



## Sunnybrae Public School - Annual Report 2010 – 2011

### **Council Members:**

John McKee - Chair	Tom Dorsey - Sunnybrae P.S. Principal
Sally MacDonald- Teacher Representative	Len Dunkley – Sunnybrae P.S Vice-Principal
Diane Thatcher – Teacher Representative	Julie Cutts– Parent Representative
Mandy Pathick – Community Representative	Walter Schubert – Parent Representative
Lynn Rutledge – Support Staff Representative	Kristine Niskanen- Recording Secretary
Marcy Barbaro – Parent Representative	Doug Brennan - Parent Representative
Lori Ennis- Parent Representative	Nicki Rix - Parent Representative
Tracy Hexemer - Parent Representative	

Dear Parents and School Community.

To all returning students, families, teachers, and administrators of Sunnybrae Public School - welcome back! The council hopes you had a great summer. The Sunnybrae Public School Parent Council had an active and productive 2010-2011. The parent council increased the number of meetings this year from four to almost every month. All of the meetings were held once each month on Tuesday evenings. These meetings were open to all parents and members of school community and we had a number of parents show up for one or two meetings even though they were not formally on School Council. The council encourages all parents and the school community to attend and bring forward any topics or issues for discussion and to also provide input.

The purpose of the Sunnybrae Parent Council and can be found at the following website [www.scdsb.on.ca/parents-corner/school-councils/](http://www.scdsb.on.ca/parents-corner/school-councils/). There is also a wealth and other information found and the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) site at [www.SCDSB.on.ca](http://www.SCDSB.on.ca).

The following is the purpose of parent councils as defined by the SCDSB

*It is the policy of the Simcoe County District School Board, that each school in its jurisdiction provide for the establishment and operation of a school council. In accordance with the Ministry of Education (Reg. 612/00,613/00), the Board promotes the following objectives of school councils: positive attitudes toward the education of students in the school; effective two-way communication between home and school; effective approaches to consultative and collaborative relationships among home, school and community; and active parental participation to improve student achievement.*

*School Councils are advisory bodies comprised of elected parents, community representatives, teaching and non-teaching employees, students and the school principal. Through the active participation of parents, school councils work to improve student achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. School Council may provide advice to the school Principal and the school Board in a variety of areas, including curriculum goals, school action plans, student codes of behaviour and communication strategies. Elections take place in the first 30 days of each school year. Contact your school principal or a school council member for more detailed information.*

We had an excellent Council last year that initiated a number of new items and helped support the school and students in many different ways. There were many discussions on items relating

to funding raising strategies, community support requests, capitol expenditures, EQAO results and our Community BBQ. A summary of highlighted items are listed under "Some Highlights of 2010-2011". These discussions were very active and open and many good ideas and perspectives crossed the table. As a result, actions were initiated and goals were achieved.

These results were achieved by the commitment from council members, school administrators, teaching staff, and most important the parents. All driven by a few common goals, to help improve achievement of all students, encourage students to challenge themselves, and to be the best that they can be. All of this achieved though the perpetual efforts of students, parents, teachers and school administrators, and mostly countless volunteer hours.

### **Some Highlights of 2010-2011**

#### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

Many discussions were held regarding the balanced school day. The criteria for the number of returned responses, as set SCDSB, was met.

All households shall receive an objective survey. A 60% response rate will be considered valid and an 80% majority of these returned surveys shall decide the direction. If the 60% return rate with 80% support level is achieved, the final approval shall rest with the Superintendent of Education.

The criteria were met because of the efforts of all involved. Communication was key in obtaining enough responses to make and the decision on adopting or rejecting the balance school day proposal. The results showed that there was strong support for the balanced school day.

#### **Fundraising:**

There were over ten fundraising events during the academic year that generated over \$16,500 for both committed and non-committed expenses. Committed fund raisers are for specific charity events such as the Terry Fox run. All money raised is given back to the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope charity. Money raised from non-committed events can be allocated for identified items for Sunnybrae.

#### **Community Support:**

Some of the money generated though fundraising was donated to help Sunnybrae alumni Ethan Belchose and Carrie Webb in their endeavors. Ethan was able to represent Rugby Canada in an international rugby event. Carrie Web in her second year of nursing with aspiration to become a doctor was able to help in a Canadian mission to the Dominican Republic and provide health care for those less fortunate. Sunnybrae helped Carrie with a donation of \$500. This small support multiplied into \$5000 worth of medical care. .

#### **Safety Concerns:**

Many safety concerns were raised regarding activity at the Sunnybrae located community board offices. Concerns were raised about visitors, couriers, and people doing business at the new offices. Council raised these issues and administrators acted and resolved the safety concerns. People doing business at the board offices no longer enter through Sunnybrae main doors. Access is identified for board office business and everyone is required to sign in and be identified. Access to the school has been restricted.

#### **Community Board Offices:**

Council had several discussions around the acquisition of two classrooms for board use. The general consensus was of frustration and disappointment in taking these resources away from Sunnybrae. This situation has been exacerbated by the loss of yet another classroom in 2008-2009.

#### **Programs:**

The eat well to excel program was supported through volunteer efforts and is now a regular program for students to use.

Many internet safety programs/sessions were run for students.

Equipment:

Smartboard were purchased to help teachers teach. A select number of teachers were dedicated to learn how the smartbord works and establish and deliver lesson programs using this technology. These teachers were then responsible to train other staff in smartboard technology.

Attachments:

The 2009-2010 Fundraising report has been attached.

John McKee  
Sunnybrae Council Chair

Peter McKenna  
Principal, Sunnybrae