

FOREST HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Parents and School Community,

The Forest Hill Public School Council welcomes you back for a new school year. This Annual Report outlines the activities of last year's Council. All meetings are open and parents are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in these meetings.

The 2015-16 FHPS Council was comprised of 27 members, two administrative staff, Principal Linda Blom and Vice-Principal Mary Katherine Murphy and teacher representative Lori Stevenson. Co-Chairs of Council were Mary Jane Ulens and Debra Kapy, and for the 6th consecutive year, the Secretary position was filled by Patti Joslin. Debra Kapy also held the position of Volunteer Coordinator.

The Fundraising Committee, which meets separate from Council was Chaired by Marian Phillips-MacGregor. The committee, comprised of 8 members, meets to review all potential fundraising opportunities and evaluate the success of same, post campaign. Minutes of these meeting are posted on the school website as well as attached to the Council Minutes.

Council and Fundraising meetings are open to all, and parents are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in these meetings, as members, or on an informal basis. Council meetings are held on the first Monday of the month and Fundraising meetings usually are scheduled for the last Monday of the month. This allows the fundraising committee to be able to provide their progress report/update at the council meeting.

All School Councils in Simcoe County have an official SCDSB email addresses. Forest Hill's is councilchairfor@scdsb.on.ca. It is to be used for council correspondence and as a point of contact for our parent community. This email will remain constant for future councils and will be transferred to the new Chairs via SCDSB assigned passwords each year.

The minutes and agendas from the School Council meetings are published on the school website, posted inside the school lobby as well as filed in the Council Minute Book which is stored in the office and available to all parents.

In addition, the Interested Parents Group continues to receive copies of all council correspondence via email. This information can be found on the school website, but anyone who would like to receive the council correspondence and notifications directly to their inbox, is welcome to add their name to that list.

In keeping with our mission statement, "To Foster Partnerships that Enhance Student Achievement", the Council worked hand in hand with the Fundraising Committee and the Grade 8 Committee, as well as school Administration and Staff throughout the year on a variety of activities that funded a number of initiatives.

Highlights included the following events and activities:

- **Forest Hill Holiday Fair:** Pre Christmas Craft Show and Sale with a Lunch Cafe. The 3rd year for this event and a huge success with proceeds going to technology.
- **Basket Raffle:** The 4th year for this much anticipated fundraiser which benefited athletics.
- **Spring Dance:** A fun active event for the whole school.
- **Lunch programs:** Pasta, hot dogs, subs, pizza and milk were offered this year with proceeds allocated to General School Needs, Technology, Arts and the Library.
- **Applebee's Pancake Breakfast:** Proceeds supported the Grade 8 Graduation activities.
- **Wendy's Night:** 10% of sales were donated back to the school.
- **Mabels Labels:** Available via link on the school website. Proceeds to General School Needs.
- **Midhurst Mile:** This annual spring event was much expanded and well attended. It included a Bike Rodeo and a food truck and there was lots of community involvement. Proceeds go to athletics & water bottle filling stations as well as track maintenance and sports fields refurbishing.
- **Spiritwear:** Successful program run in March.
- **School Photos:** 2nd year with a new company, Edge Imaging. In addition to school photos, Edge provided photo badges and lanyards for volunteers and other school groups as a banner for the Holiday Fair at no additional charge.
- **PROGRANT:** Successfully applied for this \$1,000 grant. The proposal topic was Motivating your kids and teens.
- **Global Action:** Raises funds to support the Angaza Kindergarten School in India through various activities like the White Elephant Sale and popcorn sales, as well collecting donations for the local food banks.
- **Character Education Assemblies:** Held throughout the year to highlight the many positive character traits of our students.

As a result of all these activities the school was able to support academic achievement through the following purchases:

- Two logoed green pop-up tents for use at various school events (Cross country meets, football games, Midhurst Mile etc.)
- Support of Guest Speakers and in-school presentations including Eric Walters, Elaine Tanner, Moving Arts, Rock Solid, Drama workshop, Scientist in the classroom and The Groove
- Additional Chrome books for grades 6,7 & 8
- Under desk cycles for students with ADHD - 1 for each classroom

- Sports equipment for each class including a variety of balls, hula hoops and skipping ropes
- 2 Water bottle filling stations (one already installed, the other in progress)
- Athletic supplies, funding for supply teacher coverage for coaches to attend games and new uniforms
- Funds for each teacher for miscellaneous expenses like cables, photographs, white boards, cork boards etc.
- Primary books for the parent/home reading program as well as book bags to transport the books.
- Large plastic bins for storage/protection of portable students' lunch bags while they are at recess.
- Lego kits for primary grades
- Vex IQ Robot kits for older grades
- Sewing machines for the sewing club
- Laminating film
- Subsidies for all field trips
- EQAO support packages

2015-16 Past Meeting Dates:

The Council held 7 meetings during the 2015-16 school year: September 14, October 5, November 2, January 4, February 1, April 4, May 2 and June 6.

2016-17 Future Meeting Dates:

For next year Council meetings are tentatively scheduled for September 19, October 3, November 7, January 9, 2017, February 6, April 3, May 2, June 5.

Thank you to all School Council Members for their commitment to and involvement in Forest Hill Public School – your efforts are appreciated by all.

The dedication and commitment of our many parent volunteers is truly inspiring. We are so lucky to be able to provide such an engaging and supportive learning environment for our children.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Jane Ulens & Debra Kapty
FHPS Council Co-Chairs 2015-16