



Blossom Park Public School
3810 Sixth Street
Gloucester, ON K1T 1K6

Telephone: (613) 521-4299
Fax: (613) 521-9656



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Blossom Park School Council Annual Report 2019-2020

Our Council

Blossom Park School Council is a group of parents and staff members focused on supporting student achievement and enhancing their learning environment. We believe our role as an advisory body to the school administration enriches the Home-School relationship and collaboration. Our School Council's monthly meetings are open to all the parents at our school, and we constantly encourage input from everyone in our school community.

This year was a challenging one for us as a council. On the one hand, it was a year of change and transition for our small council, as both our Chair and long time Secretary/Treasurer had to leave. On the other hand, the school year witnessed two major events: the Ontario teachers' job action and COVID-19, and we needed to adapt or cancel a lot of our activities and events in response to the current situation. Nevertheless, we were still able to continue our efforts to support the school and contribute as much as we could to our wonderful school community.

Activities and Fundraising

As a gesture of gratitude and appreciation to our school teachers and staff, the School Council hosted a teacher and staff appreciation breakfast in October. School Council members provided some snacks and baked goods to be shared among staff. Starbucks donated coffee for the event.

Our main fundraising activity at the council is the Pizza Program, where participating kids have pizza for lunch on Thursdays. This fundraiser allows us to provide funds and financial support for various activities and supplies for our school. This year we worked on improving the process of handling the pizza forms, pizza distribution and pizza money, which helped the program run more smoothly.

The pizza funds helped us financially support two activities at school this year: the Luv2Groove Dance Workshop, by paying \$900 as part of the workshop cost; and a teacher's Art Group, where we paid \$90.18 for art supplies. We also approved providing \$450 in funds for an Ottawa 67's game trip, but the trip was cancelled later as the school was not eligible for the OCDSB trip subsidy.

This year our Council received \$500 grant from OCDSB, which we approved to spend on partially funding a Family Science Night run by Scientists in Schools. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 and school closure, the workshop was cancelled.

Communication with Parents

This year we prioritized working on building a bridge of communication with the parents through the following:

- We updated our webpage and set up a School Council email. The webpage is part of our School's OCDSB website, and the content appears in both English and Arabic, the mother language of most of the parents at our school community. We made all our meeting agendas and minutes available to the public on the webpage.
- We made clear announcements and reminders of our meetings and activities through wall posters, emails, and online content on the School Council webpage.
- During Meet the Teacher Night, we set up an information table, talked to the parents and distributed flyers in both English and Arabic as part of our attempts to promote our council and encourage more parent engagement, participation and input.

COVID-19

Due to the pandemic and school closure, we had to suspend our meetings and activities right after March break. We had to cancel our Family Science Night, which was supposed to take place on April 16, 2020 and our Annual Fun Fair, which was planned for June 2, 2020.

As part of our mission to help and support our school community, we dedicated a section on our webpage for COVID-19-related links and resources that were useful for the school families during those unprecedented times. We continuously maintained and updated that section.

Even though we were unable to accomplish all that we planned to do this year due to the above-mentioned circumstances, we are still proud of what our small School Council is capable of achieving and contributing. We are grateful to be part of such an amazing school community, and will continue to do our best to support and foster all that can enhance the collaborative partnership among students, parents, teachers, and administration.

Sincerely,

Susan Fattal and Naoko Nakamura
Blossom Park School Council Co-Chairs 2019-2020



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Below is a summary of the Blossom Park School Council fundraising and expenses for the 2019-2020 school year.

Regards,

Ashleigh Calberry
Blossom Park School Council Treasurer
2019-2020

School Name	Blossom Park Public School	
School Council Co-Chairs	Susan Fattal and Naoko Nakamura	
Opening balance of all reconciled bank accounts, investments and cash on hand separate from the school on August 1, 2019		\$ 1,956.72
The amount collected in school council accounts separate from the school during the year August 1, 2019 and July 31, 2020		\$ 6,786.69
The amount spent in school council accounts separate from the school during the year August 1, 2019 and July 31, 2020		\$ 2,433.99
Closing balance of all reconciled bank accounts, investments and cash on hand separate from the school on July 31, 2020		\$ 6,309.42
Portion of the above amount collected which was processed through the school's School Cash Online program where the funds were transferred from the school to the school council bank account		\$ 0*

*Money collected via School Cash Online was used by the school to pay for pizza orders, so no money was transferred from the school to the school council bank account. Therefore, this money was not included in the above table, as it was not held separately from the school.