



Amherstburg Public School

Eagle Pride News



Principal's Message

Please visit our web-site at: <http://www.gecdsb.on.ca/schools/ELEM/aps>

Our newsletter is online! Check us out on our school's web site.

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Welcome Back

Welcome to a new year of learning at APS. We hope that you had a wonderful summer. We welcome our families back along with many new families coming to our school. Our school community is made up of enthusiastic students, supportive parents, a dedicated and hardworking staff and a very caring Parent Involvement Committee. Our teachers, Ms. Alexopoulos and I are looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning. The school looks exceptionally great thanks to the efforts of our custodians: Mr. Ciphery and Mr. Market. My thanks go out to the staff for all the time they have already spent in school and at home, preparing for our first day back. Our office is ready to go because of all the hard work by Mrs. Breshamer and Mrs. Bradburn.

School Culture

We have high expectations for student success at APS. Our focus is on learning. We are truly committed to ensuring the safest and best learning environment for our students. We believe that all students can learn and maintain good behaviour. Another focus at APS is community building. Staff and students work hard to make our school a safe place to learn and grow. Our third priority is care of the environment. We are a gold certified ECO school and will continue to work with the community in our green efforts.

New and Returning Staff

We would like to welcome back Ms. Nicholls who will be returning to A.P.S. in one of our Gr. 7 classrooms. She will be taking over for Mrs. Wakeman who is on a maternity leave. Mrs. Holt has returned from her leave to teach in one of our special education resource rooms. We also welcome back Mrs. Joseph-Tsang from her leave. She will be working as a learning support teacher and also in our library.

New to our school this year will be Ms. Meloche who will be teaching Grade 7. She joins us from Benson Public School, Ms. Braithwaite who will be our learning support teacher coming from Lasalle Public School and Ms. Waites who will be teaching here half-time and at Anderdon half-time.

Working Together for our Students

Please know that our doors are always open and we invite you to come and speak with us whenever you have comments or questions about your child's program or progress. I look forward to another productive year working with the students, staff and parents at Amherstburg. The staff and I are eager to work closely with each and every member of the school community. Let's have a great year!

Sincerely,
Mr. C. Mills



New Food and Beverage Policy

September '11 – Introducing the School Food and Beverage Policy

We all want children to do well in school. A healthy child is a healthier learner. How are schools helping children stay healthy? The *School Food and Beverage Policy* (PPM 150) is being introduced to make sure that healthy food and beverages are sold in schools. The policy will be in place by September 1, 2011.

The *School Food and Beverage Policy* uses nutrition standards based on *Canada's Food Guide*. It will help ensure that the healthiest choices are the easiest for students to make.

- The *School Food and Beverage Policy* applies to food and beverages sold:
1. At all sites on school property, such as cafeterias, vending machines, and tuck shops
 2. In all programs, including catered lunches and
 3. At all events on school property, including bake sales and sports events.

For more information on the *School Food and Beverage Policy* (PPM 150), go to www.ontario.ca/healthyschools.

Healthy Students Walk to School

<p>Did you know that 88% of children and youth are still not meeting Canada's Physical Activity Guidelines? The good news is that walking to and</p>	<p>from school is a great way for children to build activity into their day. Not only is walking good for you, it's good for the earth and environment.</p>	<p>Fewer cars on the road means cleaner air for all of us. We hope to see more children walking to and from school this year.</p>
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Monthly Newsletters and calendar will be on-line starting in October. Check us out at www.gecdsb.on.ca/schools/elem/aps

We are also creating an email list so that newsletters and other important documents can be emailed to you directly. Please fill out the form below and return it to the school if you are interested in being a part of our email list. This would greatly support our ECO School initiatives.
 (Should you require a paper copy of the newsletter, please contact Miss Alexopoulos at the school.)

Child's name and Homeroom Classroom: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Meet the Teacher Night Agendas/Handbook

Please join us on Thursday, September 22nd. This year we will once again be hosting a barbecue from 4:30-6:30 p.m. S.A.C. elections will follow at 6:30 p.m. in the school Library. We look forward to seeing you. More information to follow.

Please check your children's homework and agendas daily. We appreciate when they are signed. The agendas this year cost \$2.00. We are asking parents to please review the Student/Parent Handbook with their children and sign and return the tear-out page at the back. You will find this information helpful throughout the year.

Toonie for Terry

On Wednesday September 28, 2011, our students will be participating in a walk to support this cause. Rather than send around a pledge form, we are asking that each student bring in a "Toonie for Terry." All monies raised that day will be forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation, to be donated to cancer research.



School Advisory Council

Amherstburg Public School has a very dedicated School Council. As a member of School Council you are able to continue to discover new and exciting ways to contribute to the education of the students at Amherstburg. Education is a partnership involving many partners including: parents, students, teachers, principals, school boards and government. Your involvement in School Council

gives you the opportunity to strengthen that partnership, and be a part of a dedicated team working to ensure a high quality of education for students. The first meeting of the Amherstburg School Advisory Council (SAC) will be held following our Meet the Teacher Night on Thursday, September 22, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Each September we are required to hold elections for School Council

Executive Members (Chair or Co-Chairs, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, as well as Committee Chairs). We encourage all parents to become actively involved in this process. Please contact the school if you are interested in nominating yourself or another parent. Consider a role with the School Council. It is an excellent way to contribute to the education of our students!

Classroom Reorganization

As a result of the Board's and Ministry of Education maximum primary class size policy and our school's student enrolment numbers we still may have to make changes to classrooms in the next two weeks. Reorganization day is September 19, 2011. At that time, we may need to adjust classroom placements based on numbers. If this happens, you will receive a letter on Friday September 16th stating your child's placement for Monday morning. Although change, even in the first weeks of school can be difficult, we appreciate your support and understanding that this is done in the best interest of all our students. Unfortunately, class assignments for students will not be changed. Please be assured that our school staff will make every effort to ease the transition for your child.

A few reminders...

Yard Supervision

Please do not send children to school before 8:45 am. There is no adult supervision on the playground until 8:45. We want to ensure the safety of all of our students.

Parking Lot

Our parking lot and the front of the school are very busy at dismissal time due to the many cars and school buses. Please be sure to park your car in a marked spot and walk your children to and from the school. Thank you for assisting the staff on duty and Ms Alexopoulos and I by walking your children to your cars. We would also like to thank you for not parking in the middle of the parking lot when picking up your child. This can create safety issues and we appreciate your cooperation. The safety of our children is our utmost concern. Our Drop-off area provides safe passage for our students from their cars in the marked area on the parking lot to the school yard every morning. Please be sure to use the crosswalk when walking your children from the parking lot.

Wonderful Lunch Aides:

We welcome back the following lunch aides who help make our lunch hours safe and productive for our students: Mrs. Brassett, Ms. Curtis and Ms. Chipp-Smith. We welcome Ms. Shaw, Ms. Fielding, Ms. Crane, Ms. Pelaccia and Mr. Rocheleau

Medication at School—New Forms Needed

If it is necessary to send prescription medication to school with your child, you must complete a special health unit form. These forms are available at the office and require the signature of a physician. Without this form, we are not able to give out medication. The medication **MUST** be in the **ORIGINAL** container. New forms need to be filled out at the beginning of each school year. Amherstburg’s staff may not administer non-prescription drugs to pupils at anytime.

Student Attendance

At the Greater Essex County District School Board “Every Day Counts”. If your child will be absent, please call the school at: 519-736-2180 or 519-736-2189. A phone call before 8:30 would be appreciated. We are fortunate to have an answering machine that enables you to leave a message 24 hours a day. Phone calls home will begin at 9:00 a.m. following our Safe Arrival Program procedures.

Early Dismissal

We ask that when at all possible, appointments be made before or after school to maximize uninterrupted learning time. If it is necessary for your child to be dismissed early, please send a note to the teacher. The teacher will forward the note to the office. If you are picking up your child before dismissal, please report to the office. Your child will be paged to the office. We ask that you do not go directly to the classroom as it disrupts the learning of others. Thank you to all of our parents for helping to make our school such a safe and secure place to learn.

YMCA of Windsor and Essex County

Before and After School Latchkey

In Amherstburg Public School

Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Call **519-258-3881** for Registration Details

International Languages

Each year the GECDSB offers International Language Classes for pupils from Grades 1-8. This is an excellent opportunity for your child to learn a second or third language. There is no cost. Last year the following languages were offered: Arabic, Spanish, Italian, Urdu, Mandarin, Macedonian, Punjabi, Korean, Serbian, Bengali, Tamil and Vietnamese. However, any language class can be established with a minimum of 25 students and an available instructor. Classes will be offered on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. Transportation is not provided. Registration forms are available from your home school or on the Board's Website at <http://www.gecdsb.on.ca/programs/intlLang/>

All registration forms must be returned to your school's secretary by September 19, 2011.

Report Card Information

2011-2012 Parent-Teacher Interviews, Progress Reports and Report Cards

The Greater Essex County District School Board recognizes the importance of strong communication links with parents/guardians. Sharing timely information about a student's achievement and development is essential. An elementary progress report will go home November 14, with interviews taking place on November 17. The first formal Report Card will be sent home February 6 with interviews taking place on February 9. The final report card will go home at the end of June. As always, there will be individual opportunities throughout the year for informal contact.

Accident Insurance

Each year parents are given an opportunity to purchase student accident insurance. Fewer than 20% of parents take advantage of this insurance. Many parents believe, mistakenly, that the Greater Essex County District School Board provides coverage for accidental purposes. Parents are encouraged to purchase this low-cost benefit. The most common reason for using this insurance is accidental dental injuries, which are costly and frequently occur during accidents on the playground or participation in sports. Forms to purchase this insurance will be sent home with our students during the first week of school.

Ready to Learn – Setting Up Routines

Establish routines to help your child do their best at school. Consider the routines below to make your child feel more.....

Relaxed. Music can help your child avoid the morning rush. Play a soothing tape and ask him/her to be dressed and ready by the time it's over.

Energized. A good breakfast increases concentration. Offer healthy choices to your youngster to help start them off right each day.

Connected. Talking about the school day lets your child know you care. Ask him/her to share two good things that happened during the day. Prompt him/her with specific questions.

Recess Snack Program

We are fortunate at APS to have partial funding for a healthy snack program 3 times a week. Part of our snack program mandate requires us to collect a portion of the costs. Parent donations are willingly accepted. Cheques made payable to: Amherstburg Public School. Also, any volunteers who are willing to shop for snacks and/or help prepare the snacks are greatly appreciated. Please contact the school if you are willing to help out.

Staff List

Early Years

**Mrs. Shepley
Mrs. McLennan
Ms. Reive**

Grade 1

**Mrs. Almeida
Ms. Orchard**

Grade 2

**Mrs. Loggie
Mrs. Sneddon**

Grade 2/3

Mrs. Cipkar

Grade 3

Ms. Lovell

Grade 3/4

Ms. More

Grade 4

Ms. Cadarette

Grade 5

**Ms. Drouillard
Mr. Rosati**

Grade 6

Mrs. D'Aloisio

Grade 7

**Mrs. Meloche
Mrs. Nicholls**

Grade 8

**Mr. D'Aloisio
Mrs. Reaume**

Special Education

**Mrs. Heugh
Mrs. Holt**

Learning Support

**Mrs. Joseph
Mrs. Braithwaite**

French

**Ms. Brandie
Ms. Alexopoulos**

Music

Mrs. Muzzatti

Library

Ms. Waites

Educational Assistants

**Mrs. Thrasher, Mrs. Gazdig, Mrs. Querqui,
Ms. Gullick, Ms. Kciuk**

Early Childhood Educators

Mrs. Oshar, Mrs. Bombardier, Mrs. Wood

Child and Youth Worker

Mrs. Lemire

Principal

Mr. Mills

Vice Principal

Ms. Alexopoulos

Secretary

Mrs. Breshamer

General Duty Clerk

Mrs. Bradburn

Custodians

**Mr. Ciphery
Mr. Market**