

Regent Heights School Council welcomes all parents and guardians of students attending Regent Heights Public School. We would like to encourage you to attend our meetings to share your thoughts and perspectives on school council matters. We meet on Wednesday evenings in September, October, November, January, February, April and May for a total of seven meetings a year.

Our first meeting is Wednesday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m. The dates for the remainder of the school year will be determined at that time.

School Council is a group of elected parents, teacher, student, staff, and community representatives with the guidance and oversight of the Principal. Our parent members include a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and voting parent members.

As per the Ministry of Education, the purpose of School Council through the active participation of parents, is to:

- improve pupil achievement; and
- enhance the accountability of the education system to parents (Reg. 612/2.1)

We aim to work in partnership with our school staff, students and community and look for ways to strengthen our community through events, fundraising, advocacy and information sharing. We welcome the thoughts and feedback from our parent community and will survey you for your opinion on various topics throughout the year. We may seek your opinion on initiatives being explored by our Trustee for our Ward, School Board or Ministry of Education.

Regent Heights School Council strives to support and encourage parents to become more involved in their child's school life and in the school community. We attempt to find a variety of activities and events to promote our parents' support and involvement. Parent involvement is essential to any school and has a positive impact on your child's self-esteem, their school achievement, attendance and attitude towards school.

We have a diverse group of caring and talented parents who act as volunteers in a variety of ways. Do you have a special interest, talent or time you would like to share with us? Through sharing our interests, talents, history and culture we are enriching the educational experience of our students, staff and parents! This assists in creating an understanding and inclusive attitude within our school and broader community.

Due to changes in the funding of the educational system and economic circumstances of our times, it is a necessity to undertake fundraising to assist with the purchase or provisions of equipment (Robotics kits, headphones, book bag program) or enrichment opportunities (such as performances, Scientists in the School), or extras (referees for home sports games, graduations, Nutrition program).

These are some of our fundraising activities from 2010-2011 school year:

- ♦ Diwali Festival of Lights Dance
- ♦ Used Book Sale
- ♦ Popcorn Sales
- ♦ Family Coupon Book Sales
- ♦ December Concert Raffle; and
- ♦ Ice Cream Sandwich Sales

In June, we had our first Community Fair which was a great way to bring our community together, watch for details for 2012 Community Fair!

Thanks to the Ministry of Education **Parent Reaching Out Grant**, we hosted three parent workshops:
“Kids Have Stress Too”
“The Wild, Wild Web”
“Building Resiliency through Cultural Diversity”

We will be hosting parent workshops again this year, as we have received the official word we have been approved for the **Parent Reaching Out Grant** once again! So watch for details on workshops and topics.

The new School Council term is about to begin. We are asking interested parents to consider being part of our Executive School Council or to come out to our meetings, share your thoughts, and share your time to help us meet our goals for the new school year. All parents and guardians are welcome!

Please consider submitting a nomination for our School Council or nominate yourself! The positions are: Chair; Vice Chair; Secretary; and, Treasurer.

Each position has set responsibilities and requires regular attendance at meetings and commitment of time. For more information, or if language translation support is needed, please contact us or speak to the office.

The first School Council meeting and election for 2011-2012 is **Wednesday, September 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Childcare is provided; please inform us of your needs.

If you have questions, suggestions or concerns please contact us at regentheightsschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Please consider adding your name to our growing email list!