



# Grapeview Gazette

JANUARY 2019

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

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

SIMON HANCOX- PRINCIPAL  
KARA VELD- VICE PRINCIPAL



## Mark Your Calendar

- **Jan. 7- Welcome back Happy New Year**
- **Jan. 11- December Celebration Assembly**
- **Jan. 17- Grade 5/6 and Grade 6 to Walker Living Campus**
- **Jan. 17- Bus Safety Presentation K-8**
- **Jan. 18- P.A. Day- no classes today**
- **Jan. 31- Kindergarten Open House**
- **Feb. 1- January Celebration Assembly**
- **Feb. 8- Term 1 Report Cards go home**
- **Feb. 14- Dance-a-thon- run by Parent Council**
- **Feb. 15- P.A. Day- no classes today**
- **Feb. 18- Family Day**
- **Feb. 26- Parent Council Meeting**
- **Feb. 27- Grad Photos**

## Message from the Office

*Dear Grapeview Families,*

*Happy New Year! January always feels like a new start here at school. It is the opportunity to reflect on our previous year and set goals and expectation for the coming year for ourselves. Teachers often use this time to help students focus on goal setting. Helping a child to understand what they want to achieve, where they need to concentrate their efforts and helping them to set a plan in order to be successful can lead a child down a successful path. Goal setting can help students identify distraction that had previously kept them from their goals. Goal setting can also improve academic performance, increase student motivation, self-confidence and increase pride and commitment to learning. The Term 1 Report Cards will be sent home early next month. The staff look forward to working together with you and your child to goal set and plan for achievement in 2019. We look forward to another great month at Grapeview!*

*Sincerely,*

*Mr. S. Hancox and Ms. K. Veld*



**Absence Reporting- Please check out page 2 of our newsletter.**

**Your child will also be bringing home a note with detailed information about this new system.**

# SafeArrival

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.

If you have not provided us with an email address, you may do so by contacting the school secretary by calling 905-984-5517.

If you have children attending other schools, please continue to report absences using the existing procedures for those schools.

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

## Parent Council

Next Meeting– February 26, 6 p.m. in Learning Commons

Looking to get involved in your child's school, consider coming to a parent council meeting. Joining the parent council provides you with the opportunity to meet other parents and discuss issues concerning your child and further develop your connection to the Grapeview community. We will also provide babysitting by some of our older responsible students.



## Is DSBN Academy a good fit for your child?

The DSBN Academy is a Grade 6 to Grade 12 public school designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university.

The faculty and student body are committed to excellence and the belief that, with hard work, they can achieve their dreams. Come learn how our unique program prepares students to succeed at college and university and how your child can benefit from the opportunities offered at DSBN Academy. All families are invited to attend a parent information session in your community. Please see below for dates, times and locations.

### Parent Information Sessions

	WHERE	TIME
Wednesday, November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2018	PEACE BRIDGE P.S. - Fort Erie	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Monday, November 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	VALLEYWAY P.S. - Niagara Falls	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Wednesday November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	DIAMOND TRAIL P.S. - Welland	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Tuesday December 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	PLYMOUTH P.S. - Welland	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Thursday December 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	HARRIET TUBMAN P.S. – St Catharines	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Monday December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	SENATOR GIBSON P.S. - Beamsville	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Tuesday January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	DSBN ACADEMY – St Catharines <i>OPEN HOUSE</i>	6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

### Admission Requirements

DSBN Academy recruits and enrolls students from all 12 municipalities within the Niagara Region. Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements, both at the time of application as well as at enrollment:

- Student must be entering Grades 6, 7 or 8 in September.
- Student would be the first in their family to graduate from a college or university program. If a sibling of the student has attended a post-secondary institution but the parent(s)/guardian(s) have not, the student is still considered a First Generation Student.
- Student must be achieving current grade level expectations or just below.
- Student has demonstrated the potential for achieving "good" or "excellent" learning skills, particularly initiative, independent work and responsibility.
- Student must be willing to attend a school location that may be out of his/her community.
- Student understands that there is a mandatory after-school program which includes enrichment opportunities and academic supports.
- Families must understand that it is a single track pathway beginning in grade 9 (Academic Level Only).
- Families understand that there is a parent engagement requirement of 15 hours each year.
- Applicants must submit a **completed** application to their current school by February 8, 2019.



## DreamBox Update

Congratulations to the following top classes for lessons completed in December.

Mrs. Gibson's Kindergarten Class

Mrs. Keyes' Grade 3 Class

Mrs. Contois' Grade 5/6 Class

If you are interested in learning about how your child is doing with their Dreambox learning you can receive access through the parent account. Follow the steps below to learn how your child is achieving and areas of focus.

To review your child's academic progress with a DreamBox Parent Account.

Please follow these steps to create your free Parent Account:

1. Go to <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/grapeviewps>
2. Have your child login to their profile just as they would at school.
3. Click Setup Parent Access at the bottom of the page.
4. Follow instructions to create a new login and password.
5. Read Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.
6. Click "Submit".

Log into your home account after set up:

1. Go to <http://play.dreambox.com>
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. To see student progress, click the "Parent Dashboard" button.



In order for DreamBox to open up the appropriate series of lessons to enable students to master the content, it is critical that parents allow students to work through the math *independently*. DreamBox will alter the content in the lessons in order to scaffold learning for students who initially find the content challenging. You will be amazed by what you can learn about your child and math by sitting behind your child and watching her or him play DreamBox but please resist the temptation of telling him or her the answer.

If you have any questions, please contact DreamBox Client Care by calling them at 877-451-7845 (weekdays 7am to 5pm, Pacific Time), or email [support@dreambox.com](mailto:support@dreambox.com). Or contact the school for support.