

# School Council News

## Dear Parents,

Your Stephen Leacock School Council has had another very busy and successful year. Throughout 2010-2011, dedicated School Council members met on a monthly basis to support the learning activities of the school. We have been active on several fronts, from providing the school lunches three times per week, to taking part in the ARC discussions on overcrowding in Kanata-area schools. This newsletter will highlight the School Council's main accomplishments of the past school year. Your input and feedback are always welcome, as is your participation in school-related activities. Every year we have a need for volunteers, so please consider getting involved if you have not already. It is a truly rewarding experience knowing that the extra time and effort you put in with the School Council directly benefits your child(ren) and the children in your community.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing many of you at school events next year. On behalf of the Stephen Leacock School Council,

Carrie Marr & Catherine Roberts, Co-Chairs, School Council



## School Lunch Program 2011-2012

The school lunch program is the School Council's primary

fundraising initiative throughout the year. This past year, the school lunch program generated almost \$30,000 in funds which are redistributed throughout the school.

With a new focus on health and wellness in Ontario schools, we are making several changes to our lunchtime offerings for the upcoming school year.

Next fall, the School Council will be offering hot, healthy food options from The Lunch Lady. Their extensive menu is nut-free and features lots of options that kids love - from grilled cheese and pasta to wraps, sushi and even pancakes. You can order meals for every Wednesday, every second Wednesday or whichever Wednesday you like. You will even have the option to change or cancel your order online up to 8 a.m. on the day of service. For

more information on this new service, please check out [www.thelunchlady.ca](http://www.thelunchlady.ca).

Subs are still on for Tuesdays and all subs are made on a whole wheat bun with cheese and lettuce. Pizza will be available on Thursdays, prepared on a whole wheat crust.

## Priority Needs List (PNL) Requests

Every year the School Council asks the teachers of Stephen Leacock to compile a list of items that they require in the classroom, over and above what is funded by the Department of Education.

This year, School Council has spent more than \$30,000 towards the PNL, which directly benefits our children in the classroom. Examples of how the money was spent include: \$3000 on projectors; \$500 on musical instruments; and \$1000 on French non-fiction books.

Complete details on this year's PNL are available on the School Council website.

## School Supplies



The Ottawa District School Board has developed a common list of recommended school supplies for grades JK-3 and 4-8. Next year, parents have the convenient option of ordering school supply kits from **Write-On Stationery Supplies** that contain all of the recommended supplies at a competitive price.

In addition to taking the stress out of shopping for school supplies, this option also benefits Stephen Leacock! **\$2 from every order** goes back to the School Council, for programs such as the teacher's Priority Needs List. For more information please visit: <http://slpsparentcouncil.wordpress.com>

## Kanata North Accommodation Review Committee

On June 16 the latest Kanata North public ARC meeting was held at the Earl of March auditorium. Various preliminary concepts were presented in terms of addressing the overcrowding issues in Kanata North schools. Some of the scenarios that are being investigated include: a grade 7-12 high school; redrawing school boundary lines; a satellite location for kindergarten or grades 7-8 offsite; and using a split timetable. Additions and modifications to existing schools were also discussed. For more information, please visit the OCDSB website. <http://www.ocdsb.ca/sch/as/Pages/KanaNorthEleAccomRev.aspx>

*Of interest: Read the CBC News story from February, 2011: Kanata school overcrowding needs long-term fix: parents (<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/story/2011/02/17/ottawa-kanata-overcrowding.html>)*

## Parent Involvement Grant



Every year the Ministry of Education gives \$500 to each School Council to increase parent involvement within the school.

This year, Council used the grant money to buy fridge magnets\* with the School Council website address and other contact information for parents, as well as financially supporting the parent information night on higher order learning and critical thinking.

Council will also purchase a new sandwich board for the parking lot to help advertise school meetings, events, and other activities.

\*Your fridge magnet is attached to this newsletter!