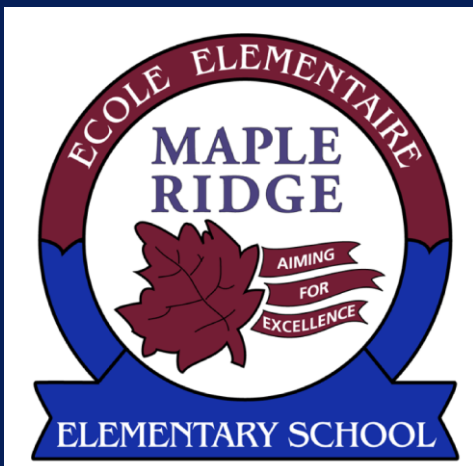


**Maple Ridge
Elementary School
Council
Annual Report
2021-2022**

SEPTEMBER 20/2022

**Prepared by:
Cynthia Allen
MRES Council Chair**



Council would like to acknowledge that Maple Ridge is on unceded Algonquin Territory, and thank the Algonquin Nation for hosting us on their land.

This year was another dynamic year for the School Council despite the global pandemic. We were able to continue a few of our traditional school community and fundraising events in an effort to support the school and foster a positive experience for everyone. It gives me great pleasure to present the 2021/22 School Council Annual Report summarizing Council activities, events and decisions. This is a required report.

There are two reports required to officially conclude the 2021/22 academic year.

- School Council Annual Report – Due October 31, 2022
- Year-end reporting of School Generated Funds – Submitted September 16/2022 (Appendix 1)

In the course of school council activities throughout the year, we endeavour to fulfill the overall objectives of school councils as mandated by the Ministry and the Board such as improving student achievement and enhancing the accountability of the education system by providing advice to the Principal, Board and Ministry.

School Council Members

At the beginning of the first meeting (October 5th, 2021), an election was held in accordance with the Maple Ridge School Council constitution. The outcome of this election was as follows:

Parents:

- Chair: Cynthia Allen (acclaimed)
- Secretary: Amanda Hope
- Treasurer: Jennifer Tracey (acclaimed)
- Fundraising officer: Wendy Mak
- Communications officer: Pamela Dossett-Boucher
- Community Representative: Barbara MacIntyre
- Members at Large: Elitza Palazov, Crystall Matheson, Brenda Beaudoin, Lisa Briscoe

School Administration/Teaching/Non-Teaching Staff:

- Principal: Mireille Filion
- Vice-Principal: Robert Levesque/Lysanne Darmody
- Teaching Representative: Mara Belitzky
- Non-Teaching Representative: Tanya Dumas

School Council Meeting Dates:

Maple Ridge ES Council convened the following dates during the 2020/21 academic year:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • October 5 th , 2021 | • February 1 st , 2022 |
| • November 2 nd , 2021 | • March 1 st , 2022 |
| • December 7 th , 2021 | • April 5 th , 2022 |
| • January 4 th , 2022 | • May 3 rd , 2022 |
| | • June 14 th 2022 |

Council invited Keith Penny, the elected school trustee to attend the March 1st, 2022 meeting to provide updates from the OCDSB

Fundraising Initiatives & Grants

Fundraising is one of the core functions of this Maple Ridge ES Council. Thank you to all the volunteers that assisted in the success of the many fundraising activities by collecting forms and money, selling food, delivering items to the classrooms and organizing tasks.

Council fundraising activities included:

- Purdys Chocolate Campaign – Christmas
- Pizza lunches – April, May & June
- On-going loyalty programs with: Home Hardware & Mabel's Labels



Purdys Chocolate Campaign – This year we didn't have the fall fundraising campaign but deferred to spring. Although successful with profits exceeding \$700, the choice of products was limited. Moneys raised went to support the school improvement plan and student achievement. Thank you to everyone that participated.

Council was excited to be able to offer a few pizza days this year. Pizza supplied by River Pizza was offered monthly in April, May and June. The number of slices ordered was the highest they have been in over 10 years demonstrating how popular pizza days are with the students & parents/guardians. This is an extremely important fundraiser for Council. This program is largely dependent on both adult and student volunteers. Thank you to everyone that helped to make this fundraiser so successful, allowing Council to offer this service to our school community.



Maple Ridge Council has been fortunate throughout the years to obtain funding from various granting sources and this year was no different. We received two grants.

1. **Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)** \$500
2. **Parent Reaching-Out (PRO)** \$1320

On behalf of the Maple Ridge school community, Council would like to thank these granting agencies for their generosity.

School Council Purchases & School Support this year

- **Library** – Books for the Forest of Reading Club – very popular with the students. This is a great program to encourage children to read. The program consists of both French and English books written by first time Canadian authors. The books are striated by age into 4 reading levels. The students sign up for the appropriate level. As they read the books or have the books read to them, they keep track on a wall chart. They read a minimum of five books to be eligible to vote at the end of the year for their favorite. The program is Canada wide. The students become very invested in



Forest of Reading[®]
by the Ontario Library Association

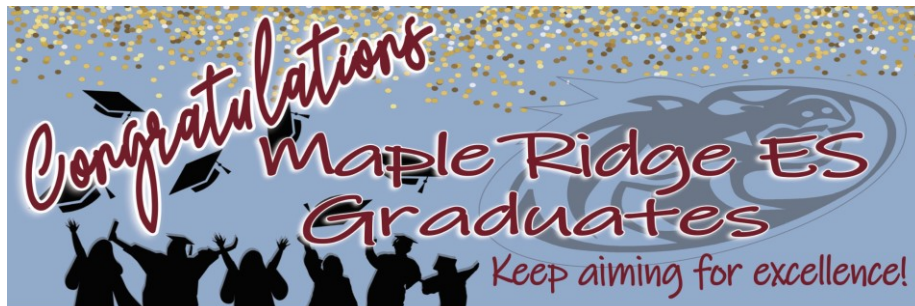
the book club and so proud when their choice wins the top award. Thanks to our dedicated librarian, Mrs. Dunn, the book club was again a successful program.

- **Classroom resources –**
 - Kinder team – Set of 12 books dealing with emotions and mental health.
 - Primary team – Funding for a one-year subscription to an online French reading program, Je lis Je Lis. <https://jelis.rkpublishing.com/>
 - Kinder team – 2 easels (white board/magnetic)
- **School Wide Activity –** Canadian Winter Fun day, February 25th,2022 – Council supported the purchase of hot chocolate and popcorn enough for all the students K-8.
- **School Leaving Grade 8 students –** Council provided funds to recognize the accomplishments of the grade 8 students that have spent up to 10 years at Maple Ridge.

School Council Activities – In addition to fundraising, Council activities included:

Communications & School presence - This was on top of the 9 monthly Council meetings where extensive minutes were captured. All minutes and documents are uploaded in a timely manner to the Council tab of the school website

Parent Council members worked with grade 8 students to establish a Yearbook Committee again this year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the group met virtually on a regular basis as well as in-person meetings when permitted. The OCDSB printing services were hired to print the books. All grade 8 students, both in school and those that attended virtual learning were provided a yearbook at no charge to the students. Thank you to the parent volunteers that provided oversight of this important activity.



This year MRES Council was an active member of OCASC (Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils). OCASC meetings were conducted virtually this year. An OCASC update is made available to Maple Ridge parents on a monthly basis.

Council conducted the review of the Maple Ridge Elementary School Council Constitution. As outlined in the constitution, the document must be reviewed every three years for accuracy.

Family Science Evening – With the support of PRO grant funding, on May 30th, 2022, Council hosted 4 virtual *Family Science Evening* workshops facilitated by Scientists in School. Close to 100 science kits were distributed to registrants prior to the event. Council received very positive feedback and are hopeful to pursue similar events in the future.

On-going initiatives – Council continues to maintain a ‘Student Alumni List’ where on occasion, high school students may be asked if they would like to volunteer to help with future school projects. Volunteering at Maple Ridge is a great way for students to acquire the mandatory volunteer hours as required by the Ministry of Education to graduate high school.

Challenges

Maple Ridge is fortunate to have a group of very dedicated parents and community members. The electronic communications via email messaging, website updates and social media have helped to reach parents. We will continue to improve upon our communication strategies.

All council meetings for the current year were held virtually using Google Meets. Virtual meetings may be a challenge for some parents/guardians. Moving forward Council is hopeful to adopt a hybrid model that will allow for even greater attendance.

Recognition

Thank you to all those that signed in for the monthly Council meetings in addition to participating in the discussions via email. Maple Ridge Council members worked very well together this year and our students benefited from our efforts. A special ‘Thank you’ to school administrators and staff members who attended our Council meetings. The information and guidance you provide to Council is invaluable.

Appreciation is extended to the office staff at Maple Ridge. We are indebted to you for your continued support of Council activities.

Thank you to the amazing custodial staff. We appreciate all you do to maintain a healthy school environment that is conducive to learning.

Thank you so much to the Maple Ridge staff for all their efforts. Our students are fortunate to have such a dedicated team of educators at Maple Ridge. I would like to thank the entire Maple Ridge community for all their efforts in keeping everyone safe and healthy while providing a quality education.

Have a wonderful summer!

Cynthia Allen

Cynthia M. Allen, Ph.D.
Maple Ridge ES Council Chair 2021/22

Appendix 1. School Council Year-end Financial Reporting 2021/22

Submitted September 16/2022 to the OCDSB by Jennifer Tracey, Council Treasurer

School Name	Maple Ridge Elementary School
School Council Chair School Council Treasurer	Cynthia Allen Jennifer Tracey
Opening balance of all reconciled bank accounts, investments and cash on hand on August 1, 2021	\$9388.00
The amount raised by school council during the year August 1, 2021 and July 31, 2022	\$6425.00
The amount spent by school council during the year August 1, 2021 and July 31, 2022	\$7665.00
Closing balance of all reconciled bank accounts, investments and cash on hand July 31, 2022	\$8148.00
Portion of above amount raised which was collected through the school's School Cash Online program	\$0