



THE GIBSON GAZETTE

Feb. 6



@JosephAGibsonPS

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Grant Fawthrop
Superintendent
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Nadeem Mahmood
Trustee
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Message from our School Trustee

I hope everyone has had a wonderful start to 2023, and enjoyed their winter break.

One of the most important roles of school board trustees is communicating with the public. I hope to use this newsletter as one way to keep you updated on Board news, to communicate my role as trustee and how I can support you, and to answer some of the questions I am often asked as a trustee.

Communicating with the public includes both sharing information and attending events to build relationships with families, but also ensuring I am available to you. If you have questions about Board policies or budget, concerns about your community, ideas and suggestions, or have a question and don't know [who to call](#), please feel free to reach out. I am happy to assist you.

Our Board of Trustees is made up of 12 trustees elected during the municipal election process, and one Indigenous trustee appointed through a separate process. Eight of the 12 elected trustees are new this term, and we are all looking forward to connecting with families and fulfilling our roles to support student achievement and well-being.

What do Trustees Do?

In addition to communicating with the public, we are also responsible for:

Establishing a Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This [plan](#) sets out our priorities as a school board and guides our direction and decision making as a system.

Setting policy. [Policies](#) govern the operation of our schools and organization, including field trips, school transportation, homework, caring and safe schools and much more. You can find out which policies are up for review in our [meeting agendas](#), or which [policies are out for comment](#) on the website. Your participation in this process is important to ensuring our policies are serving our communities and align with our priorities.

Setting an annual budget. I look forward to sharing more information about this process with you in the coming months as we engage in [budget](#) consultations.

Participating on Board and Advisory Committees. You can find the dates and agendas for these meetings on the Board website. You are welcome to attend and observe any [public Board, Advisory and Board Committee meetings](#).

Hiring the Director of Education. This process is governed by the [Director of Education Selection Policy](#), and we will keep you updated as this process progresses. In the meantime, I am deeply grateful to Interim Director of Education Scott Yake for his commitment and service.

Advocating for quality public education. I became a school board trustee because I believe in public education. I believe in the potential of each and every one of our students and our responsibility to nurture their learning, growth and achievement. Our decisions as a board are centred on our commitment to deliver the best for our students.

What's Happening in YRDSB

[Kindergarten](#) registration opened January 20 for families with children who will start Kindergarten in September 2023.

[French Immersion registration](#) is open from January 20-February 6 for students entering Grade 1 in September 2023.

[Student trustee elections](#) are currently underway. All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the student trustees who will represent them next school year.

In February, we recognize Black History Month, celebrating the contributions of Black people to the fabric of our society. I encourage you to visit the Board's [Centre for Black Student Excellence webpage](#) and [newsletter](#) to learn more about upcoming events during Black History Month and what's happening in the Board to celebrate Black excellence.

Family Day and the March Break are also approaching and we hope everyone enjoys the break. There are a number of other events for families coming up and I encourage you to check the [Board calendar](#).

New Schools

One of the other questions I am asked, particularly in growing communities is about new schools or capital projects. I can let you know that in our municipality the following [capital projects](#) have received approval:

- Blue Willow Public School Kindergarten Addition, proposed to open January 2025.
- [Kleinburg/Nashville Elementary School](#), proposed to open September 2024.
- [E.J. Sand Public School](#) replacement, proposed to open September 2023.

There are many ways you can stay up-to-date with what's happening in our school board. Visit the [newsroom](#) or website homepage at www.yrdsb.ca. Listen to our [podcast](#). Follow the Board on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [YouTube](#). Read your school newsletters and emails. I look forward to staying connected with you.

Nadeem Mahmood

Trustee, King and Vaughan Ward 1

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
Feb. 6	Term 2 begins
Feb. 13	School Council Meeting – 7 pm in library
Feb. 14	Valentine’s Day
Feb. 17	School-wide Winter Dance/Craft Activity Day by School Council
Feb. 20	Family Day Holiday
Feb. 21 – 24	Term 1 Report Cards sent home electronically

SAVE the DATE – Gr. 8 Graduation is Monday, June 26, 2023



Federal Housing Benefit for Renters Who Qualify

The Federal government has introduced a one-time, **\$500 tax-free benefit** for low income renters who:

- Have an Adjusted Family Net Income (AFNI) for 2021 of \$35,000 or less for families, or \$20,000 or less for individuals.
- Spent at least 30% of their adjusted family net income on renting their principal residence in Canada in 2022

To be eligible you do not need to already be receiving other housing benefits.

- **Applications are open until Friday March 31, 2023.**
- For eligibility and additional details please visit:
- [One Time Canada Housing Benefit for Renters](#)

Every Student Counts Survey

As was mentioned in YRDSB communication sent to all families last week, York Region District School Board will be engaging students (Grades K-12) in the [Every Student Counts Survey](#) from **April 24, 2023 - May 12, 2023** to help us better understand our student population and school communities. Student and family feedback is critical to the survey development process and helps to ensure that the survey is an accurate reflection of our school communities.

Thank you in advance for your input.

REMINDER - Planning for 2023-24 – Are You Moving?



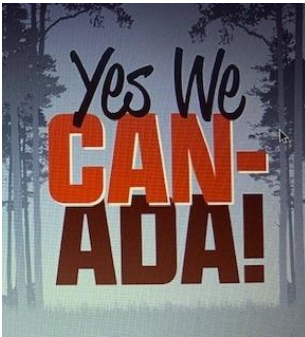
As we begin to plan for the 2023-24 school year, we are carefully tracking enrolment numbers for the next school year. If you are moving, or know that your child **will not** be returning to Joseph A. Gibson in September, 2023, please inform the office as soon as possible.

Winter Dance – NEW DATE – Feb. 17

We have rescheduled our School Council supported **Winter Dance/Craft Activity Day** for all students on **Friday, February 17, 2023.**

DJ provided music, prizes and LOTS of fun is planned for that day! The primary, junior and intermediate students will follow the original schedule that was planned for them. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in this event, please reach out to your child's teacher. Any information shared with teachers regarding your child's participation in this activity will be fully supported on this day.

Gibson Yearbook for 2022-23



J. A. Gibson 2022-23 Yearbooks are now on sale and can be ordered online at ybpay.ca using **Yearbook ID Code 13489723.**

Paper order forms will be sent home today and will also be available in the Parent Information Centre located outside of the office. If submitting a paper order, please make your cheque payable to **Joseph A. Gibson Public School.**

Don't miss out and pre-order **before May 8, 2023** to own your copy of this year's Gibson memories.

School Council News

2022-23 School Council Chairs:

Pina Olsson and Lisa Papa



NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:

Monday, February 13, 2023

7:00 pm in the library

We welcome all parents and guardians to attend any or all meetings.

Claudia Fischer

Principal

claudia.fischer@yrdsb.ca

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