



**Annual Report for the 2017-2018 School Year
Submitted on October 5, 2014**

Welcome to a new school year Cawthra Park families! On behalf of the Cawthra Park School Council, we are pleased to report that the 2017-2018 school year was very successful for the School Council as we continued to support the Cawthra Park Secondary School community through our activities.

The purpose of the School Council is to help improve student achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. The School Council acts as an advisory body to the school Principal and the Board of Education. This is accomplished through monthly meetings that are open to all parents of students, providing input on the school success plan, and fundraising to assist the school in meeting its needs for student achievement.

I wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the School Council Members who volunteered their time to contribute to the success of the Cawthra Park School Council last year. Special thanks are also due to our Principal Terry Whitmell, Vice Principals Jeff Bertrand and Stafford Lowe, as well as the Office and Budget Managers Karen Vincent and Lynda Cox for their assistance “behind the scenes”!

We are looking forward to the 2018-2019 school year as we continue to work together as a school community to support the success of the students. As such, we encourage all parents to participate on the School Council because “at the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.” [Jane D. Hull](#) . If you wish to contact the School Council our email address is cawthraprkss.council@peelsb.com

Sincerely,
Yvonne Everard-Parr and Leslie Buckle
Co-Chairs 2017-2018

The School Council met seven times during the school year. This report will give a brief account of the events, issues and activities discussed at school council meetings and a summary of the activities implemented that support the school success plan.

Summary of Activities for 2017 - 2018

The year began in September with elections for members and our executive. At our second meeting in October, we provided input on the Principal and Vice-Principal competencies as part of the yearly consultation process for the Board. In November, parents were given a tour of the school to get a glimpse of our children's lives beyond the academic classroom to see some of the other rooms used for Dance, Music, Nutrition, Architecture, and Technology, just to name a few. At each meeting we also heard from the Student Council about the activities planned for the students during the school year.

Our fundraising project for the year was a collaborative venture with Queen Elizabeth Senior Public School and the FAIR December Planning Committee. Cawthra Park hosted the FAIR December Unique Craft and Gift Show and raised \$13,883.00. From those funds we donated \$4,445.00 to the Compass Food Bank and the balance of \$9,302.00 was used to purchase a new bench for the front foyer, LED light ray boxes and microscopes for the science department, a background screen for photography, USB microphone for technology and \$1000 was given to the Breakfast Program.

In February we learned about a new assessment tool being used by some of the staff called Sesame. Some of your children may come home and talk about this new way their teachers are keeping track of tests and projects while fulfilling the curriculum expectations.

In March we hosted a guest speaker made possible through the Parents Reaching Out Grant from the Ministry of Education. Dr. Vince Murphy spoke to a large audience of parents about our teens' mental health and issues such as ADHD, Learning Disabilities, Depression and Anxiety. He also donated a number of books on these topics to add to our parent library. All parents are welcome to come to the library or ask your child to sign out any of these books during the school year. Please go to the school council tab on the Cawthra website for a listing of the books that are available. The topic of teen mental health was again touched on at another meeting with a second guest speaker, Social Worker, Lynda Stockwell.

We closed out the school year hosting a year-end dinner using the balance of the Parent Engagement funds. These funds were also used to support our school fundraiser with promotional materials, and our guest speaker events with refreshments. During this final meeting we heard from students and staff who participated in a school exchange trip that took place with students from the Arctic.

As this year comes to a close, we are already making plans for next year, and look forward to continued support from all of our parents in our school community!

2017-18 School Council Membership and Meetings

Yvonne Everard-Parr

Co-Chair

Leslie Buckle
Anju Dhawan
Kimberley Doherty
Nandita Dutta
Karen Pua
Julianne Pasztor
Angela Sidoriak
Nancy Simpson
Lesley Wilton

Co-Chair
Secretary
Parent Representative
Parent Representative
Parent Representative
Parent Representative
Parent Representative
Parent Representative
Parent Representative

Anne Roe
Marienza Miserere
Zainab Raza
Sarka Kubelikova
Terry Whitmell

Community Rep
Student Council Rep
Student Council Rep
Staff Representative
Principal

September 25, 2017; October 23, 2017; November 20, 2017; January 22, 2018;
February 12, 2018; April 23, 2018; June 4, 2018