

ST BERNADETTE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL

END OF YEAR REPORT
2017/2018



OUR IMPACT

Our council is made up of parents & school staff from all walks of life, who want to improve the students overall educational experience, student achievement, & wellbeing.

This year our goal was to complete the kindergarten yard and start the process of improving the outdoor enrichment for all the students, as well as to support the school and provide funds for items that were needed. Thanks to all the volunteers hard work and the parents who help raise the funds for this goal.

GET INVOLVED

How can you get involved?
Join Council or Volunteer.
We have many volunteer positions, some are needed weekly and others only on occasion. All are important and play a vital role in helping the school and students thrive and grow.

WANT TO VOLUNTEER

If you're interested in volunteering, fill out a volunteer form at the school and then one of the Volunteer administrators will contact you!

HELP WITH FUNDRAISING

Each year, council hosts a fundraising event or program. By actively participating in fundraising events, you are helping us improve our school for current and future students.

WHO WE ARE

PRINCIPAL

Christine deHaas

TEACHER REP

Carol Fraser

CHAIR

Debi Chambers-Wennekes

CO-CHAIR

Kathleen Cooper

TREASURER

Holly Doyle

SECRETARY

Kelly Piccolo

NUTRITIONAL ADMIN

Rosemarie Klobucar

CO NUTRITIONAL ADMIN

Laura Shortt

CO NUTRITIONAL ADMIN

Courtney Carroll

VOLUNTEER ADMIN

Alexis Leeking

CO VOLUNTEER ADMIN

Michelle Walters

PARISH REPRESENTATIVE

Maria Sita-Sills

NON-TEACHING REP

Donna Hazlett

COMMUNITY REP

Rose Sheppard

PARENT MEMBERS

Simone Williams

Tammy Sheppard

Melissa Cassidy

Jodie Scetto

Jennifer Aves

Jenny Forte

Trysh Howes

Cristina Chis-Allen

TRUSTEE

Theresa McNicol

YOU'RE THE CHEF

The grade 5's enjoyed their turn at cooking and eating their creations every week. We had a great bunch of volunteers working with the grade 5's who truly enjoyed the experience!

Thank you to Jodie Scetto, Debi Chambers-Wennekes, Jenny Forte, Michelle Walters and Kelly Piccolo. We are excited to work with the new grade 5/6's again next year!

PIZZA DAY & SNACK PROGRAM

Pizza Day has been successful through out the year. Thank you to the volunteers who came in every Pizza Day to help sort out the pizza and bring it to every classroom. Thank you to the Volunteers Rosemarie Klobucar, Courtney Carroll, Laura Shortt & Trysh Howes.

For our snack program, we have some amazing parent volunteers who come in for a few hours each morning once a week all year long to prepare healthy snack options for our students. Thank you to our Nutritional Admins Rosemarie Klobucar, Laura Short, Courtney Carroll, Alexis Leeking & Michelle Walters for putting this all together and keeping it running!

YOU'RE THE CHEF



ON GOING MINI FUNDRAISERS

These run all year long and you can support them at anytime



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PRO GRANT

Ontario's PRO Grants (Parents Reaching Out Grant). Every year our School Council applies for a Pro Grant from the government in order to host a night full of learning for both students and parents. This year school council hosted a Math Family Fun Circus night. We hope you enjoyed the night! Thank you to our ProGrant committee for hosting such an amazing night! ProGrant Committee: Jennifer Aves, Simone Williams, Kathleen Cooper, Kim Brennan & Maureen Crawford. Also special thanks to Simone Williams for obtaining an additional donation of \$500.00 for our ProGrant Math Circus Night!



SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDS

WHERE DID THE FUNDS GO?

This year we raised a grand total of \$17,227.23 through various fundraising programs. The funds raised were used to pay for all the items listed below

- \$8,125.09 towards the Outdoor Classroom & Natural Playground
- \$747.38 towards renting risers for the Christmas Concert
- \$564.90 for a school Christmas Lunch
- \$500.00 for a new Bonnhome costume
- \$476.57 for a school Camera
- \$747.05 for a Digital Scoreboard
- \$131.79 for 2 Smartboard Pens
- \$650.00 towards the Grade 6 and SK Graduation
- \$951.00 towards new Athletic Equipment
- \$2048.00 towards new Chorme books and Technology
- \$700.00 for Mulch for the kindergarten yard
- \$100.00 towards a Benevolent Fund
- \$85.45 towards Student Support
- \$1400.00 towards a Sun Shade Gazebo for the Kindergarten Yard
(Unfortunately we are not able to purchase the sun shade gazebo we voted on as the school board will not allow a residential unit to be placed in the yard. The funds for it will be discussed again next year.)

PLUS we have received over \$5000.00 in nutrition grants and from the fresh from the farm fundrasier to continue our snack program for the students all year and to support the You're the Chef program.

KINDERGARTEN EXPANSION

The Kindergarten yard was successfully completed at the start of the school year. The final amount paid for the renovation was \$6,090.90 from the funds raised last year and we will be adding another \$680.00 worth of fresh mulch before the end of the school year. TOTAL COST PAID BY COUNCIL \$7,695.90



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THANK YOU!

With a grand total of \$17,227.23 everyone on council would like to thank each and every parent/care giver who bought pizza, came out to support the silent auction, and who continually supported the mini fundraisers. Without a supportive parent community the school council would not have been able to make any of the school's wish list and extras possible for the students. So for that, everyone on council would like to say THANK YOU!

\$ 17,227.23

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



EXAMPLE OF A FNMI OUTDOOR CLASSROOM AT ST NICHOLAS IN AURORA

PLANNING STAGE

We are currently working towards coming up with a plan for a FNMI Natural Playground and design that meets the town and boards safety codes. Pictures above are just examples of the types of things we have been looking into and having priced out.

PHASE 1

Our goal is to add an outdoor classroom that serves as both a learning area but has some play value to it when not in use as a classroom. It will add an opportunity for the teachers to provide new learning experiences for the students as well as an area for the students to enjoy daily during recess. We also hope to add some bird habitats and butterfly gardens all supplied by the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority grant.

ESTIMATED COST FOR PHASE 1 \$6800.00

PHASE 2 AND BEYOND

We are currently trying to work out a plan for what type of natural play structures we are allowed and can reasonably afford.

ESTIMATE FOR PHASE 2 AND BEYOND - ROUGHLY \$18,000 SPREAD OUT OVER A FEW YEARS

OUTDOOR COMMITTEE

With the current playground not meeting code and our students are no longer allowed to play on it, the students have lost a big part of their outdoor enrichment. So our council has decided to work towards improving the outdoor space for all the students.

- Debi Chambers-Wennekes
- Rosemarie Klobucar
- Kelly Piccolo
- Holly Doyle
- Courtney Carroll
- Laura Shortt

We are working with Natural Playground companies and Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority to come up with a plan to add an outdoor classroom, some wooden play structures and some environmental greening areas. We hope to obtain some grant funding to cover some of the costs. This project will be done over a few years in phases.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

To All the Members of Council,

I want to personally thank each and every member on Council this year. Without every single one of you we would not have been as successful as we have been. The hard work and dedication you all showed towards the school was amazing. We have moved forward in the goals we had set and it was amazing to be part of it.

To All the Volunteers,

You are the back bone of our Parenting community. You give up your time freely to help in any way you can. Whether it's making snacks daily, giving out pizza, ordering food for the snack program, counting hot lunch money, planning events or working on projects, you do so all for the sake of bettering our school community. Thank you for all that you do!

To the School Staff

We can't express enough how important you are in our children's lives. We appreciate how well you foster our children's hearts, minds and souls. We know that behind the scenes there is much more work than we are able to see on the surface and we want you to know how grateful we are for all that you do.

I have enjoyed my time as chair and getting the opportunity to work with everyone involved. The responsibility and the time involved is something I can no longer commit too but I feel blessed for having had the opportunity. Thank you for such a great 2 years!

So from everyone on Council and myself we wish you a great summer!

Debi Chambers-Wennekes - School Council Chair