

## Co-chairs' Report

### Broadview School Council

31 October 2013



To: Members of the Broadview School Council

Cc: OCDSB Staff & Administration, Trustee, Superintendent

### Introduction

We were happy to have had the opportunity to serve as co-chairs of the Broadview School Council for the 2012-13 school year. Despite labour issues with the teaching and office support staff, it was a great year at school! The school year began with the construction of our two new playstructures, which were excitedly welcomed by our students, staff, parents and sponsors at a ribbon cutting ceremony in late October.



A large and dedicated council led several initiatives this year, which included vibrant arts presentations, a month-long focus on healthy living, a thriving weekly running club and many fun social and charitable activities. It was an honour to work with the members of our council and our extended community of parent volunteers and supporters. Everyone's commitment, creativity and enthusiasm helped to make Broadview a better place for our children last year, and in the future.

## **Fundraising & Investments**

Broadview School Council is keenly aware of the financial pressures on parents and the flurry of fundraising requests that come to them from many different directions. In addition to formal school council fundraisers, parents support the music program, sports activities, and class trips. In addition, they support school lunch programs, which also have a fundraising component.

Our school council funds a myriad of activities, programs and events that enhance and enrich the school experience for our students and teachers. At Broadview, our current year's council-sponsored activities are funded by the previous year's fundraising efforts.

Each year, our council also focuses on charitable giving to help give back to our community and to teach our students about socially-conscious engagement. Broadview students always rise to the challenge of giving back to help enrich our whole community.

Broadview's fundraising highlights include:

- \$12,000 from the fall Dance-a-thon
- \$9000 from the spring Book Bonanza
- \$3000 from QSP magazine sales
- \$40,000 from the annual sales of pizza, milk, Subway

School council fundraising allows us to support many activities which parents felt were important, including:

- \$6,500 for the Artist in Residence program
- \$5,000 to enhance our library collections in French and English
- \$4,500 to support the work of our K-6 music/drama specialist
- \$2,500 for sports bags in every classroom
- \$1,000 for science program and extra activities to align with our SIP
- \$1,000 for tents for sports events and support for the KM club
- \$1,500 for school events from graduation to primary play day
- \$250 for each teacher to offset the cost of a visit by Virtual Ventures or Scientists in the School, or to cover the cost of bus transport to an offsite field trip

## **Charitable Events**

Our council worked hard this year to work with parents, staff and students to assist those less fortunate in our community. Highlights of Broadview's giving this year include:

- The Halloween food drive to “Scare Away Hunger” helped the Westboro Food Bank
- Over 45 classrooms created Holiday Household Hampers to help the residents of Harmony House in December
- **As part of the Healthy Active Committee's Spring Into Action events, \$2000 was raised to help Kid's Help Phone**
- **A Spring Family Dance raised \$2400 toward the Severn Public School playstructure fund**

## **Play Days and Sports Day**

Our council reps and dedicated parent volunteers planned and supported three play/sports days for our students. The JK/SK play days are 1/2 day events hosted by our partners at Dovercourt. Students in grades 1-3 spent a hot afternoon playing fun cooperative games and activities at Primary Play Day. Students in grades 4-6 let their competitive natures loose on a June morning playing traditional and inventive sports activities at Intermediate Sports Day.

## **Kilometer Club & Sports Bags**

This was the third year for Broadview's KM Club, a morning running club during which students complete 0.5 km circuits of the school yard before the first bell each Friday. It's open to all JK-8 students and operates in the fall and spring months. This year, the club had nearly 200 participants and hosted a 2k run that coincided with the McKellar Park Fall Festival.

This was also the third year for classroom sports bags. Each class receives a mesh bag filled with age-appropriate sports balls, hoops, skipping ropes, shovels, chalk...etc.

## **Healthy Active and School Travel Planning (STP) Committees**

Close to 85% of the students at Broadview walk to school. The very active STP and Healthy Active committees led a celebration of walking to school in the fall and spring. Events included appreciation of our crossing guards, iWalk stickers for all the walkers, and a before-school celebration led by the recreation staff at Dovercourt. In February and March, the Healthy Active team coordinated “Spring Into Action”, which featured in-class yoga sessions, hip-hop classes, fruit smoothie snacks, a bicycle rodeo, and a Kid's Help Phone presentation and fundraiser.

## **Teacher and Volunteer Appreciation**

At Broadview we feel that having happy teachers is one of the key components to having happy students. This year, due to the labour actions of the teaching and administrative staff unions, the annual teacher appreciation brunch in December was scheduled on a day on which the teaching staff suddenly held a day of action. The brunch was cancelled at very

short notice and there were challenges in mustering the will among parents to coordinate another brunch. Fortunately, the labour strife was settled in time for our parent community to host a lovely teacher appreciation lunch in June, which was attended by all Broadview teachers. Here's a photo of the event organizers in our transformed library:



Council also hosted a volunteer appreciation evening to celebrate the extra commitment our parent volunteers, so many of whom made an extra effort this year to lead clubs, sport events and other extracurricular activities that would have been cancelled without teacher support.

### **Artists in Residence (AIR) and Multicultural Arts for Schools & Communities (MASC)**

The AIR and MASC programs have been coordinated and funded by the school council at Broadview for ten years, since the province and school board withdrew funding for specialized arts teachers for K-6 students. The 2012-13 program was exceptional! We were lucky, once again, to have parent coordinators with professional dance and education backgrounds to plan and deliver this program for the school. This year, the programs reached over 900 students. Highlights included:

- a dance performance of *The Disappearance of Right and Left* by renowned modern dancer, Peggy Baker
- dance and physical theatre workshops by athlete, dancer and educator, Peter Ryan of Guerilla Heart Juice, a physical theatre training company

- interactive performances by Rag and Bones puppet theatre
- sculpture workshops in wax and “found” nature materials with sculptor, Deirdre Kelly
- dance workshops that focus on the body/brain connection with professional ballerina and modern dancer, Annemarie Cabri
- clay modelling workshops with local painter and sculptor, Veronique Stefanica
- printmaking workshops with visual artist, Alex Fichera

## **Yard Renewal**

During the last week of October, Broadview's new playstructures were assembled in the yard. School council held an official opening that included a ribbon cutting, a thank you to our sponsors, and lots of fun in the yard led by our partners at Dovercourt Recreation Centre. This year, our council was also able to put aside \$10,000 toward the future replacement of our kindergarten playstructure, which is currently on the OCDSB's “watch” list. It is anticipated that this play structure will need to be replaced within the next 2 years.

## **Communications**

Our website [www.broadviewparents.org](http://www.broadviewparents.org), is now entering its fifth year. It is a one-stop shop for information about school council fundraising, contacts, school calendar, school events, meetings, and minutes.

We continue to maintain a separate website for Build A Better Broadview, our school rebuild website. This website is accessible from the main council website. Council also established a Facebook page and Twitter account (@BroadviewPS) in order to better communicate with the school community.

## **Class Parents**

This year we continued to encourage one or two parents per class to become Class Parents. The goals of the Class Parent role are to help integrate new and returning parents into the school community, to assist the classroom teacher with recruiting volunteers for reading, special projects and field trips, and to communicate school and class news.

## **Build a Better Broadview**

Broadview’s infrastructure, especially the primary wing which was built in the 1920s, needs substantial renovation, and the HVAC and plumbing systems in our ageing school require costly investment. Previous council chairs have advocated for a plan to rehabilitate or replace aging schools, not just build new ones in the far-flung suburbs. After analyzing the infrastructure reports available for Broadview, our council proposed to the OCDSB trustees that rebuilding the school would be a better investment of public money than renovating the existing building. We received overwhelming support of a rebuild from our parents, neighbours and community. Due to our joint efforts we are now in line for a more substantial

investment from the province and hope to see Broadview Public School rebuilt in the next few years.

**Wait, there's more...**

- We continued to partner with Dovercourt in order to deliver a sports and fitness program for primary students called "Power Hour" over the lunch hour.
- When the Christmas Concert was cancelled because of the teachers working to rule, two musical parents led an evening of Christmas carolling in McKellar Park that was attended by over one hundred parents and children.
- In the absence of teachers who would lead extracurricular sports and lunch clubs, parents stepped forward to lead a creative writing club, a basketball club and an art club, which met at over the lunch hour.
- A few parent volunteers coordinated and organized the school's lost & found.

In closing, we would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to become more involved in our school and community. We really couldn't have done it all without the support of Broadview's amazing parents, staff and students.

**Stephanie Craze, Claire Todd**

**Co-chairs, 2012-13 Broadview School Council**

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**Supporting documents:**

- 1) List of Broadview School Council executive members for 2012-13 (attached)
- 2) Here is a link to the closing financial statement for the 2012-13 school year. The budget update reflects annual fundraising and expenditures as of September 30, 2013, and was presented at the council's AGM in September 2013.

<http://www.broadviewparents.org/wordpress/about/finance/>

## Broadview School Council Executive Members, 2012-13

Position	Name
Co-Chairs	Stephanie Craze Claire Todd
Co-Treasurers	Kathy Anderson Scott Moon
Secretary	Nadine Boyce
Volunteer Coordinator	Kathryn Vant
Primary Division Rep	Carrie Cuhaci
Junior Division Reps	Marian Howe Kim Gurtler
Intermediate Division Reps	Abraham Sudhakar Susan Demedash
Communication Rep	Ashley Brasfield
Web manager	Zoltan Miko
Charitable Reps	Lisanne Brousseau Krista Gerard
Artist in Residence (AIR) Reps	Kirsten Andersen Patricia Caule
Healthy Active/Safe Travel Planning Committee Reps	Sara Ryan (STP) Liisa Vexler (HA)
Music Rep	David Macquistan
Rebuild Committee Reps	Jaye Hooper Reid McDougall
Teacher Rep	Carol-Lynn Dunlap
Past Chair	Trevor Jones
Daycare Rep	Heather Hudson
Sports Rep	Leslie McLean
OCASC Rep	Bobby Chawla
Fundraising Reps	Shannon Murray (Dance-a-thon) Krista Waugh (QSP Magazines) Leslie McLean (Book Bonanza) Tudor Robins (Hot Lunches)
Hot Lunches Reps	Tudor Robins (admin, pizza) Leslie McLean (Subway) Sarah Farrish (milk)
Community Rep	John Preston
Principal (ex-officio)	Catherine Deschambault
Vice Principal (ex-officio)	Rebecca Carver