

**Belfountain Public School
School Council Annual Report
2017-2018**

The Belfountain School Council is pleased to announce that 2017-2018 was a very rewarding year. In the upcoming school year, we are already looking forward to continuing to support the success of students at our school.

The School Council is a group of parents, staff, and community members focused on promoting student achievement and enhancing the learning environment. By making recommendations directly to our principal and school board, council members can make a real difference in our school and community.

We wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the many individuals who volunteered their time to contribute to the success of the School Council last year. Special thanks are due to so many who worked tirelessly to make our many activities and initiatives such a success.

All school council meetings are open to the public and we encourage input from everyone in our school community. If you would like to become part of our team or have a suggestion for the council, we welcome you to attend an upcoming meeting.

Sincerely,
April Campbell
BPS School Council Chair

Council Membership

Council Executive

April Campbell, Chair
Tralee Pearce, Secretary

Staff Representation

Lynn Bristoll, Principal
Nancy Rhode, Teacher (September)
Wendy Brooker, Teacher (November)
Brenda Kinsella, ECE (January)

Members-at-Large

Edmond Aube	Monica Kerr-Coster	Annette Morton
Gillian Aube	Sarah Mawle	Lisa O'Blenis
Andrea Barbuto	Melinda McArthur	Diane Sardi
Sandy Boucher	James McCabe	Rachel Scholz
Bridget Cauthery	Michelle McCann Rowan	Robin Taylor
Celia DeSousa	Angela McLean	Sabrina Valteau
Guy Gordon	Andrea Moore	Kate Vaughan
Kelly Gordon	Jen Moriarty	Amanda Zubchinsky

Meeting Dates

September 13, 2017	February 21, 2018
October 17, 2017	April 10, 2018
November 8, 2017	May 1, 2018
January 16, 2018	June 12, 2018

Note: The first meeting of the 2018-2019 school year will be Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at 6pm.

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Activity Summary

School Council determined the focus for our activities and initiatives early in the year with the help of feedback from parents collected via survey at the annual school open house event. Our top four priorities were identified as enhancing educational experiences (focus: math), creating a sense of community, supporting ECO school, and supporting mental health. Everything Council worked toward this school year supported one or more of these priorities. *Special thanks to Andrea Moore for creating, distributing, and compiling results of the survey.*

Breakfast with Santa was our first community building event of the year. Feedback from the community was overwhelmingly positive. Council partnered this event with a poinsettia fundraiser. *Special thanks to Sabrina Valleau for coordinating this event, and to Gillian Aube for organizing the poinsettia fundraiser.*

In support of our mental health initiative, School Council hosted a parent education evening in April: Tackling Anxiety and Stress through Arts and Mindfulness presented by Arts Express. This evening was paid for primarily with funds secured from the Parents Reaching Out Grant awarded by the Ministry of Education. School Council supplemented this parent education evening by funding a coordinating program for students. *Special thanks to Diane Sardi for coordinating the event and to Lisa O'Blenis for securing the grant.*

Our final community event of the school year was the annual Sunset BBQ. This greatly anticipated annual event is a celebration of a successful school year, and provides an opportunity for the community to really come together. In a change from previous years the Sunset BBQ was not utilized as a fundraising opportunity. *Special thanks to Ed Aube for coordinating all activities and to Guy Gordon for securing vendors. This event would not be possible without all members of our school community coming together – thank you all for helping to make this event a success!*

Owing in large part to one of our council members, Belfountain Public School has achieved Ontario EcoSchool Certified Gold status. The same council member was also responsible for securing a grant from the Town of Caledon Community Green Fund and coordinating with Heritage Bee Company to put together this year's Bee Project. *Very special thanks to Bridget Cauthery for her exceptional commitment to enhancing our school's ECO focus.*

School Council's primary means of raising funds was the Hot Lunch Program. On Monday and Thursday parents had the option of purchasing pizza (Monday) or pita and smoothie (Thursday), as well as milk, juice, and cookie. This program was a great success this year! *Very special thanks to Tralee Pearce for coordinating the hot lunch program, and to Brenda Smith for putting everything into School Cash Online. Special thanks to Melinda McArthur for coordinating volunteers.*

In addition to the aforementioned, Belfountain School Council also provided funding for the following: generous classroom allowances, enhancements to the Library, art club, a hydroponic tower garden, various assemblies, RazKids software license, and grade 6 graduation. Council was also responsible for coordinating the garden club and the fall kindergarten play date. For more information on School Council financials, please see the attached Annual Financial Report.

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For 2018/2019, School Council has applied for the Parents Reaching Out Grant to fund a family math night to support numeracy and mathematical literacy. The goal of the evening is to teach parents how to build their child's skills by working with them at home. This event is scheduled for Thursday, October 18, 2018. *Special thanks to April Campbell for coordinating the event and to Lisa O'Blenis for securing the grant.*

School Council worked to promote parent engagement at meetings this year by ensuring that free child care was provided during council meetings, and Council will make every effort to ensure this continues. *Special thanks to Karen Dhaliwal, our YMCA before and after school care provider, for providing child care during council meetings.*

School Council would also like to profusely thank to our Principal, Lynn Bristoll, for her energy, enthusiasm, and support. Her excitement and dedication in making Belfountain an exceptional school for our students is so very much appreciated.