

# RCES SCHOOL COUNCIL

Vol:5 No:1

Welcome to 2010 – 2011 School Year

October 2010

Welcome to the start of what will be a great year at "the Roch". It is a year of change and possibility with a new principal and several new members of the teaching staff that we are looking forward to working with. The school has over 700 students this year and we will be closely following discussions of capacity and boundaries as the year progresses

As your new chair and vice chair, Cynthia and I want to extend our thanks to the entire new executive council. It is a great mix of seasoned veterans and enthusiastic newcomers and we will be drawing extensively on their dedication, energy and enthusiasm to make this year really Roch!

We are always looking for people to volunteer with our various events and activities so don't be strangers! You are always welcome to drop in to the council meetings (this year they will be held on the second Wednesday of every month). The meetings are held in the library and always have an interesting agenda. If you have any points that need to be discussed, please pass them on at [cochairs@rochcouncil.ca](mailto:cochairs@rochcouncil.ca) for inclusion on the next agenda.

Once again, **welcome to the "Roch"** where "passion and respect inspire our educational community". Remember to check our school council website for new information on events and what is happening at the school – [www.rohcouncil.ca](http://www.rohcouncil.ca)

## Please welcome your 2010 – 2011 Council Members:

**Chair:** Ken Gourlay

**Vice-Chair:** Cynthia Menary

**Treasurer:** Christina Huppe

**Secretary:** Anne Bowes (open as of Nov)

**OCASC Rep:** Andrea Kovari, Susan Wehrman

**Principal:** Katia Sioufi

**Vice Principal:** Lisa Clayton

**Teaching Staff:** Carolyn Hammond, Kathy Laviolette

**Executive Members:** Carl Bovell, Rhonda Boudreau, Wendy Clee, Caroline Cross, Cindy Dummitt, Ahmed El-Shaboury, Jaspreet K. Harit, Chantal McEvoy, Susan McLachlan, Jennifer Tackabury, Chris Ward, Susan Wehrmann

**Cake Walk Coordinator:** Jen Tackabury

**Fundraising Coordinator:** Chantal McEvoy

**Landscaping Coordinator:** TBA

**Lunch Program Coordinator:** Christina Huppe

**Newsletter Editor:** Wendy Clee

**Special Events Coordinator(s):** TBA

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Andrea Kovari

**Webmaster:** Carl Bovell



Our meeting nights have changed.

Please mark your calendars, for this school year we will be meeting on **2nd WEDNESDAY of every month**. The next school council meeting will be held Wednesday November 10th, 2010 at 7:00pm in the school library. Thanks Starbuck on Eagleson Rd for their continued generosity and contribution we will be able to continue to offer their tasty coffee at our meetings.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED,

The Council is seeking volunteers for the following positions (no experience necessary):

- a) Secretary
- b) Landscape Coordinator
- c) Special Events Coordinator

You may visit the website or contact the council for more information on each position.

## Fundraising Committee

We are currently looking for volunteers for the Fundraising Committee as well as any time you would be able to commit to the various campaigns during the school year.

The Fundraising Committee met at the end of last year and proposed 3 major fundraising campaigns for this school year:

- I. **Fall – Entertainment Book Campaign:** Thank you for your continued support. School council with your help, raised \$4963 on the Entertainment Book Campaign and that will allow us to subsidize EACH student (\$7) towards a class field trip. What a great success!
- II. **Winter – The Holiday Gift package** will include Farmer's First Coffee (13 Selections of 1lb Fairly Traded Organic Coffee, 12 Tea Selections and 3 Hot Chocolate Selections), Poinsettias' and Fundscrip gift cards
- III. **Spring Fundraiser** will consist of Farmer's First Coffee (13 Selections of 1lb Fairly Traded Organic Coffee, 12 Tea Selections and 3 Hot Chocolate Selections), [Enchanted Garden Fundraiser](#) - (a program offering all of the plants, seeds, bulbs, etc. that you will need for your Spring planting) and Fundscrip Gifts cards.

The above fundraisers will be in addition to the traditional themed cake walks and other fundraisers (i.e. hot dog day) that individual classroom or grade offer to help support an upcoming field trips.

## Cake Walk Dates:

Thursday, December 2nd, 2010 – Holiday/Winter Theme  
Tuesday, February 10th, 2011 – Valentine's Theme  
Tuesday, May 3rd, 2011 – Spring / Earth Day

We have found that having an organized plan in place and sharing the information with our school families helps in the success of our fundraisers. If you are interested in helping out, please email us at, [cochairs@rochcouncil.ca](mailto:cochairs@rochcouncil.ca)



**DID YOU KNOW...** that after many months of dedication of one ROCH parent and support of many more, we have been successful in lobbying for two crossing guards for the safety of our children who walk to school. They are located at Stonehaven and Stonemeadow and Bridlepark and Rivergreen.

## Municipal Elections Oct 25, 2010 DID YOU KNOW...

**A Board of Trustees governs the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board.** The Board of Trustees is made up of 12 trustees elected by zone and 2 student trustees. School board trustees are responsible for overseeing a thriving and progressive educational system, which serves over 70,000 students in 146 schools and sites. Trustees are empowered under the Education Act to set policy for the operation of all public schools in the Ottawa area.

The **role of the school board** is to

- \*Articulate the Board's vision for education
- \*Develop policies based on vision and provincial policy
- \*Set budgets and goals;
- \*Monitor policy and student achievement
- \*Provide equitable access to programs for all students

Public school taxpayers **ELECT** trustees every four years during the municipal election. **The current term for trustees is December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2010.**

It is in our best interest to be well informed for this upcoming election regarding school board trustees. Please visit both candidates' websites to learn more about them.

**Cathy Curry** (current Chair of the Board of Trustees)

[www.cathycurry.ca](http://www.cathycurry.ca)

**Christine Boothby** - <http://www.boothbyforkids.ca/>

## OCASC NEWS...

OCASC is excited to join together with the OCDSB and OCISO (the Ottawa Community Immigrant Service Organization) to present a symposium for parents, educators and partners in education on **Sat., Oct. 23, 9a.m. to 1p.m**  
**OCASC next Meeting: Thurs. Oct. 21@ 7pm**  
Fisher Park School 250 Holland Ave. Minutes from the Sept. meeting can be found on their website, <http://ocasc.ca/>

## Healthy Snacks and Lunch

For a look at the Canadian Food Guidelines for children please visit their website <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index-eng.php>. Let's make smart choices for our children's growing brains, they'll thank us later!

In the cases of an emergency, the office does have a limited supply of snack/lunch items.

## PACE CAR PROGRAM

Speeding cars and children don't mix. We all know it but still, we see it every day. Pace Cars are cars driven by people just like you, who pledge to drive the speed limit, be respectful to pedestrians and cyclists, and follow the rules of the road in our community and others. By following the rules of the road themselves, they will set the "pace" for other drivers.

It doesn't take a lot to become a Pace Car but it can make a world of difference to our children. Watch for more information and consider becoming a Pace Car in Your Community. To learn more you can visit the following website, [www.safekidscanada.ca](http://www.safekidscanada.ca)

## Winter Clothing Event... Gently used clothing needed!

W.O.Mitchell School and their school council have been asked to help out another school in the region. The other school is looking for gently used children's clothing, boots, shoes, pants, tops, sweaters, hats, etc. Adult clothing is also welcome for intermediate age children. The clothes will be sold at a nominal fee by the other school and any funds that are raised will go towards field trips for the students in that school. Please drop off any donations to WO Mitchell's school office by the end October. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.



## Let's keep our school yard clean.

A gentle reminder to those visiting our play yard with their pets: Please leave FIDO at home. Although we all love animals we don't love their wastes. It has been brought to our attention that a dog visitor has left unwelcomed presents in the rock garden as well as other places where our children play. We have a beautiful play yard for our children and need your help to keep it safe and clean. Please contact **ByLaw** for any dogs on school property



## SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY

You may be wondering why we are placing this message in our newsletter however it has happened.

Young teens have been spotted acting dangerously on school property (skateboarding in dangerous locations, climbing where they should not and smashing bottles).

Please contact the **Police** if you spot any dangerous or suspicious behaviour on school property.

## REMINDERS:

- 📅 Council meetings are now on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting will be held on Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7pm in the library. All parents are welcomed to attend!
- 📧 You may contact the council via the website at [www.rochcouncil.ca](http://www.rochcouncil.ca) or via email [cochairs@rochcouncil.ca](mailto:cochairs@rochcouncil.ca)