

Takhini Elementary School Council
AGM Report 2014/15
September 10th, 2015

Council Members

Maureen Johnstone, Co-Chair
Phil Willoughby, Co-Chair
Candice Francis, Member
Heather Dundas, Member
Malcolm Mills, Member
Deb Jonasson, Secretary/Treasurer

Overview

The 2014/15 year was one of continued growth and moving forward for Takhini Elementary School Council. With a majority of new members on Council, this past year was one of orientation, new learning and of establishing a benchmark to guide our movement forward. This was achieved through clarifying and identifying concerns and opportunities and will be instrumental in determining our direction for this next school year.

Fundamental to our success this past year was our continued working relationships and partnership with colleagues at the Department, Association and with the School.

Key to our role from the onset was to work closely in collaboration with the School, this being the Principal and the teaching team and that communication was of prime importance all round. For example, this resulted in regular monthly meetings with the Principal and engaging with teachers as a whole embracing their feedback on ways to grow the school forward in terms of priorities and direction.

Contributions

In addition to our regular role and responsibilities as a Council, notable contributions (both volunteer and financial) to the School were as follows:

1. Mardi Gras Family Breakfast February 2015:

Each year School Council organizes a family breakfast. This year, the breakfast was supplied and delivered in conjunction with The Real Canadian Super Store. This is a partnership that Council truly does appreciate. The family breakfast was successful once again in terms of the increase in participation of students and their families, the

healthy and delicious menu, and having the involvement of parent and community volunteers.

Financial contribution of \$ 400

2. Running Club T-Shirts

In follow-up to last years design and production of Takhini School Running Club – shirts, Council purchased additional shirts this year to accommodate the younger runners.

These unique Takhini Running Club t-shirts continue to inspire students bringing Takhini presence and pride at the spring running events. Council volunteered with running club and running events April and May 2015.

Financial contribution of \$550.00

3. William Roper School Visit

Council contributed to the travel and training costs of the school Principal and Counselor to visit the William Roper School in Calgary Alberta January 2015. This was an expression of our support for the implementation of trauma informed practices within Takhini Elementary School building on the foundation of existing self regulation and social emotional learning programming.

Financial contribution of \$ 1200.00

4. Graduation

Council participated in celebrating the graduation of Grade 7 students and acknowledged their achievement with gifts.

Financial contribution of \$200

5. Teacher Appreciation

Council seeks to acknowledge the commitment of the teaching team in their contribution at the School several times a year (refreshments, celebratory gifts etc.)
Financial contribution of \$500

Notable Activities

- **Meeting with the Education Minister Graham**

In May 2015, Council met with Minister Graham to share highlights of Takhini Elementary School as well as those areas requiring greater support and attention using the SWOT approach.

Key to the discussion was that of safety and support; ensuring a safe learning environment and supporting individual learning needs for students and teachers within the school.

- **School Review Process**

Members engaged in the school review process in spring 2015 and look forward to working closely with the School Growth Review Committee in 2015/16.

- **School Council Conference Fall 2014 and Spring 2015**

Council ensured member representatives attendance at both conferences. This forum is recognized and appreciated as a support to School Council.

- **Recruitment of New Principal**

Working closely with our Superintendent, and with contribution from the teaching team, Council successfully recruited a new Principal for the School. We welcome Mr. David Wipf to Takhini Elementary School.

- **Bussing and Traffic Safety**

Council advocated on behalf of the School for improving the bussing practices and traffic safety at Takhini Elementary School.

Financial Report

The financial statement for the 2014/15 school year has been completed and provided for our review and approval.

Acknowledgements

Council would like to extend our gratitude to all members of the teaching staff and administration for articulating their passion for the school, for their caring and for their ongoing commitment to the students and families of Takhini Elementary School.

We are impressed with many of the activities throughout the school year such as the Christmas Concert & Caroling, the Chimes Choir, the School Musical Theatre Production, the afterschool program, the Family Literacy Event, the School End BBQ with Art Show, the Sports and Tournament Engagements, the Cultural Week Festivities and of course, Sister School Project in Kenya, the Self-Regulation Initiative and its connection to and integration with, the Run for Life Programming within the School. These events and activities strongly promoted engagement with students, families and the Takhini community at large.

Thank you to Katrina Brogdon, past Principal, for her passionate and caring contribution in bringing the school and teaching team to where we are today.

Thank you to Bob Walker, School Council Liaison; Penny Prysruk, Superintendent Department of Education and to Carol Coote of the AYSCBC, for your ongoing support and guidance to the Council. Being able to work closely with these representatives supports Council in fulfilling our role and responsibilities.

Looking Ahead

On behalf of Council, I affirm our ongoing commitment to continued engagement and connection with the parent and school community. Additionally, we are committed to the success of each learner, recognizing the individual rights, needs and interests of Takhini students in all the decisions that we make, through working together and sharing leadership.

In this upcoming year, we are

- looking forward to working with David Wipf and what he will bring to the Takhini community
- engaging in communication and collaborative relationships
- developing the Takhini School brand
- further refining and developing the self-regulation process as a means to support individual students in their readiness for learning and support student learning where they are at
- striving to achieve our full potential in realizing and exercising our authority in accordance of the Education Act