

St. David CSS School Council Annual Report: 2014-2015

The goal of the St. David School Council is to help promote St. David's mission statement of "Heart of the Community - Success for Each, A Place for All," through increasing parent involvement and communication between the school, home and community.

In 2014-2015, our School Council supported the St. David community through a wide variety of ways. In August, we had our sixth annual Used Uniform Sale. We offered a lower cost school uniform alternative to parents and generated total sales of over \$6,000. With the money raised through the sale of used school clothing we were able to offer support and encouragement to a wide variety of organizations and activities in the school. Our aim was to use our funds to increase student development, interest and enjoyment during their time at St. David. By supporting such a diversity of activities, School Council funding has helped promote "success for each student" at St. David.

In 2014-2015 we approved grants for:

- the Gd 12 Religion retreat program
- the "Celtics Care" program
- "Welcome to St. David" post cards for incoming Grade 9s
- transportation for the Grade 10 Religion retreat
- reprinting the "Parents' Tips" booklet
- the St. David School Council Scholarship
- the St. David Breakfast Club
- the FRC (First Robotics Competition) "Team Dave" plus an additional grant in aid of their trip to the FRC world championships
- the Intermural Super teams program
- Writing Excellence Awards for the Communications Department
- New equipment for the Wrestling team
- the Model United Nations club's participation in the annual SOMA conference in Toronto

We continued our tradition of helping to create a welcoming atmosphere at St. David's for the Meet the Teacher Night, Interview Night, the Awards Night reception and the November Graduation reception. During the Grade Eight Night in December parent volunteers were available to answer questions for parents. On Grade Eight Night we distributed the "Tips for Parents" brochure to all parents. The information is also on the school website. The parents in the St. David's community showed that they care for and appreciate the teachers of our children by hosting the Teacher Breakfast at the end of January. In March, School Council hosted a special guest speaker, educational author and speaker, Michael Reist. Mr. Reist spoke on the challenges of "raising children in a new kind of world. In April, parent volunteers helped with the student sign-in table at the Semi formal. School Council also helped promote the many outstanding accomplishments of the school staff by selecting a St. David teacher for the OTIP "Teacher of the Year" award. Our nominee received a special award certificate at the May staff meeting. For the June Graduation we have purchased enamelled keepsake pins for all graduates. All of these events contributed to the "heart of the community" of St. David's.

Over the past year, the members of the St. David School Council have worked hard to help realize the school's mission to be the "Heart of the Community - Success for Each, A Place for All." We thank all of our fellow Council members for their contributions to promoting success for our school, its staff, and its students. Next year marks the Fiftieth Anniversary of St. David's and we look forward to a year of celebration.

Anna Winnett and Gary Simons