

SEPTEMBER  
2014



# AURORA SENIOR NEWS

www.aurorasenior.ps.yrdsb.ca

Aurora Senior P.S.  
125 Wellington St. W  
Aurora, ON  
L4G 2P3

905-727-9751

- Mr. K. Arnott  
Principal
- Ms. C. Fischer  
Vice Principal
- Mrs. D. Ieraci  
Mrs. C. Laughy  
School Office Staff
- Mrs. G. Brocklebank-  
Vincent  
Superintendent  
(905-884-4477)
- Mr. P. Adams-  
Luchowski  
Trustee

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*I am pleased to be returning to Aurora this year as the Principal of Aurora Senior and George Street PS. I have heard wonderful things about the students at these schools and feel I know the community well after several years as Principal of Aurora Heights and Northern Lights Public Schools. I also have a great advantage with Ms. Fischer continuing this year as the Vice Principal and my admin partner. She offers tremendous insight and enthusiasm to both schools.*

*Although I am already familiar with the community, I look forward to sharing more time with students in the learning environment and meeting more of you at upcoming events such as our Meet The Teacher Night and our annual Terry Fox Run. Setting goals that enhance student success in the coming year is an important part of my role at both schools and supporting our transition to one school in September 2015. I hope that you are able to get involved and support learning as well.*

*Please take the time to review all of the information that was sent home about the school, the Board and the expectations and routines early in September. Questions may be answered by accessing the school website as we continue to update information each month and I encourage you to communicate regularly and positively with your child's teacher throughout the year. Let's inspire learning together. Welcome back and have a successful 2014-2015.*



## HEALTH AND SAFETY:

As you will see in the YRDSB red handbook, all schools have established a policy and routines to deal with life-threatening food, insect and scent allergies. To ensure the safety of all of students, we ask that you **not send peanuts, nuts or any type of nut product** to school as part of a lunch or snack. Students will be continually reminded about this safety policy and our adult lunch supervisors will be vigilant as well. Parents are advised to notify the school about any food allergies and provide the necessary medication or EpiPens. We also remind students and visitors to the building to **refrain from using perfumes or other strong scented products**.

September 29- October 3<sup>rd</sup> is Safety Week at our school. We will share important information and remind students that week about allergies and other health issues such as bus safety and fire safety. We will also practice a **LOCK DOWN** drill at that time. More specific information will be shared with students and parents. Bus safety presentations will take place in October.

For student safety and security it is very important that parents always sign in and out at the office when visiting the school. Students must also use our sign-out book when they need to leave for various reasons during the school day. This book is available in the office. The entry doors are always locked during the instructional day and parents are asked to ring in to the office when they arrive. Grade 7 and 8 students should review our Lunch policy if they plan to leave school property during the lunch hour on **Fridays only**.

**Student Accident Insurance:** School yards and gymnasiums are very active places during class and at recess time. Although we provide proper supervision and instruction during these activity times, accidents will happen and we have a team and a plan to respond to medical needs. We still stress the need for proper insurance coverage and have recently sent home information about student accident insurance. It is important that you carry some kind of appropriate medical coverage during the entire school year. The school board does not cover these costs.





## ASPS NEWSLETTER

### HELPFUL REMINDERS TO START THE YEAR:

- Lost and Found items that remain unclaimed are collected and donated at the end of each term. It is highly recommended that you properly label all of your child's school clothing, especially indoor shoes, boots and winter snow suits.
- Valuable property of any kind, such as collector cards, games, iPods and even cell phones should remain at home. Personal items that are lost or damaged are not the responsibility of the school and cell phones are not to be used during the school day. Emergency situations are always handled by the office staff and not by personal cell phone.
- Students with lockers at school should purchase a Dudley lock and keep them closed and properly locked at all times to help protect personal property.
- Recess and lunch times are as follows: morning recess begins at 10:35 and lunch runs from 12:45 – 1:45. (1:05-1:45 is Intermediate outdoor recess and Junior lunch recess occurs from 12:45 – 1:25. **SPECIAL LUNCH** dates will be determined by the School Council volunteers.

### TOUCHSTONE

The Aurora Senior Touchstone was created by students chosen to represent the larger population of the school. It was written so that all students and staff at the school would share common ideas and beliefs within our school community as they interact with each other.

Each month we come together as a school to celebrate student accomplishments and to recognize students who have demonstrated the Touchstone. Teachers recognize students, and students also recognize their peers. It is a great way to reinforce that at Aurora Senior, everyone belongs!

### IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPTEMBER 22: P.A. DAY

**SEPTEMBER 23: MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT** \**this is a revised date*

SEPTEMBER 24: TERRY FOX RUN

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 3: SCHOOL SAFETY WEEK

SEPTEMBER 29: SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 2: QSP FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN BEGINS

OCTOBER 2: AREA CROSS COUNTRY MEET

OCTOBER 13: THANKSGIVING

*\* PLEASE NOTE: this section of the newsletter will include all special events for the school and should be noted on a calendar that you might maintain at home or in your child's school agenda. The monthly newsletters are posted on our website.*



### LUNCH SUPERVISORS

Parents: we need your help!

If you are interested in helping as a paid lunch supervisor, please speak to Ms. Fischer about your interest and availability.



### SCHOOL AGENDA/HANDBOOK:

We strongly advise that each grade 4-8 student purchase a school Agenda. **The cost of the agenda is \$4.40.** We find that this is the best way to communicate with us on a regular basis. Please take the time early in this school year to read and review all the information, rules and routines found in the agenda and the YRDSB handbook that was sent home with every student. Your support and engagement at home will contribute to more positive student communication, responsibility and academic success at all grade levels. Agendas will be on sale at school in September. Please send \$4.40 for the agenda with your child. They may purchase an agenda this week at recess or lunch in the main hallway.

### EMERGENCY FORMS:

Mrs. Ieraci and Mrs. Laughey are in the process of gathering and updating all of the emergency student health forms in our office. We require this important information as soon as possible, even if your child attended Aurora Senior last year. The BOOK OF FORMS was sent home during the first week of school. Attached to the form is another information sheet that will allow us to add you to our email distribution list. We want and need to communicate in a more effective manner in order to provide up-to-date school newsletters, event notices, fundraising news and other important bulletins or announcements from the School or the Board. We will save paper, time and money. Please send back the sheet with an accurate email contact address. Thank you.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Our student athletes are literally off to a running start. Cross-country practices start this week: Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays at morning recess all students are welcome to come and train in preparation for the Area Cross Country Meet on October 2, 2014. The cross-country team is the first chance for students to represent the school in large numbers at upcoming area and regional competitions. We were Intermediate Area Champions last year! Students have been reminded to listen to daily announcements regarding school teams and other extra-curricular activities. For more information about this team please contact Coach Taivassalo.

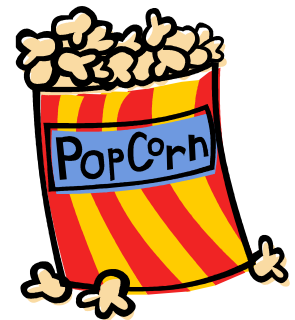


## TERRY FOX RUN

Aurora Senior along with thousands of other schools across Canada will be participating in the annual Terry Fox Run on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. All students and staff will take part in a run/walk around the school field perimeter in the afternoon on that day. Parents are welcome to join us as well. We will be collecting donations of any value but would like all students to consider giving a "Toonie for Terry" or a "Five for Fox" to support the Terry Fox Foundation in their effort to find a cure and provide better treatment for cancer patients. Together we will continue to make Terry's dream a reality. Last year we were able to raise \$1100.

## SNACK BAR

The school snack bar will be available to all students during the lunch hour. We will be offering sales of healthy cookies, frozen yoghurt baked chips and other healthy snack choices. Proceeds from the sales help to support student extra-curricular activities at the school. Sales will begin on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.



## STUDENT LEADERS

Mr. Arnott and Ms. Fischer met with all junior and intermediate students on the first day of school to talk about leadership opportunities at Aurora Senior. WE are always encouraging our students, especially Grade 7 and 8s to get involved and help out with various jobs around the school. Some of the leadership opportunities include; office helpers, milk monitors, house league referees and pizza helpers, not to mention numerous other extra-curricular events. Leadership helps to build character and makes a much more active, positive school for all of us.

## CELL PHONES

Students have been advised by their teachers about the rules and expectations related to cell phones and any other personal electronic devices. As with any device the Board policy regarding the Appropriate Use of Technology always applies. There may be occasions where cell phones will be allowed based on teacher program and iPods during specified recess activities. Cell phones are certainly not a necessary part of the curriculum and can also be left at home or locked up in the student locker during the school day.



## JUMPSTART DAY

Our Grade 5 and 6 classes will be taking part in a special *Jump Start* event in Newmarket this week. The event is part of a community celebration sponsored by Canadian Tire and encouraging students to adopt a healthier active lifestyle.

## BOOK FAIR

Aurora Senior PS will be hosting a book fair in the library on Meet the Teacher Night: Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sales of books and other items will be offered from 6:30 until 8:30 that evening. Please stop by and browse/shop.



# AURORA SENIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

SCHOOL COUNCIL  
CHAIR:

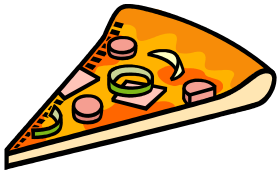
*Mrs. Robin Scanga*  
[rscanga@rogers.com](mailto:rscanga@rogers.com)

**Extreme Pita Days  
will be on Tuesdays**

**Delicious Greek  
Days will be  
Wednesdays**

**Pizza Pizza Days will  
be Thursdays**

**All order forms will  
be sent out shortly!**



**Welcome back!** Our first Council Meeting of 2014-15 will be held on Monday, September 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the ASPS Library. Elections will take place at the meeting for this year's new council members. Council meets about once a month in the evening for a couple of hours. Nomination forms are available in the office and at the "Meet the Teacher" Spaghetti dinner on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. For further information, please contact Robin Scanga [rscanga@rogers.com](mailto:rscanga@rogers.com). We encourage you to consider getting involved. This year will be an exciting year with the schools amalgamation of the two schools. As well it's a great way to learn about what's going on at ASPS and GSPS.

**MEET THE TEACHER SPAGHETTI DINNER:**

Our annual Meet the Teacher Spaghetti Dinner, will take place on Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. More information regarding ticket sales and dinner times will be provided soon. Stay tuned!

**LUNCH PROGRAMS:**

Once again our parent volunteers have offered to run the Pizza, Extreme Pita and Greek Food Lunch programs. Order forms for the lunch programs will be sent out and the program will start soon, so please be on the look-out for them.

**QSP MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION FUNDRAISER:**

The QSP Magazine Fundraiser Kick-Off Assembly will be on Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The program will operate a little differently this year so please look for information coming soon. We have attached some of the related information about these magazine sales.

**2013-2014 COUNCIL:**

School Council meeting on Sept. 29 is the final one for the 2013-14 school year and we will be voting the new members in on that evening. The first School Council Meeting of 2014-15 will be in October. Date to be announced.

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**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th, 2014  
AT 7:00 PM  
IN THE AURORA SENIOR LIBRARY**

