

2017-2018 SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

For

Empire Public School

Prepared by Justin Faulkner (Chair)

The goal of this year's school council was to focus on raising funds for the purchase of classroom technology (overhead projectors for the kindergarten classrooms) and to support community-building events. This past year, school council continued many events and services from the past as well as adding some new ones.

Some of the 2017-2018 achievements are:

- **Fit Fest** – The second annual Fit Fest was held in January as an event for the whole family to come out to the school and get moving. Activities included Basketball, Soccer, Rugby, Lacrosse, Baseball, Yoga, Dance, and Gymnastics. There was also the opportunity to meet athletes from uWaterloo and Laurier.
- **Move-a-thon** – This event gave students the opportunity to be physically active, moving to the music of a professional DJ. This year's event raised \$4600 from Donations.
- **ESQ Science and Math Night** – We partnered with uWaterloo's ESQ team for a fun-filled night of hands-on science, engineering, and math. This event was paid for using the PRO (parents reaching out) grant.
- **Scholastic Book Fair** – Once again, the book fair was held in conjunction with the ESQ science night. This year's event raised \$1500 in commissions.
- **Dining Out Nights** - We partnered with Boston Pizza and Beer Town to host two dining out nights that encouraged Empire families to come out and connect with one another over dinner. \$290 was raised in commissions from these events.
- **Year-End Picnic** – We hosted a school-wide celebration in June for all students and families. The event featured Jack the Nimblebus, Music, an ice cream truck, and fabulous weather. One of the classes organised a cake raffle to raise money for Nutrition for Learning.
- **Appreciation Events** – We hosted a catered breakfast (Angie's Kitchen) for all teachers and staff and presented them with thank you notes from students to thank them for all that they do. We provided cupcakes for the Grade 6 year-end event. We also provided small gifts for teachers who are leaving and for administration professionals.
- **Holiday Fundraiser** – We collected donations during the month of December towards fundraising for technology in the classrooms. \$2500 was raised.
- **School Lunches** – We partnered with ESNS (Elementary Schools Nutrition Services) to offer lunches for purchase 3 days per week. Food came from Subway Pita Pit and Boston Pizza as well as occasional frozen yogurt from Menchie's. \$1700 was raised in commissions from these sales.
- **Spirit Wear** – We organized the sale of Empire Eagles Spirit wear this year and sold 45 items. \$180 was raised from commissions.

- **Coffee Fundraiser** – We partnered with Baden Coffee to run a coffee fundraiser, selling coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. \$750 was raised.
- **Grade 6 Camp** – School Council sponsored five students to attend the Grade 6 year end camp. These five students had been identified as requiring assistance and may not have been able to attend otherwise. The total cost was \$600.
- **Nutrition for Learning sponsorship** – We donated 25% of the profits (over \$400) earned from school lunch sales to Nutrition for Learning. This year Empire PS partnered with Nutrition for Learning to start a nutrition program in the school. The program offers students a variety of nutritious foods, available in the classrooms.
- **One Book One School sponsorship** – School Council provided funding for One Book One School: a school-wide book club, run by parent volunteers from the school.
- **Technology Funds** – At the end of the year we have fundraised \$3800 dedicated to the purchase of school technology. This amount along with \$4500 reserved from last year’s budget surplus were put towards the purchase and installation of a ceiling mounted projector in each kindergarten classroom.
- **Playground Maintenance** – We reserved \$1000 to go towards the future maintenance needs of the natural playground.
- **Budget Surplus** – We ended the year with a surplus of almost \$3300. The 2018/19 will determine how best to spend these funds.

Thank-you to all council members for a great year.

Questions regarding school council’s activities can be directed to the chairperson at EmpirePSCouncil@gmail.com