

Stephen Leacock School Council

Newsletter

Nov. 30, 2009

Co-Chairs:

Carrie Marr, Catherine Roberts

Treasurer: Ingrid Johanson

Secretary: VACANT

Communications: Elizabeth Shilts

Volunteer coordinator:

Wendy Barron

OCASC rep: Enang Akan

Kanata Inter-School Council

reps: Heather Park, Holly Richter-White, Sheila Smellie



If you have any questions or comments

about the School Council and its activities, contact Catherine Roberts (613-591-1659; c.roberts@sympatico.ca) or Carrie Marr (613-270-8743; 2carrie@rogers.com), or visit our the School Council website, www.sleacock.blogspot.com.

Mark your calendar...

Dec. 1-4: Scholastic book fair (library)

Dec. 8-11: Holiday gift shop (library)

Jan. 19: Next School Council meeting (library; 7 p.m.)

Accommodation issues

At a meeting on October 26, representatives of the School Board offered little new information on accommodation issues facing Kanata schools, including overcrowding at Stephen Leacock. The Board is now looking for parental input on how to proceed. Some options include waiting for a new — as yet undetermined — school to be built in Kanata North, planning for formal accommodation reviews under new boundaries or implementing more interim solutions (such as the JK redirection). The Board stressed that there is a need to focus on all of Kanata, not just individual schools. To add input, visit www.ocdsb.edu.on.ca, and select “Accommodation Studies.” The Board plans to present its recommendations to the Business Services Committee in January. Please feel free to send comments to Catherine Roberts (c.roberts@sympatico.ca) or Carrie Marr (2carrie@rogers.com) who represent Stephen Leacock in discussions on the issue.

Priority needs list

Every year, teachers present a list of priorities they feel would benefit students’ learning, but are not funded by the Board. The list is updated throughout the year. School Council periodically reviews it and allocates funds collected through fundraising initiatives. The following has been approved for purchase so far this year.

Primary

Cardboard anchor chart
5 chart stands
Magnetic letters
Styrofoam balls
Personal dictionaries
CD players

Junior

Bescherelles
Place value centre
French novels
Guided reading table
French globe
Collection professeur
Science magazine
subscription
Rubber stamps

English program, gr. 2-5

Write Traits gr. 2
Write Traits gr. 3
Guided Reading set gr. 4
Guided Reading set gr. 5
A-Z Learning subscription

Intermediate

Science lab equipment
French novels sets
Red Maple novels

General

Laminating film

All-day Kindergarten

The Ministry of Education recently announced that the OCDSB would get 50 classes of all-day Kindergarten for implementation in September 2010. The Board has recommended offering full day learning in Kanata at Glen Cairn and W. Erskine Johnston public schools, beginning in September.

FUNDRAISERS/EVENTS

Winter Scholastic book fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for December 1-4 in the library, offering students a great selection of literature to inspire an excitement for reading while providing new books for the library. You can pay by cash or cheque (payable to Stephen Leacock Public School). Feel free to indicate a maximum amount on the cheque. For convenience, the book fair will also be **open December 3, from 4:00-7:30 p.m., and December 4, from 8-11 a.m.** If you can volunteer to help with student purchases on December 1-3 any time between 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., contact Cheryl Lajeunesse (cheryl.lajeunesse@ocdsb.ca).

Loblaws gift cards

Help support Stephen Leacock when you buy groceries — at no extra cost! Once again, School Council is selling Loblaws gift cards in \$25, \$50, \$100 and \$250 amounts. Valid for two years, the cards can be used at participating stores, including Loblaws, Real Canadian Superstores and Your Independent Grocers (excludes tobacco, prescription drugs, lottery tickets and gasoline).

Loblaws offers a rebate of two to five percent on gift card sales. The portion raised by grade eight students will go to their band, while the remainder will be used by School Council for school improvements, such as new library books and classroom items.

Join any time by completing the form under “Parent Information” on the SLPS website, www.stephenleacockps.ocdsb.ca. Please contact Mary Anne Trenker (ek537@ncf.ca) with any questions.

Holiday gift shop

Again this year, the holiday gift shop will allow children from Kindergarten to grade three to purchase their own special gifts for family and friends. **Open during school hours December 8-11**, the shop will have a variety of gifts. The program offers a valuable learning experience by letting children select holiday gifts on their own, with assistance from volunteers. Contact Catherine Roberts with questions, or to volunteer (c.roberts@sympatico.ca).

Magazine sales

You can still choose from more than 700 magazines from QSP. Paper orders must be in by December 11, but you can continue to shop online at www.QSP.ca (quote Stephen Leacock’s group ID#10695). **Attention band students and parents:** 37 percent of your sales go to the band. QSP guarantees the lowest prices anywhere.

PAST EVENTS

Walk to School Day

Although the morning of October 7 was grey and dreary, many students and parents participated in the annual Walk to School Day. We were joined by School Board Trustee, Cathy Curry, and City Councillor, Marianne Wilkinson. The grade five students crushed the rest of the school in “laps for fitness” — a great opportunity for those who couldn’t walk to school to start their day with some exercise. Loblaws donated apples, School Council donated cookies and Starbucks on Terry Fox Drive donated coffee. Thank you to our donors, and to the many volunteers who helped ensure a successful event.

Halloween dance

On October 30, junior and primary students, along with their parents, attended the annual Halloween dance. It was a great success thanks to our many volunteers. Thanks also to Mr. Power and his grade eights for providing the music. School Council raised close to \$400.