in the school library. This contest provides students with the unique opportunity of becoming published authors and illustrators. Scholastic Book Fair's annual picture book competition is a magnificent means to teach teamwork and creativity. "Contest submissions will be judged on inventiveness, story content, artwork quality, general appeal as well as compatibility of text and illustrations[1]". The winners receive the grand prize of \$1000 dollars in cash for their school, their book published, T-shirts, and much more. There are also up to three honor awards. For a list of last year's grand prize-winners and for more information visit: <http://scholastic.ca/bookfairs/kaa/winners.htm>.

[1] <http://scholastic.ca/bookfairs/kaa/rules.htm>

## Superior-Greenstone District School Board – Policy Review

At the January 16th, 2006 meeting of the Board Policy Review Committee the following items were directed to be put forward for stakeholder review:

### Existing Policies:

- Policy 201 - Procedural By Laws (Index Only) (no suggested changes by committee)
- Policy 203 - Senior Administrative Officials (no suggested changes by committee)
- Policy 204 - Trustee Associations (no suggested changes by committee)
- Policy 205 - Cooperation with Other Boards (no suggested changes by committee)
- Policy 207 - Lines of Communication Regarding Complaints (no suggested changes by committee)
- Policy 302 - Student Transportation by Staff or Other Volunteers (suggested committee changes highlighted in yellow)

These documents may be viewed by accessing the board web site at <http://www.sgdsb.on.ca/forms/policyindex.htm> and clicking on their individual links.

"Original" policies can be found under **Approved Board Policies/Management Guidelines** should you wish to compare the originals with the proposed revisions. The section is located on the same page as the revised documents on our board's web site at: <http://www.sgdsb.on.ca/forms/policyindex.htm>

**Comments will be received until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2006, and are to be e-mailed to my attention. Please include the words "Policy Review" in the subject line.**

## After School Literacy Program

Our After School Literacy Program is now in full swing. Selected Grade 7 & 8 students are involved in this program two nights a week for an hour each night. The program is designed to assist and prepare students for the provincial testing they will receive in High School. Thanks to Mrs. Turnbull and Mrs. Vardy for offering to deliver this program.

## Frosty Days

On Friday, in the afternoon, February 17<sup>th</sup>, our students will be involved in a number of activities to celebrate Frosty Days. Activities planned to date include sliding, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, outdoor games, a cake bake-off, skating and curling. It will certainly be an active and enjoyable afternoon for our students.

## Critical Coaches Visit

On, Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, our school will be visited by Board personnel to assess a number of things. First and foremost, they will be assessing the needs of our school in regards to our Literacy Program. Even though a considerable portion of our school's budget has been devoted towards Literacy, there is always room for improvement and hopefully these coaches will be able to assist us.



## Early Years Fair Start Screening (for children 18 month to 36 months)

When? Wednesday, **March 1, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Where? **Family Place** located at 51 Ohsweken Road

This screening will help you decide if there are any areas of our child's development that need more attention.

**Please call Jackie at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit @ 826-4061 for an appointment.**

## Dates to Remember

January 26, 2006 (a.m.) – Grade 8 Grad photos

February 17<sup>th</sup> (p.m.) – Frosty Day Activities

March 13 – 17<sup>th</sup> – March Break

February 3<sup>rd</sup> – PD Day (No classes)

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sock Hop & Dance

March 30<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Annual MPS Auction

## JK/SK Registration – Fall 2006

Registration will take place as follows:

**WHEN:** February 6 – February 17, 2006

**TIME:** 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
(Monday through Friday)

### ELIGIBILITY

Each prospective Junior Kindergarten student must be four years of age prior to December 31, 2006 and each prospective Senior Kindergarten student must be five years of age prior to December 31, 2006. Proof of age, i.e. Birth Certificate, Health Card and Immunization Record must be presented at the time of registration. **Note** that students currently registered (2005-2006 school year) **do not** have to register again.

**Note:** Please be advised that the Superior-Greystone District School Board is considering full-time JK for the 2006-2007 school year. You are asked to drop by the school office to obtain information regarding full day JK and a survey requesting your input on a full day JK program.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact the school at 826-4011.



Thank you to both the **Zotter** and the **Makarchuk** families for the donation of books to the school library.