

J.W. Walker School Council Annual Report 2018/2019

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.

2018/19 School Council Members:

Chair: Kerry Canfield
Vice Chair: Lonna Oster
Secretary: Tanya Wilson
Treasurer: Tanya Wilson
Principal: Pegeen Keffer
Vice Principal: Sonja Bodnarchuk
Teaching Rep: Nicole Hill
Non-Teaching Rep: Stephanie Black
Council Members: Lonna Oster (PIC Rep), Dorion Chambers, Jill Kaun

Meeting Dates:

Sept 25, 2018, November 6, 2018, January 15, 2019, April 23, 2019, June 4, 2019.

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 (volleyball net, colour coded balls/equipment) and bicycles with helmets to be awarded for the "Acts of Kindness" draw. School Fundraising was done through a spaghetti dinner fundraiser and the sale of Christmas poinsettia certificates.

Three main events were organized by J. W. Walker School Council: Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, a STEAM night (Steaming Ahead on Healthy Pathways) and the Annual Pancake Breakfast. Also organized this year was bake sale in conjunction with the JW Christmas Concert. The proceeds were gathered in the form of donations and given to a family from the school that had experienced a devastating fire.

A Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser was held for the third 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 STEAM night was made possible by a grant received by the PIC committee. This year, the focus on math, science, technology, engineering, arts, mental health and well-being and pathways allowed for an interactive display of community resources encompassing several themes. Several stations provided children and families the opportunity to express creativity and work together. Take home resources available for families included reusable bag containing play dough, dice, several STEAM based family games and many other resources to encour-

age working together. 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 2019/2020 is scheduled for September 17, 2019. Looking ahead to the 2019/2020 school year, council plans to fund furnishings for the school library, and additional outdoor equipment for seasonal activities.