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Clinton Cougar Chronicle Vol. 5

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Dear Clinton Community:

Re-organization Update:

This week, we were very excited to open our post re-organization classrooms. As has been mentioned in previous editions of the Chronicle, the re-organization of the school impacted every regular stream classroom and we have appreciated the community's patience and understanding. We all know that making these changes following the first month of the school year is less than ideal. The adults all know the concerns of having larger numbers of students in classes, but the students tend to see it as just having more friends in the room. It has been great to see the connections being made with new classmates and teachers this week. We are excited about the year ahead.

In last week's Chronicle, we introduced the community to two new teachers, Ms. Cassandra Moreira, and Ms. Kim Mills, who have joined the Clinton staff due to the re-organization. I have seen many of you introducing yourselves to both Ms. Mills and Ms. Moreira and they are already feeling like valued members of the Clinton team.

There was one other staffing change that also occurred last week. Those of you who have a child in the Grade 5 class in Room 305 know that Ms. Andrea Currie has been the teacher of that class since the beginning of the year. Officially, Ms. Currie was teaching that class in what we call a Long Term Occasional (LTO) capacity. An LTO position occurs for different reasons but usually it means that you are working in the place of a permanent teacher. When the contracted teacher returns, the LTO teacher leaves. For example, both Ms. Mills and Ms. Moreira are working at Clinton as LTOs. Anyone who is involved with the teaching profession, already knows that the career path for teachers generally starts with months spent as an occasional teacher, then usually years of LTO positions, and, if you completely rock in those LTO's, hopefully it leads to a permanent contract offer.

We are thrilled to announce that, due to our re-organization, we were able to hire Ms. Andrea Currie to a permanent teaching contract with the TDSB and she will be staying with us at Clinton for at least the 23/24 school year. We congratulate Ms. Currie on this accomplishment as it is the result of continuous dedication, professional acumen, and exemplary teaching. For those keeping score at home, please note in your Clinton program that, in the past month, we have permanently hired both Ms. Halligan and Ms. Currie. The editorial team wishes that the Blue Jays had added as impressive a combination into their September line-up.

School Communication:

As you can see on the Chronicle banner, our school's website is found at www.clintonstreetschool.ca
We consistently update the website so that it is the main source for school-wide information. The school's calendar is also accessible via the website to keep you updated on whole-school or multi-class events (PA Day on October 6 – no school for students). Classroom teachers will communicate with their families regarding items more specific to their classrooms. We are a busy school and strive to keep you informed of all the activity.

Also, as was mentioned at last week's School Council meeting, as a staff we will strive to keep professional hours and do our best to not communicate with Clinton families before 8:00 a.m., after 5:00 p.m., or on the weekends. We would ask that Clinton's families try to set a similar schedule. We want to honour the time you have as a family and allow the staff time to be with their families. Of course, there will be times when messages need to be exchanged, or emergencies arise, and we will need to communicate in a more immediate fashion. However, if we can all try to adhere to set hours for school communication, it would be beneficial for students, families, and staff.

Clinton Street PS Curriculum Night – Wednesday, October 4 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

From 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4, Clinton Street PS will be holding its Curriculum Night. Whether you are new to Clinton, or an experienced Cougar family, we invite you to come to the school this evening, see your child(ren)'s classrooms, chat with the staff, our school council, and other members of the community. We hope to see you tonight.

Clinton Athletic Schedule

Accessible from the Clinton Street PS website is also the Health and Physical Education specific site as maintained by our indefatigable HPE teacher, Mr. Jon Ball. This week marked the first inter-school sports event on the Clinton Cougar calendar with one of our boys' soccer teams participating in their tournament on Tuesday. Mr. Ball consistently updates our HPE site so parents can access pertinent information and forms. On October 10 we have one of our girls' soccer teams, coached by Ms. Attard and Ms. Stacey, in their tournament on the field at Vaughan Road Academy. On October 12, 60 Clinton Cougars will be participating in the Cross-Country running meet at Winston Churchill Park. There are other events to come, and we thank our teacher volunteers for making these opportunities available for the students.

We wish everyone in the Clinton Street community a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.

Sincerely,

Dan Taylor Principal Daniel.taylor2@tdsb.on.ca