

Friday, September 2, 2016

Welcome Back to Annette St PS and High Park Alternative PS!

And to those parents, students and guardians who are new to the schools – Welcome! What a pleasure it is to be here heading into my second year as principal at Annette St (ASPS) and High Park Alternative (HPAS). I am excited to be working along side, VP, Edita Tahirovic again this year. We are happy to say that there are not any staff changes in the office this year. Marlene Richards continues as Office Administrator (OA) for HPAS and Corey Clark-McBride continues as the OA for ASPS along with Esmeralda Knowles in the half time clerical position. The biggest changes this year are around the **school time changes** and our soon to be implemented **Parent Safety Program (PSP)**.

Officer Mike and Officer Ted will be here the first day handing out safety pamphlets and letting you know that our PSP program will be starting later this month. They have asked me to remind parents if driving, to be aware of bikes travelling in the bike lanes along Annette St. If you are a parent and are interested in supporting the program one or more mornings a week (8:30-9:50a.m.), please contact me at the school.

We ask for your patience and support as we adjust to our new routines and work together to solve problems as they arise. We want to carry on the many great traditions and events that define HPAS and ASPS and provide a safe and positive environment for every student to learn and thrive.

Staff have been busy preparing their classrooms for the 2016/2017 school year and have been incredibly supportive to our new staff as they settle in to this great community. Brian, Ed and James have been working hard all summer to prepare the school for the school year and have done a fantastic job. We are so lucky to have them!

School Council Meetings will be posted on the ASPS or HPAS websites shortly after Edita and I have the opportunity to meet with the chairs from the 2014/15 councils. The September meeting is the meeting where the **School Council election** will take place. There will be more information coming home soon. Please plan to attend. Your involvement and support at any level is welcome and appreciated. We believe that strong connections between home, school and the community are critical to the success of our students and our school. There is babysitting available at the school.

Student agendas for grades 3-8 can be purchased next week. The cost is **\$7.00**. Milk will not be available until September 12th. Student Information packages will be sent home along with our new **Parent Handbook**. Please take time to review it and let us know if you have questions. Thanks to our office staff for preparing it!

We hope to see you at the **‘Welcome Back BBQ/Curriculum Night’** on Thursday, September 22nd. The BBQ (provided by the Parent Councils) is from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and classroom visits are from 6:15-7:15 p.m. We hope you can make it.

School hours:

Entry Bell (am) –	8:45 am		
Class Start time -	8:50 am	Announcements -	9:00 am
Recess (am) -	10:00 am (Grades 1-8)		
Lunch -	11:35 am – 12:30 pm (grade 1-8) 11:35-12:35 (JK/SK)		
Entry Bell (pm) -	12:30 pm		
Class Start time -	12:35 pm		
Recess (pm) -	1:55 pm (Grades 1-8 only)		
Dismissal -	3:20 pm (Grades 1-8) 3:10 pm (JK/SK)		

We cannot stress enough the importance of students being here every day, on time and ready to learn. Please reinforce this with your children. If for any reason they are going to be late, absent or need to leave early for an appointment, please call and leave a message on the ‘**Safe Arrival Line**’ or send a note to the office.

Looking forward to a great year!

Nancy Keenan(Principal) & Edita Tahirovic (Vice Principal)

Annette St P.S. & High Park Alternative P.S.