

Gleneagles Ch'axay Elementary (GEC) Parent Advisory Council (PAC) NEWSLETTER - September 2022



Welcome back!

The GEC PAC is ready for another exciting year and we wanted to start things off by reinstating our PAC newsletter. This newsletter is where you will find out about upcoming events and info related to the PAC at Gleneagles Ch'axay Elementary. We have a strong PAC executive this year that includes both new and returning members. While we have both been on the PAC Executive for a number of years, this is our first year as Co-Chairs. Emily Gardiner is returning as our Vice-Chair, Amanda Clark is stepping into the role of Treasurer. Heather Nelson and Danielle Lavalley will remain as Members at Large. Jess Jenkin is our new Hot Lunch Coordinator. Anna Stewart is joining us as our Secretary and Shevaun Brown is re-joining the PAC Executive as our DPAC representative. Our goal is to keep you well informed and encourage parents/caregivers to get involved with their child's experience here at Gleneagles. There is important information below, please read!

Our goal the last few years was to 'support and build the community' at GEC especially through the pandemic. We want to continue to work on building back our community and we plan to bring back many of the events that were put on hold as well as host or support some new events. We hope you can join us in this venture that supports students, staff and our families.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 'Welcome Tea'. This is the first time this event has been held for several years and the turnout was fantastic. It was nice to see everyone again and also to meet many of the new families in person. We have a lot of exciting things planned for this school year and have a lot going on already including the newly installed outdoor classroom, the upcoming Welcome Back Event (Tuesday, Sept. 27th) and the Golf Game for the Kids (Thursday October 6th). Hot Lunch ordering is now open and our Spirit Wear online store is also open for ordering.

We also have our first GEC PAC meeting on Wednesday September 21st. We are excited to be hosting it in person at the school and look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions, concerns or just want to know how you can get involved, please do not hesitate to contact us or anyone on our team. We would really like to hear from you.

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Kelly Kerklaan and Kirstie Simpson
GEC PAC Co-Chairs
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GEC PAC Meetings:

Every parent or guardian at Gleneagles Ch'axay Elementary is a member of the GEC PAC. This is your opportunity to learn about new initiatives, hear from our new Principal and other great experiences in your child's school life, as well as ask questions and provide input on decisions. We encourage at least one representative from your family to come to as many PAC meetings as possible.

Our first PAC meeting will be **Wednesday, September 21st** at 6:30pm in the GEC Learning Commons. Please join us at 6:30pm for some refreshments and nibbles before the meeting start at 6:45pm.

Agenda for September 21st

- 6:45 Chair's Report**
- 7:55 Treasurer's Report**
- 7:05 Outdoor Enhancement Update/Hot Lunch Update**
- 7:15 Principal's Report**
- 7:35 Upcoming Events/New Business**
- 8:00 Adjournment**

Additional PAC Meeting Dates:

Oct 19 – 6:30pm @ the Brown's house

Nov 30 – 6:30pm via zoom

Feb 8, April 12, May 10th, June 7 – 6:30pm, location to be determined

Welcome Back Event & Meet the Staff Open House

Join us in the GEC gym on Tuesday September 27th from 5pm to 6pm before the Meet the Staff Open House to socialize with other GEC families. Bring your own bowl, spoon, and fork if you would like to try some potato soup, potato chips and salad made with potatoes and kale from the school gardens. Bring some coins to purchase baked goods in support of our grade 7 Grad Class. The Open House portion of this event will be from 6:00 -6:45pm.



Golf Game for the Kids

The GEC PAC is inviting you to join us for our next **GOLF GAME FOR THE KIDS!** Save the date for this great event which will be held on Thursday, October 6th at the Gleneagles Golf Course. Tee times start at 1pm! All golf levels are welcome to come out and join in the fun - no golfing experience is required. This is a fun event to socialize with other GEC parents and raise funds for our school. Join us afterwards at the Orchard Restaurant for our 50/50 raffle and prizes. Tickets are now available through Munch-a-Lunch.

A vertical poster for a golf event. At the top, a white golf ball is on a green tee. Below it, the title 'GOLF GAME FOR THE KIDS' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath the title, it says 'HELP SUPPORT THE KIDS' in smaller white letters. The background is a light green landscape with rolling hills, a tree, and a golf hole with a purple flag. On the left side, there is a circular logo for 'Gleneagles Ch'axáy ELEMANTARY' featuring a stylized bird or animal head. On the right side, the event details are listed in white text: 'Thursday, Oct 6th, 2022', 'Tee times start @ 1pm', 'GLENEAGLES GOLF COURSE', '6190 Marine Drive', 'Best ball format', '50/50 tickets', 'Longest drive & KP prizes', 'No golf experience needed!', 'Come mingle at the Orchard after your game; non-golfers entry by donation.', '\$130 per golfer (S100 to Outdoor Enhancement Initiative and \$30 for green fee)', 'Visit munchalunch.com and book your spot or foursome. Participants outside of school require registration through a GEC caregiver.', and 'If paying by cheque it can be given or picked up by any of the GEC PAC Exec team.' At the bottom left, it says 'Foursome details and tee time preferences can be emailed to GECPACCHAIR@gmail.com or PM on WhatsApp.' At the bottom right, the website 'humancreativexco' is listed.

Volunteer Signup

Would you like to be involved in your child's school? Please consider volunteering! The GEC PAC is looking for parent volunteers to help with various events during the school year. If you are interested, please sign up using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0b4fa8aa22a2fd0-volunteer>

Spirit Wear

Spirit wear helps us build our school spirit, especially on 'Spirit Days' and can be used for everyday wear or for game days for sports such as cross- country, basketball, and volleyball, etc. Funds from the sale of spirit wear are used to buy new school staff a Gleneagles Ch'axáy t-shirt. Any remaining funds will be used to award a pizza party for the class with the most school spirit on the next 'Spirit Day' at school.

Show your school spirit and consider making a purchase prior to September 21st. Spirit Wear is now available for sale through the online store at:

<https://www.getbold.com/stores/gleneagles-elementary-spiritwear-fa22/>

Babysitter and Stay Safe (Home Alone) Courses

The PAC is pleased to offer the Babysitting Course and Stay Safe (Home Alone) Courses on the October 21st professional day. These courses will be taught by instructors from Sea 2 Sky Safety Training Services. Please register through Munch-a-Lunch.

'Gleneagles School' WhatsApp Thread

If you haven't already joined the "Gleneagles School" WhatsApp thread, please do. We will send reminders of dates with details and important school related info from the GEC PAC Exec Committee (the only admin members; this is not a discussion panel – you can private message any exec member if you have any questions or comments).

Per the district's strict policy on privacy, we request an 'opt-in' from parents interested. If you would like to receive these alerts please send an email with a mobile phone number and name to GECPACCHAIR@gmail.com Your email will be saved there and kept confidential.

***This info channel will not replace newsletters from the school but will be an additional resource for quick reminders on important events. We will also post links to important info from the School District, BCCPAC and DPAC resources.

Outdoor Enhancement Initiative - Update

Our Outdoor Enhancement Initiative hit a major milestone with the installation of the outdoor classroom at the front of the school. A HUGE thank you to MacDonald Trucking and Excavating for donating all the boulders and installing them. There are still some finishing touches to be done but it looks great already and it will be a great new space for our teachers and students.

This initiative is ongoing with lots of things planned for the next few weeks/months with a new saucer swing, more murals, new seating, new plantings etc... We look forward to updating you as things progress. Most of our fundraising over the past year has and continues to go directly to this initiative so thank you to everyone who has donated. Without your support this exciting project would not be possible!



Summary of Upcoming events

- GEC PAC Meeting – September 21st @ 6:30pm in the Learning Commons
- Welcome Back Event & Meet the Staff Open House – September 27th @ 5pm
- Golf Game for the Kids – October 6th
- Babysitting and Stay Safe courses – October 21st

See more GEC PAC past and present information at [GEC PAC Resources](#)