

Being a part of school council is a great way to help your child succeed at school

Research has shown that being involved in your teen's education can make a big difference. Birchmount's school council meetings are just once a month and provide parents with information about what's going on at the school, what's coming up and what the principal's priorities are. Secondary school councils are very different than elementary; there's little fundraising because students do that themselves, leaving council to focus on its advisory role and communicating to parents. It's also an opportunity to share your ideas and get your questions answered. Meetings last an hour and a half. There's an informal, friendly atmosphere and pizza dinner is provided.

Please join us!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
The next meeting is Wed. Nov. 14
at 6:45 p.m. in the BPCI library

AT THE LAST MEETING Parents heard about the challenges and stresses teens face in each grade, and what the school is doing to help. In Grade 9 it's making the transition from elementary to high school. In Grade 10 they continue to need support and in Grade 11 they "hit a wall" with the increased workload. Grade 12 is all about getting ready - and getting the grades for their post-secondary school choices. Principal Ellen Austrom and Vice-Principal Shawn Robertson also talked about how Birchmount Park CI is building stronger ties in the community

DID YOU KNOW?

- Birchmount Park CI has a daily breakfast program that feeds about 200 students each morning, and is run by amazing teacher and student volunteers.
 - Student leaders requested dances, and four are now planned for this school year. They'll run from 2-4 p.m. in the cafeteria. Stay tuned for dates and details.
- The school is increasing its arts offerings as a balance to all the athletic programs.
- On the mornings your teens get to sleep in, Birchmount's teachers are taking part in professional development, and recently learned about trauma and how it affects the adolescent brain.
- * These are all things parents learned at October's meeting *