

2013-2014 Lakeview School Council Annual Report

In accordance with the Education Act and Ontario Regulation 612/00, *Section 24 – Annual Reports*, we are pleased to submit the following Annual Report to our Lakeview Public School community.

Message from Co-Chairs:

This was a transition year for School Council with a new Chair and co-Chair replacing Deanna Giles-Vail who diligently served as the Chair for two terms (2011-12 & 2012-13). Council's Treasurer Matthew Cox also stepped down from the position of treasurer.

Lakeview Council would like to thank and extend recognition to both Deanna and Matthew for their excellent work and for their contributions to the Council and to Lakeview School and its students!

We also had to bid farewell to some long-standing members who finally 'graduated' from Lakeview: Cynthia Way and Pat Paterson. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Council over the years.

During 2013-14 Council was as busy as ever! Our Welcome Night and PJ Movie Nights continued to receive great turnout! Our annual Mayfair Community and Fundraiser Event was a success even with having to work around the start of construction for Lakeview's new wing to accommodate full-day kindergarten. Council was also involved in providing recommendations on elements of the design and we are thankful for the school administration for inviting us into these discussions. Special thanks to Jill Sheppard for her leadership on this!

Council was visible and present at many school activities and events. We held a very successful community E-waste fundraiser in November which brought out our community in spades who were happily donating their old electronics. We heard from a lot of families that these kinds of community-based reverse-fundraisers were welcome and appreciated. Council will look to continue these kinds of events in the future.

However, none of these accomplishments could have taken place without our members! We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our Council members, our parent volunteers, our Principal, Diane Cousineau and our incredible teaching staff for their support and efforts in bringing the school community closer. And, to all Lakeview students, we applaud you for taking an active role in your own learning and for making each one of our friends feel welcome at Lakeview!

Merci beaucoup!

Melissa Lebel and Carrie Ross

About Lakeview School Council

The Lakeview School Council was comprised of 25 parents who came together once a month as well as at special activities and events to facilitate the links between the school and its parent community as well as to advocate for the learning and educational needs of our children.

2013-2014 Council Members and Roles

Principal	Diane Cousineau	
Teacher Representation	Kristy Banks, Jane Lefevre, Kavita Jairam	
Council Chair	Melissa Lebel	
Co-Chair (non-voting)	Carrie Ross	
Secretary	Mary Clément	
Treasurer	Diane Hodgins	
Parent Representatives	Cynthia Way	(Fundraising Coordinator)
	Jen Samuel	(Fundraising -Pizza and Equator Coffee)
	Cindy Newell	(Fundraising - Popcorn)
	Connie Davidson	(Website lead)
	Tracy Neufeld	(OCASC Rep)
	Patricia Paterson	(Arts lead)
	Caitlin Cooke	Deanna Giles-Vail
	Jill Sheppard	Kasia Broda
	Mahtab Tait	Natalee Cappello
	Rick Collins	Russell Warren
	Sandra Abraham	Shannon Harrison
	Sneh Minocha	Shelagh MacDonald
Community Representatives	Ulufer Peynircioglu (Bayshore)	
	Ally Sanderson (Bells Corners-Westcliffe)	
	Jen Samuel (Bells Corners-Lynwood)	

The Parent Council established the following goals for the 2013-14 year.

- ✓ Enhance communication with school staff
- ✓ Improve and enhance communication with school families
- ✓ Complete technology acquisition initiative
- ✓ Facilitate and support school events
- ✓ Provide guidance to school administration on various issues

Lakeview School Council held nine (9) meetings over the 2013-14 school years on the 2nd Tuesday of each month with the exception of March. Seeing that meetings had a tendency to run past 8:00pm, in 2014, we moved to an earlier start (6:30PM). Council was also able to provide free child-minding (ages 3+) during Council meetings thanks to the help of Alana D., a high school volunteer and former LPS student. This assisted parents who could not otherwise attend our meetings. This is a practice that Council will aim to uphold in 2014-15.

For 2014-15, Council meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. We welcome new members and encourage all parents to come to a meeting to hear what's happening in the school and to take part in the discussions about how to further enhance our children's learning experiences.

What did Council do last year? Did we meet our goals?

Enhance communication with school staff

- Council Co-Chairs participated in monthly meetings with the Principal to keep an open dialogue on what was happening in the school
- Contributed content to the bi-weekly school newsletter
- Provision of complimentary funding to teachers for additional classroom and curriculum enhancements
- Council treasurer worked directly with teachers in dispensing and reporting on the use of the funds with nearly complete expenditure (92%) of the allotment within the school year, which enabled students to have immediate gains/benefits from this funding

Improve and enhance communication with school families

- Improved and implemented regular use of the Council's website – www.lakeviewschoolcouncil.ca
- Established a weekly newsletter/broadcast with a distribution list of school families.
- Hosted a Council table at various school events to promote and seek parent input – such as at *Meet-the-Teacher* night/Parent-Teacher interviews/Parent information sessions.
- Provided free child-minding at majority of its meetings and adopting an earlier start time to better accommodate parents' schedules
- Maintained a bulletin board in the school that shared information and news about Council and its events/activities
- Directed use of the OCDSB's \$500 Parent Involvement Fund to host a Welcome Night for school families on October 4, 2013

Complete technology acquisition initiative

- Purchase/installation of two (2) SMART boards which completed the initiative to equip all Grade 1 to 5 classrooms with this technology

Facilitate and support school events

Council was very active in collaborating on some of Lakeview's school initiatives such as:

- Lakeview Speaker Series
- W.I.T.S anti-bullying program
- E-Waste Recycling Event
- Bus transportation for Track/Field and Cross-Country sporting events
- Healthy Living Family Day (which was postponed)
- Reader Leader sessions
- Safe and Caring Schools Initiative
- Lakeview's 50th Anniversary Celebration
- Winter Carnivale
- Kibera YMCA Initiative -African Honey fundraiser/Read-a-Thon/Movie Night

Provide guidance to school administration on various issues

- Provided advice and recommendations on the following issues:
- Review and update of the Lakeview Principal Profile
- Full-day kindergarten and Extended Day Programs
- Changes to Nutrition/Recess breaks
- How to increase parent involvement in school (helping solicit volunteers through Council networks)
- Walkability assessment of the school and community
- Internet safety in the school
- Construction design of the new FDK wing

Council's Revenue and Expenditures for 2013-14

Opening balance on August 1, 2013:	\$22,585.00
Revenue between August 1, 2013 and July 31, 2014:	\$30,216.00*
Expenses between August 1, 2013 and July 31, 2014:	\$34,069.00*
Closing balance on July 31, 2014:	\$18,731.00

*Detailed charts provided on Page 5

Council's largest fundraising activity continued to be our Mayfair Community & Fundraiser Event which included a BBQ, raffle, and various sales (books, baked goods, mason jars, popcorn). We want to thank our generous sponsors and business donors that contributed to our Mayfair Raffle with proceeds reaching over \$2500.00! Also, with the addition of a new food service (Pita Pit lunches), our food service fundraisers also produced significant revenue. Lakeview parents continue to show support and interest for these food services (pizza, pita wraps) while popcorn revenue dropped by over half compared to 2013-2014.

Council's expenditures focused on activities where all or most students were able to participate or benefit. The ACE (Allotment for Classroom Enhancement) for teachers and the purchase of two (2) new SMART boards were the largest expenditures. Council was very happy to continue to support supplemental art, science and music programs in the school such as: performances by the National Arts Centre orchestra groups; the MASC's drumming workshop; and Tradansa dance workshops. As well, with Lakeview's 50th Anniversary celebration taking place in September 2014, Council was very proud to contribute to the marking of this incredible milestone by providing students with the opportunity to design and paint a tile that will be mounted on the school walls.

Detailed Charts on Revenue and Expenditures for 2013-14:

