

Sir Winston Churchill School Council

Annual Report 2018/19

About our council

Sir Winston Churchill School Council is a volunteer group of members from the school community dedicated to strengthening and supporting school initiatives and programs. The council acts as a voice for parents to present concerns, problems and solutions and collaborate with teaching staff to improve student outcomes. We continue to have a strong and vocal council and are proud of the achievements made within this report for the benefit of the SWC community.

Note from the Chair/Vice Chair

This was a year of big changes at Sir Winston Churchill Public School, as we welcomed a new principal and vice-principal and prepared for significant renovations to our school. School council was pleased to support moving our library upstairs, to make better use of our space. We directed a significant portion of our fundraising to supporting the library renewal with new furniture, artwork and rugs. As a result of this move, our school has a new main floor Maker Space, which can be used for many purposes including dramatic presentations, small assemblies, and an active space, freeing up our gymnasium for physical education.

On behalf of School Council, we would like to sincerely thank all members of the school community – parents, guardians, volunteers, staff, and students – for their participation, and support during this past year.

Major achievements completed

- **Fundraising efforts:** Ran a variety of fundraising events and activities (see below)
- **Community-gearred events:** Leading and supporting Fun Night (an end-of-year celebration) and Movie Nights (a fun evening where families can enjoy a meal and a movie at the school).
- **Indigo Fundraiser:** Council supported a fundraising partnership with Indigo, where a portion of book sales from one evening at an Indigo bookstore supported the purchase of new books for the school.
- **Transport arrangements:** Council supports safe pick-up and drop-off times at our school through an annual traffic safety blitz in September. This supports a safer walking/cycling environment. We also worked with EnviroCentre to launch a pilot Walking School Bus project at our school.
- **School grounds:** Parents, students and staff rake leaves, prune and generally tidy the school grounds in the fall
- **Transparency:** Regular communication with parents through flyers, emails, a public Facebook page and a regularly updated council website.
- **1% challenge:** SWC council will support other students in our city with 1% of our fundraising being donated to the Education Foundation of Ottawa.

Summary of key fundraising completed

- **Pizza program:** Pizza offered to students on Tuesday once a week.
- **QSP Magazine:** Magazine subscription program offered to parents and guardians.
- **Movie Nights:** An opportunity for families to enjoy child-friendly movies together. This year our movie night's directly supported our library renewal
- **Fun Night:** Our largest event of the year where families enjoy a variety of games, activities and food
- **Flipgive:** A portion of proceeds from online shopping supported council initiatives
- **Loveable Labels:** Sold personalized labels to help keep track of kids' stuff, with a portion of proceeds supporting school council

Summary of activities funded and supported

- **Library renewal support:** This fund supported new furniture, artwork and rugs for our relocated and renewed library upstairs.
- **Academic support:** This fund supports initiatives that enhance the learning environment and promote the academic success of our students. Examples: Mathletes Day, math manipulatives, science supplies
- **Wellness support:** This fund supports the physical and emotional well-being of our students, with projects such as enhancing our outdoor play areas and physical education program. Examples: Yoga pilot project, Physical education supplies, Junior yard improvements
- **Arts support:** This fund provides students with enriching experiences in drama, visual arts, and music. Examples: NAC and theatre performances, music program, script rights
- **Student support:** This fund gives the principal discretionary funding to support students to participate in activities that would be otherwise financially prohibitive such as field trips and in-school presentations.
- **Classroom support:** This fund is a per classroom amount to give teachers the freedom to plan lessons requiring additional supplies without spending out of pocket.
- **Administrative support:** This is the operating fund for council, and includes food and childcare for meetings, bank fees, printing costs, OCASC membership, support for annual events such as the staff luncheon, and the 1% challenge.

Summary of financial information

Opening balance of all reconciled bank accounts, investments and cash on hand on August 31, 2018

\$19,344.84 opening balance of all bank accounts (no investments, no cash on hand)

The amount raised by school council during the year September 1, 2018 and August 31, 2019

\$38,674.42

The amount spent by school council during the year September 1, 2018 and August 31, 2019

\$39,463.56

Closing balance of all reconciled bank accounts, investments and cash on hand on August 31, 2019
\$18,555.70 closing balance of all bank accounts (no investments, no cash on hand)

Portion of above amount raised which was collected through the school's School Cash Online program
\$23,917.02