

## **FOREST HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL** **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR**

Dear Parents and School Community,

As the school year draws to a close, the Forest Hill Public School Council presents its Annual Report which outlines the activities of the 2016-17 Council.

The 2016-17 FHPS Council was comprised of 19 members, Principal Linda Blom and teacher representative Stacey Bock. Co-Chairs of Council were Mary Jane Ulens and Debra Kapy for the 4<sup>th</sup> year, and for the 7<sup>th</sup> 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 MacGregor. Marian is also the Coordinator for all the lunch programs which represent a large percentage of our total fundraising activities. The committee, comprised of 8 members, meets to review all potential fundraising opportunities and evaluate the success of same, post campaign. Minutes of these meetings are posted on the school website as well as attached to the Council Minutes.

All meetings of Council are open and all parents/guardians 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](mailto: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, 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 meeting 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, the Grade 8 Committee and the Midhurst Mile Committee as well as school Administration and Staff throughout the year on a variety of activities and initiatives.

Highlights included the following events and activities:

- **Camp Fair:** Very successful new event, mid-February, showcasing the many Summer Camp options available in this area. Over 20 camps were represented and the event included a small Silent Auction and a Lunch Cafe. Profits allocated to the Motion Room.
- **Basket Raffle:** The 5th year for this much anticipated and very successful pre-Christmas fundraiser which benefits athletics.
- **Dance A Thon:** A fun active event for the whole school with profits allocated to Athletics.
- **Lunch programs:** Pasta, hot dogs, burritos, pizza, Nicholyn Farms and milk were offered this year with proceeds allocated to General School Needs (30%), Technology (30%), Arts (30%) and Athletics (10%).
- **Applebee's Pancake Breakfast:** Proceeds supported the Grade 8 Graduation activities.
- **Wendy's Night:** 10% of sales were donated back to the school from this very popular event in January. Proceeds allocated to Character Awards.
- **Midhurst Mile:** Despite the rainy weather and the resulting cancellation of a couple of activities this annual spring event was well attended and lots of fun for all. Food donated by Ken Allen (BeaverTails) and Kent Smith (Michael & Marions) generate proceeds that go to athletics as well as track maintenance and sports fields refurbishing.
- **Spiritwear:** Successful program of school logoed clothing run in the fall to encourage school spirit - not a fundraiser, items sold at cost.
- **School Photos:** 3rd year with Edge Imaging. In addition to school photos, Edge provided photo badges and lanyards for volunteers and a banner for the Camp Fair at no additional charge.
- **PROGrant:** Successfully applied for this \$1,000 grant. The proposal topic was speaker Dr. Karyn Gordon, scheduled for June 12/17 and opened up to parents in neighbouring schools.
- **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:

- 2 new incubators for the kindergarten classes so each class can watch their own chicks hatch.
- New volleyball standards for school teams and gym class use.
- McLaren Art Gallery Van Gogh program organized by Diane Gratrix for the primary classes.
- New furniture, a couch and 2 chairs, to create a reading area in the library for the junior and intermediates as well as a smaller sized couch and chairs to create a similar area for kindergarten and primary students.
- Portable speakers for the gym and other uses.
- Support of Guest Speakers and in-school presentations including Scientist in the classroom and Dr. Karyn Gordon.
- 4 or 5 Chrome books for each class in grades 1 to 4 and additional units to ensure one full class set (30+) for each grade from grade 5 to 8.
- 40 yoga mats for gym programs.
- \$500 per grade for readers for the French Immersion program from Grade 4 to 8.
- Sports equipment for each class including a variety of balls, hula hoops, frisbees and skipping ropes for use at recess.
- Gift cards and lunch for the custodians in recognition of Operations Appreciation Day.
- \$300 to each teacher for classroom enhancements (accountability tracked by office).
- Movement/Sensory Room Equipment including a small trampoline, 2 large spooners (balance boards) and 2 small spooners.
- New tables, butcher paper (to cover/protect tables) and a cart for the lunch programs.
- Supplies for the Orchestra including reeds, oil and resin as well as music scores.
- Recorders, ukuleles and storage carts for other music programs within the school.
- More sewing machines for the sewing club and a subsidy for their main project.
- Subsidies for all field trips including many trips which were provided at no charge.
- EQAO support packages.

**2016-17 Past Meeting Dates:**

The Council held 7 meetings during the 2016-17 school year: September 19, October 3, November 7, January 9, 2017, February 6, April 3, May 2, June 5.

**2016-17 Future Meeting Dates:**

For next year Council meetings are tentatively scheduled for September 18, October 2, November 6, January 8, 2018, February 5, April 9, May 7, June 4.

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.

We bid a fond farewell to Secretary Patti Joslin as her daughter graduates this year and thank her for her 7 years of service!

Lawrene Larche is also leaving this year as her twins graduate. In addition to being a Council Member for 5 years, Lawrene was a member of the Fundraising Committee and was instrumental in some of our most successful programs.

We also say good-bye to Chair Mary Jane Ulens as her youngest son graduates. MJ may hold the record for the longest term of volunteerism at Forest Hill – 17 years! Mary Jane has done everything, reading with kids, hot lunches, field trips, scrapbooking, Kiss n Ride, fundraising and for the last 5 years, Chair of Council. A shining example of a Forest Hill Parent!

Happy “Graduation” to Patti, Lawrene and Mary Jane - you will be missed!

*Sincerely yours,*

*Mary Jane Ulens & Debra Kpty*  
FHPS Council Co-Chairs 2016-17

*Note: With the departure of Patti and Mary Jane, and Debra having only 2 years left, Council is in need of new Secretary and a new Co-Chair. If you are interested in either of these positions, contact Principal Linda Blom or Council Chair Debra Kpty.*