

SCHOOL COUNCIL



James Hillier School Council is a team of parents and family members who represent all James Hillier students and their families.

Message From The Chair

Another school year has begun, and on behalf of School Council, I would like to welcome those of you who are new to the James Hillier family, and say welcome back to those of you who are returning!

James Hillier School Council's purpose is to: help improve the emotional and physical school environment; advocate for students and parents; enhance the James Hillier community; and foster a sense of belonging, self-worth and empowerment in our students. We are committed to inclusiveness and engagement of students and families through open communication, transparency and advocacy.

At our first council meeting we had sixteen parents in attendance - some new faces as well as some who have been involved before. We heard from Mr. Ouellette about EQAO results, school improvement plans, plans for the school's use as a polling station, and King, the new service dog at school. We talked about past council successes such as Fun Fair and Meet the Teacher Night and began to plan for the next time these events will run. We also had a lively discussion about full-day kindergarten and look forward to hearing more about that at an upcoming information session, thanks to Mr. Ouellette's responsiveness to concerns raised. This isn't all that was discussed, but I thought I could provide an overview of what types of things we talk

about for those of you who may wonder and who have thought about coming out.

Minutes are always available after meetings, and there is always more room at the table if you can join us! If you have questions or concerns, School Council executive members can be reached at hillierschoolcouncil@gmail.com or I can be contacted directly at paulacavan@yahoo.ca.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday November 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the library, we hope to see you there!

Paula Cavan
Chair,
James Hillier School Council

MORE COUNCIL NEWS ON PAGE 2 >>

| EXECUTIVE POSITIONS | CHAIR | CO-CHAIR | SECRETARY | TREASURER |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR 2014-2015 | Paula Cavan | Hilary Visheau | Kelly Lunn | Monica Watson |

ACE AWARDS

Last year, Council followed the school's lead by introducing Staff ACE Awards, and we heard from many parents about the amazing things school staff had done to make a difference in their children's lives or in the school community. We then recognized ACE Award winners in this newsletter. This will continue for the 2014/2015 school year. If you would like to recognize a staff member for something impactful they have done, please send in a brief summary and why you think they are deserving of an ACE Award to hillierschoolcouncil@gmail.com.

| COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE | NOVEMBER | JANUARY | MARCH | MAY |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Everyone is welcome! | Tuesday Nov 18th 6:30pm | Tuesday Jan 20th 6:30pm | Tuesday Mar 24th 6:30pm | Tuesday May 26th 6:30pm |

Other meetings may be called if required.

COUNCIL NEWS!

MAGAZINE DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who helped make our magazine fundraiser a success.

The final numbers will be available in our next newsletter. The proceeds go towards keeping our library full of books that your children enjoy reading.

If you would like to further support the library, a Book Fair is being held the week of November 10th. Please feel free to stop by and look over the wide selection of books

available to purchase for your children. This is another way we can keep our library up to date.

ICE RINKS

Last year we had a great skating season and this one will be here before we know it!

The Hillier Heights Neighbourhood Association will be looking for volunteers to help flood and take care of the Hillier skating rinks. If you are interested please contact hillier.neighbours@gmail.com.

READ-A-THON A HUGE SUCCESS

Thank you to all the students and families that supported the Read-A-Thon!

Final totals aren't yet available as the Read-A-Thon just ended on October 31st and some forms are still coming in, but based on preliminary totals this could be the most successful fund raiser the James Hillier School Council has ever done.

So if you still have Sponsorship Forms or Reading Logs at home, please make sure they get sent in right away as prizing will be handed out this Friday, November 7th.

Remember, every student that participated gets a silicone James Hillier Jayhawks wristband.

A special thank you goes to the following businesses for supporting the Read-A-Thon with additional prizing; Scholastic Canada (our monthly book order provider), The Bookworm (our neighbourhood used bookstore, with a special room dedicated to children's books), Cineplex (for when you want to see the movie version of that great book), JC's Second Chance (our neighbourhood hot spot for comics & graphic novels), Microplay (a gamers dream store), and Baskin Robbins (where you can fill those ice cream cravings year round). Support was also provided from grocers Metro & Food Basics.



2014-2015

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Chair:

Paula Cavan

Co-Chair:

Hilary Visheau

Treasurer:

Monica Watson

Secretary:

Kelly Lunn

Health & Safety

Sub-committee

Monica Watson

Library Initiatives:

Lise-Ann Kneabone

Pizza Program:

Sarah Butler & Monica Watson

Newsletter:

Monica Meserve

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following is a complete list, to date, of School Council Voting Members for the 2014-2015 school year. Attendance at 4 meetings is required to be a voting member. ALL parents are welcome to attend School Council meetings at any time.

Paula Cavan
Connie Chisholm
Shannon Curry
Christine Dickson
Luan Ferguson
Helena Gunn
Nancy Hunsley
Christine Johnston
Kara Kelly
Lise-Ann Kneabone
Sarah Leppard
Kelly Lunn
Monica Meserve
Tineke Nurse
Jo-Anna O'Keefe
Crystal Sanderson
Jordy Schmutz
Laura Schmutz
Marianne Schuts
Nancy Sherritt
Hilary Visheau
Monica Watson
Laura Welsh

The dates of our meetings are noted on page 2 of this newsletter.
Meetings are held in the school library at 6:30pm.

School Council Executive



from left to right: Monica Watson, Kelly Lunn, Paula Cavan and Hilary Visheau



School Council Members in attendance at first meeting.