

J.W. Walker School Council Annual Report 2017/2018

The mandate of the J.W. Walker School Council is to work in cooperation with the school administration, teaching staff, and the parent community to support and enhance student learning. In upholding this mandate, the School Council had a very productive year. Council members, parents, staff, and community members worked together resulting in exceptionally well planned and successful events and fundraisers.

2017/18 School Council Members:

Chair: Kerry Canfield

Vice Chair: Jessica Ogden

Secretary: Tanya Wilson

Treasurer: Helena Guertin

Principal: Pegeen Keffer

Vice Principal: Rhian MacIver/Cam Keast

Teaching Rep: Nicole Hill

Non-Teaching Rep: Stephanie Black

Council Members: Lonna Oster (PIC Rep), Dorion Chambers

Meeting Dates:

October 3, 2017, November 7, 2017, January 16, 2018, April 10, 2018, June 5, 2018.

J. W. Walker School Council met on a regular basis to exchange information and ideas with school administration and staff representatives. Email communication was used to share and seek input on correspondence such as Board Policies under review and to help in the planning of School Council led fundraising and events. Childcare at council meetings was provided again this year to ensure parents with young children could attend.

The J.W. Walker School Council raised funds to support their planned initiatives. The School Council agreed to purchase outdoor recreational equipment (balls, sleighs), an automated water dispenser/fountain, and consumable supplies for a grade 6 graduation/recognition event. Funds were also used to purchase 2 bicycles and 2 helmets to be used as draw prizes for the school's Random Acts of Kindness Initiative. School council funds contributed to food purchased for parent interview night as well. Fundraising was done through a spaghetti dinner fundraiser, the sale of Christmas poinsettia certificates and a Christmas concert bake sale.

Three events were organized by J. W. Walker School Council: Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, Family Math and Arts Night, and the Annual Pancake Breakfast.

A Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser was held for the second year in conjunction with JW Walker Open House in the start of the school year. The goal was to attract more families to attend the open house. The event was very well attended and did indeed draw more families to visit their children's school. Due to the success of the event, parent council will continue to make it an annual event.

The Family Math and Arts Night was made possible by a grant received by the PIC committee. This year, the focus on math and arts allowed for an interactive display of community resources encompassing

several aspects of creativity and practical math applications. Several art stations provided children and families the opportunity to express creativity and work together. Take home resources available for families included reusable bag containing K-Nex with instructions to build various items for as well as math centered games. The event was held in the JW Walker gymnasium and was well attended. Feedback on the event was very positive.

The Annual Pancake Breakfast was held during Education Week welcoming students and their families to enjoy pancakes and sausages. Several volunteers contributed to making this event a success. Teachers, administration, support staff, Council members and students helped with the organization, set-up and take down resulting in a very successful and well-attended event.

The first meeting for 2018/2019 is scheduled for October 2, 2018. Looking ahead to the 2018/2019 school year, council will continue to fund any needed playground equipment, prizes for school kindness initiatives, and support school/community linked events.