Council Chairs’ Report
Two fantastic school activities in one week at Highview! The school musical "It's About Time" was thoroughly enjoyed, and well attended, by parents and students. Hats off to all the teachers, students and parent volunteers who assisted with the production, stage preparation, lighting, costumes etc.!!

Parents and guests were also able to enjoy our Highview students' Canadian projects in the lobby before and after the show. Special thanks to the teachers and parent volunteers for their extra efforts in decorating the lobby for the Heritage Fair. The classrooms that participated are ...
* Ms. Frazer (Grade 1) .. red & white symmetry
* Ms. P. (Grade 1) …great Canadian geese
* Mrs. Taylor (Grades 2/3) … Canadian Wildlife
* Mrs. Wright (Grade 3) … "Proud to Be Canadian" writing assignments
Five classes also submitted Heritage projects ...
Mrs. Wright's Grade 3, Mrs. Sepkowski's Grade 4, Ms. Brizland's Grade 5, Mrs. Durno's grade 6 and Mr. Porretta's Grade 6. These projects have been reviewed and 10 projects from Grades 3 to 6 have been chosen to represent our school at the Regional Fair on May 8 at the Markham Fairgrounds. These students and projects will be announced at the Awards Ceremony this coming Friday April 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Our next council meeting (May 13) will include discussion on goals and plans for next school year activities and fund-raising. Please contact any of your school council representatives with ideas or, better still, join us at the meeting in the staff lounge at 7:00 p.m. on May 13.

Year Book Reminder
First a reminder ... if you haven't already sent in your order for the 2002/2003 Highview Year Book, please do so as soon as possible! The cost is $15.00. This is a great keepsake that your children will look back on for years to come. Order forms are available in the school office.
Next, another request for volunteers to come forward to form a new year book committee. The creation of the year book is a parent volunteer activity. The current team will not be continuing after this year's issue. Without new participants, there will NOT be a 2003/2004 year book. This should be of particular concern to those of you who have sons and daughters graduating from Highview next year. That is likely the one they would cherish the most. For more information on what is involved, please contact Lori North (905)727-4625 or Gwen Hussey (905)841-5314.

Events Calendar
HERITAGE FAIR at Aurora Senior ... a reminder that Aurora Senior Public School is also holding a Heritage Fair throughout the day on Wednesday April 30th 1-3 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at 125 Wellington St Aurora. Public welcome.

Parent Networking Sessions ... The Special Events / Communications Committee will be meeting in the lunchroom from 9:00 – 10:30am on Wednesday April 30th. All parents are invited for coffee and discussion on school-related concerns and activities. We would also like to hear about funding requests to council for either the remainder of this school year or for next fall.

Web Site Enhancements
A new page, listing Volunteer Opportunities, was recently added to the School Council website. Please visit our site at www.highview.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/highview.sc/

Suggestions for other council-related site additions can be sent to hvsc@luscher.com.

Did you know?
As you begin to update your child's wardrobe for the warmer weather, did you know there is a Student Dress Code section in the Parent Handbook Overview.
Page 21
STUDENT DRESS CODE ... excerpt follows

Students will be expected to wear clothes that:
* have positive slogans, or are appropriate for a school setting (no beer, alcohol or drug advertisement)
* are appropriate in size, specifically shorts and skirts
* do not expose the midriff skin between the top and the waistband on pants or skirts
* cover all undergarments at all times (no spaghetti strap tops or crop tops)
* include sensible footwear, in keeping with anticipated school activities such as physical education (non-marking indoor footwear)
* do not cover the head (hats, bandanas) except for medical or religious reasons
* are appropriate for physical education (shorts, t-shirts, running shoes, sweat pants and sweat shirts)

Students who arrive at school with inappropriate clothing will be offered the chance to wear gym clothing and/ or contact parents to arrange for a change of clothes.

Further details and the full Parent Handbook is available online at http://www.highview.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/highview.sc/parents%20handbook/handbook.htm
Shout out!

Highview Views student’s thoughts

“Be a Hero for Southlake”

We are almost halfway to our goal of raising $1000 for Southlake hospital. The coin drive and the bake sale have already raised over $435. Thanks to Savannah Cohen’s dad for donating the yummy muffins and croissants for the Heritage Fair bake sale. We raised over $250 at the bake sale and $185 in the coin bin.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped save coins for their community. Since the hospital’s “Be A Hero” campaign will run for an entire year from May 2003 to May 2004, the Southlake team will be making announcements to ask you to continue to bring in coins. WAY TO GO, HIGHVIEW!!!!!!!!!!!! By: Janine Fernandes

Bright Lights, Big city: the musical, from the cast’s eyes By: Bonnie Devine

It’s About Time may not exactly have been a Broadway musical, but it felt like we were close. A theatre production requires much more time and effort than the audience realizes. A musical is all the effort and commitment as a play times two.

It all began when I heard the first meeting was taking place. I had an inside scoop that there was going to be a musical, but I didn’t know when. So I went and signed up. I ended up getting to sing a solo for one of the songs.

As the play got more and more time consuming, I seriously wondered why I was bothering. It was difficult to stay interested, but I decided I wouldn’t quit.

A main character’s day began at 7:45am and didn’t end until 5pm. Sometimes that included the whole cast. By the end of the after school rehearsals, most of us were whining about being hungry and thirsty. Yet, even as time went on, we didn’t have the sense to bring extra snacks or money for drinks. Even worse was the fact that we still didn’t really know what the show was about, since we only rehearsed one song or scene at a time. Eventually though all the hunger, thirst and confusion were worth it and we got time off school. The whole play was cool, much better than one song over and over again.

Opening day came and we did not feel ready, but we had to do it anyway. So, we all got up there and did our thing and were ready to go home by the end, only to be told to come and sit down for Mr. Keith’s 75 notes. Still all the ‘long’ hours and hard work were worth it.

Of course, we probably did the least work of all. It was Mr. Keith running lines, Mrs. Jamieson coordinating props, Mme. Draper trying to, for just once, have everyone at the music rehearsals, and Mr. Carothers for getting our sound right. Not to mention all the parents who donated props, tolerated waiting for dinner, picked us up after we were too tired to walk home and supported us so we wouldn’t quit. They worked ten times as hard as we did.

A funny thing happens when you are this close to people for this long. They feel like a family. Even though we had to continue to be told to leave our costume hangers ON the racks and to sing out, or there would be a 7:45 rehearsal, we felt like a family. Because of our newfound family we were able to endure 75 thousand notes every rehearsal and sometimes even have fun. Imagine that!

So even though it was just an elementary school play in little old Aurora, we felt like we were in New York City doing Broadway. Thank you to everyone who made this experience possible. I am sure we would all do it again in a heartbeat.

Literacy Corner

Silver Birch Nominees (Grades 4,5,6)
http://www.accessola.com/programs/silverbirch/
- Flying Geese ... Barbara Haworth-Attard
- White Horse Talisman ... Andrea Spalding
- Secrets in Stone ... Laurie Coulter

Red Maple Nominees (Grades 7,8,9)
http://www.accessola.com/programs/redmaple/
- Carved Box ... Gillian Chan
- Irish Chain ... Barbara Haworth-Attard

Recommended Reading