

S.M.B. Parent Council Spring 2010 Newsletter

Well spring is here and as things thaw out your Parent Council members and volunteers continue to work diligently behind the scenes. Recently we had the pleasure of seeing a number of you out for our Family Skate Night.



If you have been reading the meeting minutes you may be aware that our fall & winter fundraisers generated significant funds for our school. Thank you for supporting those events. As a result we have been able to approve the funding towards **numerous out-of-town class trips**

We have endeavoured to make sure that our junior students, who don't often venture out, have some new experiences. We funded **David White from Sapay Martial Arts** to visit them at lunch hour. This was a very well received program with a huge turn out so we hope to offer it again next year. They also have new high quality **sand toys** to play with when they are outside this spring.



There is a lot of **new books** available for students in Grades 4-6 to select from. Have you seen our school sport teams showing off their **new team jerseys**... they look great! Senior S.M.B. students have been passing some cold winter lunch hours playing with their new **floor hockey equipment**.



As spring rolls out you can anticipate lots more action from Parent Council. We will be putting on our **annual ice cream social and book fair** in May. In light of Earth Day the Council has funded the **Oak Hammock Marsh Eco-Van Program** to visit the school. Each class will have an interactive, hands-on presentation on a variety of topics selected by their teachers. Council is also providing funding for students to attend the **BAM Percussion** workshop which offers an interactive opportunity to explore the creative process.

And what about the famous Hot Meals Program?



Well we can't keep up! The demand has soared with over half the school taking part in the program. Last fall we've moved to a whole wheat low fat cheese pizza. The feedback has been great and parents seem to love the break from lunch prep. Our volunteers work tirelessly organizing and cooking, and the significant funds generated all go back to the students. In appreciation for the parent volunteers, each class received funds for their Christmas party/activities...some went bowling, some went to the movies. The classes will also receive a cheque to fund their year-end celebrations

It is clear that a few hours supporting our lunch program has a huge ripple effect! From meal purchasing to helping us wash up a few dishes - it all adds up. We do continue to face challenges for volunteers, especially as some of our most dedicated veterans will be moving on next year....***so please think about lending a hand in whatever form you can.*** This year we had new support from parents who are able to shop and even do some prep work the night before. It is a huge help so if that sounds like something you might be interested in please let us know. Some of you may also be aware of the new "School Food & Beverage Policy" which will require us to make more positive changes to the program. However, we have a year to iron out the wrinkles so stay tuned.

We'd love you to drop by at our next meeting –
Wednesday April 14th at 7:00 pm in the Library –

Remember we have great sitters to help watch the kids!

It's never too late to join us, in fact some additional support at this time of the year will definitely help us get off on the right foot next fall. There are still classes without reps and next Year we will be looking for a secretary and treasurer to help us out. We often send out emails asking for a variety of types of help so please get on our email list by sending us a note to the addresses below. There's bound to be one that catches your eye! Whether you choose to be a head chef or sort sweatshirt orders for an evening in the library with your kids, it all adds up.



When schools and families work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.

Please feel free to contact us for any information or questions you may have about your Parent Council...we look forward to talking to you all.

Sincerely
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