

SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

Name of School: Markville SS

CEC: East

Chairperson(s):

#1: Name: Joyce Chan.

#2: Name:

of Parent Members: 13

Parent Members' Names:	Teaching Staff Member(s):
Nancy Elliott	Subject Heads (rotating)
Arjan Samtani	
Lee Carwana	
Janet Wellsman Thomson	
Marguerite Ennis	
Joyce Chan	
Elaine Wilkes	
Archana Seth	
Judy Hall	
Michael Tamaki	
Naomi Tsuji-Tamaki	
Erise Fung	
Raj Seth	
Support Staff Member(s):	Student Member(s): (if applicable)
	Amanda Perkins
Community Representative(s)	Administrator(s)
	Steve Bewcyk
	Debbie Linkewich
	Maureen Weaver

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9) Learning at Home

a) To what extent has your School Council been engaged in activities to support parents with their children's learning at home?

A Great Extent		A Moderate Extent		Not At All
5	4	<u>3</u>	2	1

b) If yes, how has the School Council assisted parents in supporting their children's learning at home? Please check all that apply:

- Guest speakers..... []
- Book exchange programs..... []
- Tip sheets for parents..... []
- Forms for exchanging best practices..... []
- Workshops..... []
- Other (please specify below) [X]

Teacher demonstration of technology used in classrooms.

10) Collaboration with the Community

a) To what extent has your School Council been engaged in activities to collaborate with the community to enhance student learning?

A Great Extent		A Moderate Extent		Not At All
5	4	<u>3</u>	2	1

b) If yes, please describe the community partnerships/collaboration in which your School Council has been engaged? Please check all that apply:

- Breakfast programs []
- Milk programs []
- Hot lunch programs []
- Sportswear..... []
- Guest speakers..... [X]
- Fundraising []
- Collaborative community events/charities []
- Collaborating with community agencies to support students in the school..... []
- Cultural diversity outreach []
- Other (please specify below) [X]

York Region Police as guest speakers. Staff appreciation day.
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c) Which of these activities has your School Council undertaken in order to engage the community in supporting the cultural diversity of your school community?

- Multicultural (i.e. culturally sensitive) School Events []
- Reducing Language Barriers (e.g. translations, interpreters, dual language books)..... []
- Respect religious holidays when planning events [X]
- Direct resources & funding to supporting cultural diversity..... []
- Efforts to ensure diverse representation on SC..... [X]
- None []
- Other (please specify below) []

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11) Parenting

- a) To what extent has your School Council been engaged in activities to support parents and families with parenting skills? (i.e., assisting families with strategies to create an environment at home that supports children's learning)

A Great Extent		A Moderate Extent		Not At All
5	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	2	1

- b) If yes, how has the School Council assisted families with strategies to create an environment that supports children's learning?

Guest speaker on parenting teens

Volunteering

12)

- a) To what extent has your School Council been engaged in activities to support volunteering?

A Great Extent		A Moderate Extent		Not At All
5	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	2	1

- b) If yes, how has the School Council supported volunteering? Please check all that apply:

Fundraising	[]
Modeling by example	[X]
Recruitment and promotion of volunteers	[]
Adapting volunteer handbook provided by the Board to the needs of your school	[]
Assisting with training volunteers	[X]
Other (please specify below)	[]

13) Identify the activities below in which the council was successfully engaged this year.

Fundraising - e.g., achieved goals; magazine sales; pizza lunches; fun fair; movie night; popcorn Fridays; spring/fall fling; school BBQ; new volunteers; what/how to spend money	[]
Parental/Community Support of School Activities/Programs - e.g., career fair; curriculum night; meet the teacher; safety awareness; safe arrivals program; parenting workshops; Character Matters initiatives; environment program; graduation; assemblies, engaging parents of diverse backgrounds, translators for Parent Info Night.	[X]
Consultation/Input into School Policy Development/Review - e.g., dress code; code of behaviour; head lice policy; school council constitution; SPCI; tech review; uniform survey	[]
Support of Literacy Initiatives - e.g., workshops; primary leveled readers; reading circle; homework club; math/science programs; snuggle up and read; literacy café	[]
School Site Improvements - e.g., repair/replace playground equipment; beautification; outdoor classroom	[X]
Collaboration/Recognition of School Council - e.g., creation of School Council; surveys; meeting format; identifying goals and priorities; networking	[X]
Health/Wellness Activities - e.g., hot lunch, milk, breakfast, nutrition and/or snack programs; health & wellness/nutrition committees	[X]
Promoting Community Partnerships - e.g., Parks & Recreation; Health Services; Community events	[X]
Communication - e.g., school needs; community information; monthly newsletters; website content	[X]
Improvement in Fine Arts Programs - e.g., Music; Visual Arts	[]
Purchase of School Resources - e.g., computers; media; robotics; teachers' wish list	[]
Increasing Attendance/Participation in School Council - e.g., recruiting new volunteers; positive, productive meetings	[]
Development/Launch/Improvement of School Council Website	[]
Transition to Secondary - e.g., working with feeder schools; attending Grade 8/9 meetings; transition planning; teen support groups	[X]
Other (please specify)	[]

14) Identify the activities below which the council found challenging this year.

Attracting/Maintaining SC Members and Attendance - e.g., no active involvement on subcommittees; difficult getting feedback from parents at Focus Group meetings; goal setting early in year with new members; difficulty increasing parental involvement; attendance at meetings; focusing SC meeting on Agenda & keeping within time limits, ensuring cultural diverse representation on SC, keeping proper documentation, interpersonal issues, conflict.	[X]
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succession planning, language issues	
Maintaining or Lack of Volunteers - e.g., difficulty engaging volunteers; lack of active volunteer participation	[]
Fundraising or Resource Challenges - e.g., lack of staff/parental support; opposition to initiatives; poor participation; no volunteers for fundraising events; allocation of funds	[]
Communication/Collaboration - e.g., to parents; to Board; to community; ESL issues; between council and parents; between councils; coming to understand the roles of administrators, parents, and SC; open networking between councils; starting SC newsletter; understanding how council contributes to student life; consistency in communication protocols; email addresses, website issues	[X]
Safety Matters - e.g., safe walking community; parking safety; snow removal policy; traffic problems; safety and public access to school (i.e. doors all closed except main doors); schoolyard safety/bullying	[]
School Site Improvements - e.g., improvements to playground/equipment	[]
Input into Policy Reviews - e.g., homework policy; SPCI issues- not enough discussion; lack of focus/accountability in SPCI	[]
Other - (please specify below)	[]

15) List two potential objectives/priorities for next year's School Council:

Priority in School Plan	Potential Objectives/Priorities
Curriculum Implementation	
Parent, Family & Community Engagement	Continuity of the Parent Engagement initiative, and Staff Appreciation
School & Workplace Climate	
Other: Succession Planning	Continuity of the executive parent council base

16) What strategies has your council used to support a smooth transition from this year's council to the next?

- Proactive Scheduling, Orientations and Training [X]
 Return of the Same Council Members [X]
 Co-Chair System [X]
 Effective Communication (e.g. standardized reporting procedures; communication with incoming school administration; promoting value of involvement in council to parents using different methods; attempting to continue communication and discussion of school issues over the break; personal invitations) [X]
 Other []

17) Building System Capacity

Identify below what additional support or training your council would like to receive in the next school year?

Collaboration - e.g., opportunity to collaborate, network or share and interact with other SC (between all schools & between local family of schools); sharing best practices (e.g. successful initiatives at other schools would provide good insight, best parent programs, best fundraiser); more support for "family of schools" initiatives; partnering with high school councils; communication; building community partnerships	[X]
Opportunity (& Financial Support) to Attend School Council/Board Forums, Conferences, Workshops on Topics of Interest - e.g., attendance at Quest; council input into P.D. topics; strategies to improve EQAO results; plan evening sessions; evaluation/report cards; student transition	[X]
Training/Information & Strategies for Increasing Effectiveness of School Councils - e.g., training on how to support SPCI goals & priorities; P.D. on what and how SC should be involved in; P.D. to help SC understand school programs; how to expand involvement/support in school; P.D. re: completing SC annual/treasurer's reports; maintain consistent attendance; orientation for new members; managing meetings; IT training	[X]
Provide Information Regarding Speakers, Programs & Resources Available - e.g., anti-bullying; how to help our children; internet safety; provide information about available programs and resources such as <i>Character Matters, Restorative Approaches</i> .	[X]
Guidance on How to Recruit New School Council Members - e.g., parents; teachers; volunteer trainer	[X]
Guidance on How to Involve Parents of Various Religious, Language and Cultural Backgrounds - e.g., translations of documents; interpreters, ESL challenges; multicultural sensitivity training	[X]
Training in Fundraising and Planning Fundraisers - e.g., fundraising consultant (how to negotiate, with whom, where and when; other ideas for fundraising; do's and don'ts; continued development & clarity around fundraising	[X]
Guidance on How to Increase Parent Volunteer Involvement - e.g., more volunteer recognition events, training for parent volunteers to support early literacy, help with PRO grant proposals	[X]
Additional Funding - e.g., IT resources-laptops; hardware; software; resources for libraries; textbook; tools for teachers to implement Living School initiatives; resources to assist with developing Parenting programs	[X]
Other (please specify below)	[]

School/Board Delivery of Service

18) In which area(s) does your School Council feel your school has shown improvement during this school year (e.g. program delivery – literacy, numeracy, arts, communication to parents; consultation; recognition; community partnerships; etc.)? Give clear examples to support your statement.

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Fall Parent Engagement event – the Arts was exhibited

School has developed and shared with School Council a full school literacy initiative.

19) In which area(s) does your School Council feel your Board has shown improvement during this school year (e.g. program delivery – literacy, numeracy, arts; communication to parents; consultation; support for School Councils; recognition; community partnerships; etc.)? Give clear examples to support your statement.

Healthy Schools initiative – vending machines, student store, cafeteria food

20) In which area(s) does your School Council feel your school needs improvement? Give clear examples and suggestions.

Technical issues with e-mail, synervoice and school website need to be addressed to ensure reliable and consistent communication with parents.

21) In which area(s) does your School Council feel your Board needs improvement? Give clear examples and suggestions.

Continue to support Character Education at the secondary level with activities that are meaningful to students at the secondary level..

Additional Comments:

	Name
Council Chair(s):	Joyce Chan <i>Joyce Chan</i>
	<i>Jun 30, 08</i>
Principal:	Stephen Bewcyk <i>SBP</i>
Date:	<i>June 30, 2008</i>

School Council Annual Report survey:

Please return the completed report to Nada Bimbilov, Research and Assessment Services, Center for Leadership and Learning by email nada.bimbilov@yrdsb.edu.on.ca or courier by **June 30, 2008**.