**August 2022,**

**Dear Gaskill Preparatory Parents and Guardians,**

**WELCOME to the 2022-2023 school year!**

**We are extremely excited to begin another amazing year here at Gaskill Preparatory School. We were fortunate to have last year under our belt of uninterrupted instruction as we return from a pandemic that has significantly affected our students and overall wellbeing. We will continue to recognize that the pandemic has drastically changed the world of education by helping us become more aware of the Social Emotional and Academic needs of our students, staff and community. Gaskill teachers have learned and implemented numerous strategies which has allowed for flexibility and differentiation and focus on the “whole child.” I am confident that our staff is more prepared than ever to deliver engaging high-quality lessons that our students need and desire. It is a priority for me to create a positive upbeat and structured environment that support our school improvement plan and the vision of our school district.**

**Gaskill Preparatory is committed that every child and staff member feel safe, celebrated, respected, supported and a true sense of belonging. We commit to support an engaging learning environment and foster instructional practices that assist teachers and administration in cultivating a building culture that is inclusive to the needs of students, staff, faculty and administration. We are a school committed to educating for excellence by empowering our students to become self-monitoring, resourceful, independent, and critical thinkers.**

**Here at GPS, our exceptional teachers develop instruction designed to engage and challenge diverse leaners. Our students will possess life-long tools to develop and self-assess their own learning now and in the future. Our teachers consistently use research-based practices, analyze data to meet the individual needs of our students, while setting goals for students’ individual growth and improvement.**

**As principal of Gaskill Preparatory School, it is an honor and privilege to begin working with you and your family. I want to extend a special welcome to the newest members of our GPS community, our incoming Grade 7 students---welcome to Gaskill!!! Gaskill is committed to ensuring a wonderful transition for our seventh graders and we work relentlessly during the course of the school year to ensure that happens.**

**In addition, an important part of our school commitment involves developing key relationships with you our parents. Parent communication is extremely important in our mutual journey to educate your children. Please, please update your phone numbers and addresses during the school year if they change. Therefore, we encourage you to read our school newsletters, and follow us on Facebook and YouTube. Register and utilize the district’s parent portal where you will be able to view your child’s up-to-date course grades as well as daily attendance.**

**We value and rely upon your partnership as it is paramount to the success of our students.  Therefore, please consider joining our Parent Education Group and become more involved in our school community. Your presence makes a difference!**

**I look forward to continuing my journey at Gaskill and working with staff and parents dedicated to ensuring excellence for all students.**

***Principal,***

***D. Zimmerman***