



HENRY LARSEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1750 Sunview Drive, Gloucester, ON K1C 5B3

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Principal: Christine Camus-Shepley

Vice Principal: Jeremy Nowisky

Dear Parents and Community Members,

The School Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Henry Larsen teachers and staff, parents, community members and students for their support in making 2015/16 such a successful school year for Council. We had a core group of Council members who attended meetings and assisted with Council activities. Without this group, many of our activities would never have got off the ground.

Council Members and Ways to Get Involved

This year, the Council Executive consisted of Chair, Jennifer Pyne and Treasurer, Marcia O'Connor with the position of Secretary being a rotating position. Ryan Crampton maintained the Council website and Teresa Janz continued to Chair the Henry's Cool Yard Committee. Staff was represented by Christine Camus-Shepley (Principal), Mireille Fillion (Vice-Principal) and Dianne Morris (teaching liaison). The Council met on a monthly basis with additional side meetings held for specific events as required. Council meetings were held in the school library and were open to all who wished to attend. School Council continued operations under the [School Council Constitution](#) which includes a code of conduct for Council members. All meeting minutes were made available on the School Council website (www.henrylarsensc.ca) as well as emailed directly to the Council mailing list. In order to be included on the Council mailing list, please send an email to henrylarsensc@gmail.com. This will allow you to receive up-to-date Council information in a timely manner.

Council Fundraisers

As with previous years, the School Council organized and supported events and fundraisers throughout the school year. Similar to the last couple of years, there were two streams of fundraising: one for Henry's Cool Yard, and one to support staff requests for items not covered in the regular school budget, but which are intended to enhance the school experience for students. A small proportion of money raised went to support events organized and run by Council. All of the money raised is invested back into the kids at the school and impacts their overall school experience.

Starting early in the year, Council organized pizza lunches for the students because school staff were not able to run these lunches. With the support of a few committed volunteers, we were able to offer pizza lunches to all kids from JK to grade 8 from October to December. Students (and their families) always look forward to these lunches, so Council was pleased to be able to fill the gap. Money raised from these lunches went into the general Council fund.

The Council also fully funded and organized the annual Monster Mash in October which is always a favourite activity for kids from JK to Grade 5. A full morning of Halloween activities, including visiting a haunted house run by some creative and inspired older kids, games, crafts, music, prizes and treats, led to some tired but happy ghosts and goblins.

We held our 2nd annual Holiday Store in December 2015. Donations of new or gently used items were sought from the school community and they delivered. We ran a fully stocked store for the kids to purchase gifts for friends and family with prices ranging from \$0.25 to \$3.00. Upon request, gifts were

also wrapped to keep the surprise alive. Children put a lot of thought and discussion into picking the perfect gift for someone special. For those students who wanted to participate, but were not able to fund their own shopping, Council was pleased to provide them with financial support. Funds raised at this event went into the general Council fund.

Other fundraisers where funds were designated for Council activities included Boston Pizza evenings, Broadway Bar and Grill evenings, Chapters evenings before Christmas and before the end of the school year, the sale of magazines through QSP and the sale of holiday items through Norcard and Vesey bulbs in the spring of 2016.

Council Purchases

This year, with the money we raised, we were able to:

- purchase books for the reading club (Forest of Reading),
- supply refreshments for the school dances,
- purchase ribbons, medals and trophies for the Henry Larsen Marathon,
- update the Arctic Studies Cart,
- support the purchase of additional Chrome Books for student use,
- provide science and math tools for the junior classes,
- purchase outdoor play items (winter and spring) for the primary students,
- supply ink for the primary colour printer,
- purchase microscopes for the intermediate science classes,
- purchase a couple of instruments for the music program,
- purchase “fidgets” to assist students with their focus in the classroom,
- sponsor Monster Mash.

All of these items go directly into making the kid’s school experience a more positive one. We were also able to provide some funding for the Fun Fair expenses and maintain the School Council website (www.henrylarsensc.ca).

Henry’s Cool Yard Projects

Fundraising specific to Henry’s Cool Yard began in 2012 and continued this year to raise funds for the redevelopment of the school yard—a project that will be implemented in different stages. The fundraising events this year that were strictly for the school yard included: a Supper Works raffle, the ongoing sale of Fundscrip gift cards and Mabel’s Labels, The Lunch Lady lunchtime program, and the Simply Giving Campaign. New this year, was the sale of Purdy’s chocolates in the spring of 2016. The annual Fun Fair was once again a great success both in terms of fun and fundraising. This year’s edition of the Fun Fair included a bouncy castle, a bike rodeo, games, a bbq, a book and plant sale, a silent auction and even an ice cream truck. Events such as these could not take place without the support of the entire school community.

Henry Larsen also participated in a textile recycling fundraiser with Bag2School this year. Twice during the school year, items were collected and sent for re-use and recycling through this innovative program to help remove textile items from the landfill. We were able to divert over 3 tons of textiles that may otherwise have gone to landfill. Funds raised were slated for Henry’s Cool Yard.

This school year, Council was able to secure a grant from the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board as well as one from the City of Ottawa to complement the funds raised through the various fundraisers for Henry’s Cool Yard. Council is happy to report that the first stage of the school yard development

was undertaken over the summer holidays in 2016. A new larger play structure and base will be installed to the cost of over \$60,000!!

It is important to understand that fundraising for Henry's Cool Yard will be a multi-year campaign. Redeveloping a school yard is very expensive and must be done in stages. The team has been hard at work applying for other grants and support from outside the school, however, because many schools are in the same position as Henry Larsen with respect to the condition of their yards, there is stiff competition. Please be assured though that there is a core group of parents who are working hard on this multi-year project and your patience and support are appreciated.

Other Council Activities

Council, with the support of the Henry Larsen community, organized a staff appreciation day where snacks and drinks were generously provided by volunteers. This was an opportunity to thank all staff at the school for all they do to make our children's school experience a positive one.

The School Council once again applied for and received a Parent's Reaching Out grant that was used to bring in a guest speaker for an evening session. Professor Christine Suurtamm from the University of Ottawa hosted a math workshop. She provided an introductory session followed by specific math activities based on student age. An activity involving all ages wrapped up the evening session. Pizza and snacks were served and babysitting was provided for the younger kids who did not participate. The evening was a resounding success with students from all grades participating in the events along with their families. The evening allowed students to demonstrate their math strategies and allowed families to work together to solve problems. Organization of the event was possible with the assistance of a core group of teachers from the school.

The Council uses various means to communicate to the school community, including the school newsletter, emails (for those who signed up for our mailing list) and the 'backpack express'. While the Council has a section on the school webpage for its use, the Council also further developed their own website to share information with parents. This site can be found at <http://henrylarsensc.ca/> and contains information, documentation and resources for parents including meeting dates, minutes from meetings, the School Council Constitution and information about ongoing events.

As always, the school community has been very active in the school with numerous activities. Your volunteer hours are invaluable to the success of the Council's activities. We would like to thank the family and staff volunteers without whom we could not accomplish our goals.

On behalf of Henry Larsen Elementary School Council,
Jennifer Pyne, Chair 2015/2016

**Henry Larsen School Council
Statement of Operations and Financial Position
for year ending Aug 31, 2016**

Opening balance	\$2,923.61
Total net revenues	\$29,385.91
Total expenses	\$18,107.92
Net expenses over Revenues	\$11,277.99
Closing Balance	\$14,201.60
Income- Fundraising	
Chocolate bars	\$585.00
Veseys bulbs	\$1,010.50
Fun Fair	\$5,731.00
Norcard profit	\$278.50
QSP profit	\$570.86
Holiday Gift Store	\$1,012.65
Supperworks Turkey Raffle	\$964.45
Boston Pizza	\$320.17
Broadway Restaurant	\$347.45
Lunch Lady	\$174.40
Chapters	\$761.88
Pizza	\$1,949.18
Bags to School	\$605.00
Purdy's Chocolate	\$817.05
City of Ottawa	\$7,500.00
Expenses	
Monster Mash	\$379.61
Drinks/chips for dances	\$338.78
Forest of Reading Book Club	\$750.00
Two microscopes	\$892.90
Trombone and clarinet	\$1,305.83
Marathon Awards	\$429.64
Jr chrome books + science equipment	\$1,934.84
Arctic Studies Cart - library	\$904.67
Primary Winter and outdoor play	\$852.10
Fidgets	\$427.96
HCY acct	\$3,235.00