School Council

February 4, 2025

[Minutes]{.underline} & Agenda

- Raffle Basket Update - profit $1 159.00 towards student activities
- School Play
- Extra Curricular Activities/Cross Country Skiing/Winter Play Day
- Report Card Assessment
- EQAO Assessment
- Dare to Care - Parent Portal
- February ECO Challenge
- Mark Your Calendar
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting

School Play

Mr. Morrow and his cast are excited to present this year's play, inspired by Harry Potter. This adventure will be brought to life by 26 of our Grade 5-8 students. There will be two performances on Wednesday, February 26th: one during the school day for the students of A.B. Ellis and a 7pm performance for parents, family and friends.

Come out for this magical evening that's sure to get you singing along. Admission is free but we will accept donations at the door to support future productions.

Flames in Action - Extracurriculars/Sports!

Cross Country Skiing was a great experience for grades 4-8!

- Intermediate Girls' and Boys' Basketball
- Junior Intermediate Coed Hockey
- Recesses:
  - Junior Girls' and Boys' Tripleball (beginner volleyball)
  - Chess club at recesses
  - Indigenous Cultural Group
  - Flames drumming circle
  - Guitar/Drum club

Check out our Activities page on our School Website!

Assessment & Evaluation

- Report cards go home Wednesday, February 19, 2025
- Our ideal goal is to meet with every family to discuss strengths and nexts steps for student growth and achievement
- Our staff have an interview window of February 20 - 26 to connect with families
- Our staff are flexible with in school meetings or the use of technology to help facilitate this communication

Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students and enthusiastic parents with high expectations.
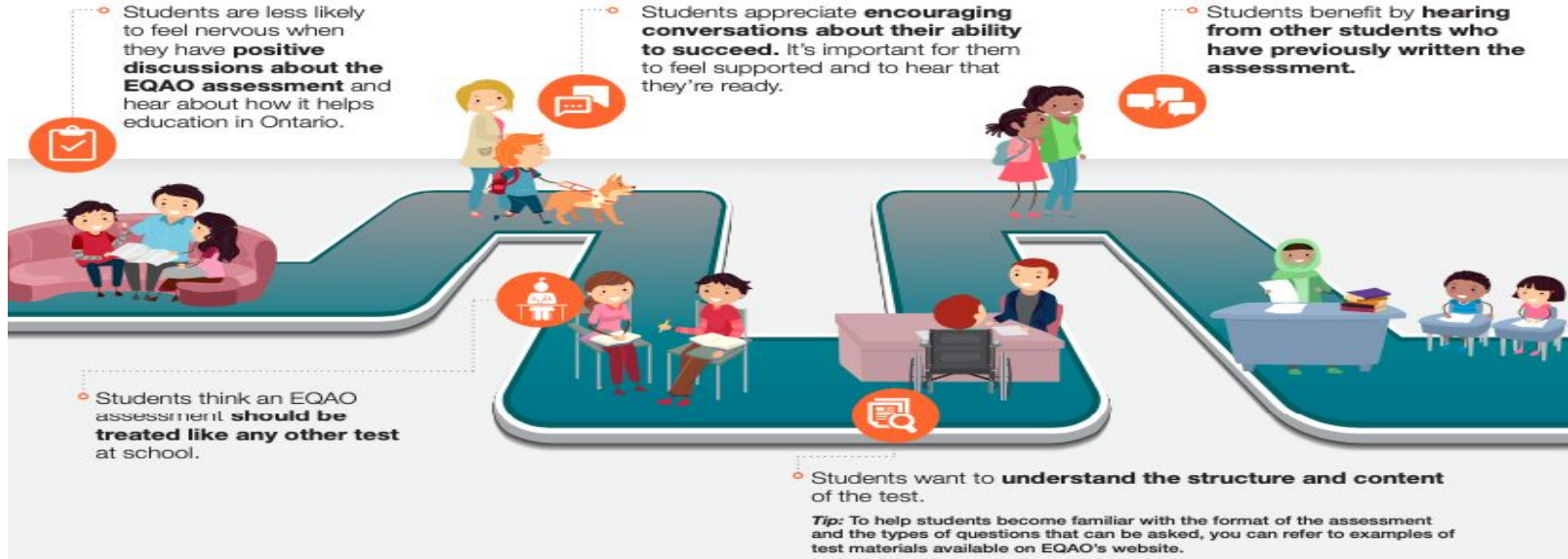
Bob Beauprez

EQAO Assessment - May 7 - June 11

Education Quality and Accountability Office
EQAO

Tips for Parents and Guardians
Supporting Your Child Before an EQAO Assessment

We asked members of the EQAO Student Advisory Committee about what helped them to feel confident about their upcoming EQAO assessment. Here are some of their insights:

Students are less likely to feel nervous when they have **positive discussions about the EQAO assessment** and hear about how it helps education in Ontario.

Students appreciate **encouraging conversations about their ability to succeed.** It's important for them to feel supported and to hear that they're ready.

Students benefit by **hearing from other students who have previously written the assessment.**

Students think an EQAO assessment **should be treated like any other test** at school.

Students want to **understand the structure and content** of the test.

Tip: To help students become familiar with the format of the assessment and the types of questions that can be asked, you can refer to examples of test materials available on EQAO's website.

Please make sure appointments and unnecessary absences don't occur during the window of May 7 to June 11

Dare to Care

All Rainbow Schools offer Dare to Care from Kindergarten to Grade 9. Students learn about the importance of being kind, the difference between bullying and mean moments, how to ask for help from an adult, and standing up for yourself and others. The program contains modules for students, professional learning for staff, and resources for parents/guardians.

Dare to Care engages the entire school community in contributing to warm and welcoming school environments where students feel a strong sense of belonging and connection. Prevention and intervention strategies focus on social emotional learning with an emphasis on empathy. As adults, it is important for us to understand the difference between peer conflict and bullying so that we can teach children the difference. Conflict is a disagreement between two or more people where everyone voices their views. Bullying is the repetitive and intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group. This usually happens when there is an imbalance of power.

The following video can be found in the parent section of the course.

https://daretocare.thinkific.com/courses/take/parent-course/lessons/17005619-bullying-vs-normal-peer-conflict

February ECO Energy Footprint Challenge

Participate in Bundle Up Day - February 4, 2025

Calling all classrooms and Rainbow Schools to turn down the heat and get cozy.

Bundle Up Day is a day to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy and electricity consumption in Rainbow Schools. Did you know that if all Canadians lowered their thermostats <u>by just two degrees Celsius</u>, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about four megatons — equivalent to taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road. Bundle Up Day in Rainbow Schools will be celebrated on February 4th. Bundle Up Day happens once a year, so let's make it count. **Ask your custodial staff to turn down the heat in your building.** Then cozy up in the classroom. Send a letter home to parents/guardians to let them know your school is participating in Bundle Up Day. Invite students to wear a warm sweater or a favourite hoodie or to bring a blanket or poncho to school. Let's bundle up and save energy.

Participate in Winter Walk Day - February 24, 2025

Help reduce your energy footprint by staying Connected with Mother Nature on February 24th. During the winter season, "Shkagamikwe" Mother Earth is covered with a white blanket as she rests. We are reminded to walk gently and safely on her wintry blanket and to take the time to enjoy the great peace and quiet of the outdoors, especially when both the spiritual and physical worlds are so very close in union. During the night skies, we are also inspired by the "Waasnodeg" to be at peace with one's self. Classrooms are encouraged to plan ahead to ensure all students are dressed warm to go for their winter walk. This is an opportunity to peacefully enjoy the great outdoors, while reducing your energy footprint and to begin thinking about what all the Northern Ontario bears are dreaming about and what those dreams may mean to us. When students return, they can talk about the thoughts and feelings they experienced during the walk.

Mark Your Calendar

Feb 4 - Sweater Day (Eco challenge)

Feb 7 - Last day for purchase $0.50 Candy Grams

Feb 14 - Scavenger Hunt & Dance

Feb 17 - Family Day - no school

Feb 19 - Report Cards/IEPs; interviews by request Feb 20-26

Feb 25 - PIC Meeting "Mental Health" Part 1

Feb 26 - Harry Potter Play for families @7pm

Mar 7 - 14 - March Break

Mar 31 - PA Day

Apr 8 - Final School Council Meeting @6pm

**sign on for our School Community Google Calendar

Agenda Items Next Meeting

- Principal Profile (HR-06)
- Education Week Activities
- Tentative Class Organization for 25/26

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 8/25 @ 5pm