

## **North Star Community School**

### **2017-18 School Council Annual Report**

The School Council is comprised of parents, teachers, non-teaching staff, community members and the principal. The Council's role is to provide an advisory forum to promote school growth, successful learning and increase parents/guardians' participation in the education of their child. They work with the school community to make our school a safe and positive place for students to learn. The members bring individual strengths to the table and work together to identify and support the needs of our school community. New parents and community members are welcome and encouraged to join our Council.

#### **2017-18 School Council Members:**

Mellisa Gallagher– Chair and parent

Julie Slack – parent

Lana Puumala – parent and secretary

Sherri Dragan – parent

Erica Lantin – parent

Laurie Mosley – parent

Megan Zacharias – parent

Carly Skrenski – parent

Paige Gascoigne – parent

Lorraine Gauthier Stromberg – community representative – KRRCS

Erica Lantin – teaching rep

Daniella Ojala – non-teacher rep

Jody Labossiere – Principal

#### **2015-16 Meeting Dates:**

September 26, 2017

October 23, 2017

December 12, 2017

January 11, 2018

February 8, 2018

March 20, 2018

May 29, 2018

### **Highlights from the Year:**

Our School Council continues to feel that they can best support our students and families in the Community, Culture, and Caring Goal of the School Improvement Plan. The goal states, "If we work with students to develop their self-regulation skills then they will develop the confidence and resilience to work through challenging personal and academic challenges." The Council realized the importance of school involvement, student/teacher relationships, and school connectedness.

### **Student Being Positive, Productive and Connected**

Council reviewed OurSchool survey results. Results showed a disconnect in students feeling connected to school, although they felt their teachers showed interest in and concern for them. The school promoted leadership activities through student-led clubs to foster a sense of belonging. Grade 3-6 students took a real interest and led Drawing, Soccer, and Singing clubs at recess. Staff supported them as mentors and supervisors. The school continued to promote student voice with regular visits to classrooms to get student feedback and with a student advisory group to discuss issues that arise and better ways for students to report bullying issues.

### **Christmas Shopping Event**

School Council once again assisted in the wrapping and tagging of gifts at our Christmas Shopping Event. Children shopped proudly for their families and were very excited to see the gifts be wrapped and tagged before bringing them home.

### **PRO Grant**

School Council assisted with the PRO Grant Family Arts Night February 28. We were able to provide finger and brush painting, face painting, light tables, our graffiti mural, a puppet and Play Doh station, kinetic sand, rock painting, Legos and K'nex, solo cup station, giant Jenga and giant Connect 4, card making, and percussion instruments.

In addition, our community partners were ANFC Akwe Go program, Metis Nation of Ontario, Atikokan Public Library, Atikokan Museum, Brenda Hainey (yoga), Pictograph Gallery, Rainbow Centre, Sun Dog Toy Lending, KRRCS, Family Health Team, Northwestern Health Unit, and local musicians and artists.

The grant money was spent on resources (\$1045.73) and refreshments (\$294.26). We received \$1103 from the PRO grant and the rest of the cost was covered through the school instructional supplies account.

The PRO committee required information from us regarding how we engage our parents. We accomplished the task of getting that information to them through an online survey, advertised on the website and in school newsletters.

**K-12 School**

Parents on School Council were concerned and interested in the upcoming K-12 School being built in Atikokan. Meetings included updates as they were received from the Board.

**Looking Ahead to 2018-2019**

1. School Council would like to maintain the high level of parent membership
2. School Council will begin to move toward a single K-12 Council, partnering with AHS School Council for some events and meetings
3. School Council will focus on wellness, both physical and mental, for students, staff, parents, and the greater school community.