



Grapeview Gazette

FEBRUARY 2019

Grapeview Public School,
106 1st St. Louth, St. Catharines, ON, L2R 6P9
<http://grapeview.dsbni.org/>
905- 984- 5517

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

SIMON HANCOX- PRINCIPAL
KARA VELD- VICE PRINCIPAL

Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 4-11- School Climate Survey

Feb. 8- Term 1 Report Cards Go Home

Feb. 8- January's Celebration Assembly
(rescheduled to this date from Feb. 1)

Feb. 14- Dance-a-thon- run by parent council

Feb. 15- P.A.Day

Feb. 18- Family Day- no school

Feb. 26- Parent Council Meeting

Feb. 27- Grad Photos

Breakfast Club is running each morning. If your child is not a morning person they are welcome to come in before the bell to receive something healthy to start their day or take a snack on their way up to class after the bell has gone.

Message from the Office

It is a great month at Grapeview. We welcomed new kindergarten students and families at our Kindergarten Open House and we continued to celebrate students achievements in many different ways.

Your child's Term 1 report card will be coming home on Friday, February 8. This is a great opportunity to ask your child questions about their learning. At school we will also continue to discuss successes, next steps and goal setting. If you have any questions or concerns and would like to meet with the teacher to discuss the report card, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting. The bottom portion of pages 3 and 4 are the student and parent comment section. Please complete and detach this section and return this to the school. This portion of the report card is important documentation that is placed in your child's school records.

We are officially up and running with our Safe Arrival system for reporting your child's absence. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for a recap if you missed the information. At the office we are noticing some glitches. At the beginning of the year you updated or completed verification forms. If you did not update each of your child's forms or if there has been an address/ e-mail/ phone number change or priority contact change we are noticing that there is a problem with the call out system connecting with the correct number. If you are finding the system is not calling you correctly please come in to update or confirm the verification form. Thank you. We appreciate your patience as we all learn this new system.

A Reminder- Please let your classroom teacher and office know if changes are being made to the person picking up your child at the end of the day, even if it is a change from your normal routine and is only for that day. Safety is our priority and we need this help from you to make sure your child is safe. Likewise if your running late for pick up at the end of the day, please call the office and we will have your child waiting in the office supervised until your arrival.

February is another month busy with learning and activities for all of our students. A Dance-a-thon will be hosted, by the Parent Council, for all students on February 14. We look forward to this event and the opportunity to raise money for our school.

We celebrate Gryphon Pride each day by working hard, being kind and having fun!

Sincerely,

Mr. Hancox and Ms. Veld

Safe Arrival

At District School Board of Niagara, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each day.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are introducing a **new, more efficient** student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

With **SafeArrival**, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.

Use the SafeArrival website, at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.

Call the toll-free number 1-866-606-5567 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

The SafeArrival app will have a number of benefits for both parents and staff. It is quick, convenient and will allow you to report daily absences as well as schedule future absences for your children for medical appointments and other important events in your lives. Using SafeArrival, you will be able to update your contact information easily, should it change. SafeArrival will also reduce the amount of staff time dedicated to tracking student absences, allowing them to spend more time supporting students.

In addition, we will use the **SchoolMessenger Communicate** automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the SafeArrival toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we implement this new system.

Change in pick up information

We recognize that things may change and there are someday you may need a family member or friend (that is not indicated on our verification form) to pick up your child(ren) or the person picking up your child is on the verification form but this is a change from the routine. If you could please call the office and/or let your child's teacher know of this change it helps with dismissal and safety.

RUNNING LATE?

Please call the office to inform of if you are running late and we will have your child(ren) come to the office to wait for you.



Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon Thursday, February 14th, 2019

We're celebrating a day of friendship!

Grapeview's Parent Volunteers are hosting our annual dance-a-thon! It is our only major fundraiser of the year. All students will have an opportunity to participate and fund raise for this exciting event. Students will be scheduled to enter the dance for approximately 1 period. Parents are welcome to attend and watch their child(ren) dancing and having fun.

Envelopes went home last week. If you did not receive an envelope with your youngest or only child- please contact the office.

A "Glow store" will be set up outside of the gym. Glow rings, necklaces and other glow gear will be for sale for \$2.00. Students can bring their money on the day of the event. EVERY student will receive a free glow bracelet to enjoy during the dance.

A **prize draw** will be made at the end of the day. Students will be entered into the draw who returned their envelope/donated online a minimum for \$5.00.

In order to make such an event successful, we need parents, grandparents and guardians of Grapeview children to help supervise the dance and work the dance-a-thon store on February 14th. If you are interested, please let the office know.

Let's work together to make this a great FUNdraising event!

Dance-a-thon Committee

**Next Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 26, at 6 p.m.
in the Learning Commons.
All parents are welcome.**

**Children who will be turning 4 before December 31, 2019
are eligible to start Kindergarten in September 2019.
Please come into the office to register if you have not already.**

You can also register online—

Visit www.dsbm.org

Select—Early Learners

Kindergarten Open House

Scroll down to Download the Kindergarten Registration

We looking forward to meeting our new Grapeview Gryphons.

Go to the DSBM
Website to down-
load my book!

