



Guru Gobind Singh Ji Academy



ਗੁਰੂ ਗੋਬਿੰਦ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਅਕੈਡਮੀ

Compassion || Faith || Courage || Dedication || Sovereignty

2013 - 2014

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh!

Dear Parents,

With Waheguru's kirpa we are very excited to begin another year of Chardi Kala at Guru Gobind Singh Ji Academy (GGSA). We seek to provide our students with an appreciation of the Sikh way of life (Naam Japna, Kirat Karna, Vand Chakna) along with knowledge of their rich Sikh heritage. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your confidence and commitment to GGSA, we cannot succeed without your partnership and support. Below are some fun facts and information:

- This year, we have reached **101** total registered students: **78** in K-12 and **23** pre-schoolers. **36** sewadaars (teachers, substitutes, assistants, event coordinators and administrators). Please note, our sewadaars give a lot of their personal time and commitment to GGSA. The Parent's survey gave GGSA a **4.4** out of 5 satisfaction rating.
- We have a strong partnership with the [Sikh Research Institute](#), through their project "Sojhi" which seeks to improve the effectiveness of Sikh education by developing high standards of learning with comprehensive teaching materials. They have produced a curriculum, (befittingly titled "Sojhi" which means "insight") which is oriented around the goal of developing insight to inspire a Guru-centered life from theology to Gurmukhi to history to Panjabi. Guru Gobind Singh Ji Academy School uses the K through 5th grade curriculum. In addition to the knowledge and research of our teachers, we also continue to bring in best practices from the Sikh community at large. We have also ran special programs like Sikh Symposium and an annual Gurmat Quiz.
- Since 2008, the Sikh Research Institute has delivered numerous teacher training, student workshops and adult seminars at Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Foundation. In 2011, GGSA hosted the National Sikh Education Conference at UCONN in Stamford. Last year, we hosted a Teacher Training Day and a Parents Seminar on "Nurturing a Sikh child".
- Attendance is very important at GGSA. We keep detailed attendance records and metrics. Our average attendance is **~78%**. Given that we only get 90 minutes (two 45-minute lessons) every Sunday for 36 weeks of the year, maintaining regular attendance ensure students maximize their learning and give our teachers motivation and appreciation for their sewa.
- GGSA Library is open every Sunday at 12-12:30pm (with the exception of the 1st Sunday). This is a great resource for Sikh Literature and books for all ages. Avinash Khatari is our library sewadaar.

Please visit <http://www.gtbf.org/ggsa/> and subscribe to ggsa-parents@yahoogroups.com



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- Every 1st Sunday, the Gurudwara has a special Children's diwan. Please encourage your children to participate in this diwan. Harpreet Kaur Kalia is the contact. Kirtan classes are available with Dr. Manpreet Singh on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons, Neena Kaur is the contact.
- Every 3rd Saturday, the Gurudwara runs Community Kitchens at "The New Covenant House of Hospitality" or "Women's Shelter". Both are in Stamford, and the key contacts are S. Hira S Chabbra and Reena Kaur respectively. We also participate in the annual Cancer Walks in Norwalk & Stamford. This is a great way to get involved and lead by example to help our children see and understand the importance of serving our local communities.
- GGSA Registration fees and donations are approximately **\$8K** for 2013-14. All fees and expenses are managed through the GTBJF Treasury Desk. The funds will be allocated as follows during the school year:
 - GGSA Events and Community Service efforts (**\$3.5K**)
 - GGSA School supplies and resources (**\$3.5K**)

Please help, we are very focused on the following:

- Please help us achieve and maintain high attendance and participation records. We have a small window of opportunity to ignite the Sikhi Spirit in our navi paneeri. Nurturing this paneeri requires focus in and outside of GGSA.
- Given the results of the Parent's survey, we are renewing our focus on GGSA community service to ensure we are planning ahead and maximizing student representation and participation in these events e.g. Sandwiches, Toys and School Bags. Reena Kaur, Neena Kaur and Tejinder Kaur are leading this sewa. Last year, students completed a total of **180 hours** of sewa.
- Our constrained space creates challenges in our ability to maintain high standards of quality education and facilities. We would urge all of you to be strong contributors and supporters for the New Gurudwara Building initiative.

Again, we THANK YOU for registering your children, we truly believe this is a partnership, so please get involved!

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh!

Deep Kaur and Ranjit Singh

GGSA Administrators

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