

School Council Annual Report 2019 - 2020

Note:1. Use **Ctrl + P** or **Cmd + P** (Mac) to print .2. File a hard copy in your school file.

School and Council Information

School Name	Donald Cousens Public School	Survey Completed By	Tina Diavolitsis
CEC	E	Your Role on Council	Administrator
Principal's Email Address	tina.diavolitsis@yrdsb.ca	Number of times School Council meet this year	4 to 6 times

A. Parent, Family and Community Engagement

In this past year, did your school council engage in the following activities that supported parent, family and community engagement?

- ☐ a. Workshops - hosted, supported, presented - for information / learning (e.g., mental health campaign presentation, Math strategy presentation)
- ☒ b. Social events (e.g., cultural celebrations; spring fairs; etc.)
- ☒ c. Out going communications to parents (e.g., flyers, newsletters, e-bulletin, e-mails)
- ☐ d. In coming communications/requesting input from parents (e.g., survey, focus groups)
- ☒ e. Support from parents to the school (e.g., fundraising activities)
- ☐ f. Support for parents from the school (e.g., translations in meeting)
- ☐ g. Specific strategies to improve engagement or involvement of parents, please explain:
- ☐ h. Other Activities:

Please describe any issues, challenges or promising practices when organizing and implementing the above activities.

Due to School Closure the Fun Fair community event and presentation on cyberbullying with Steve Chapelle were cancelled.

B. School Climate

School climate is an essential component of parent/family engagement and well-being. In this past year, did your School Council engage in the following activities that supported the building of a positive school climate?

- ☒ a. Physical environment improvement efforts (e.g., school grounds improvement, signage, carpeting playground)
- ☐ b. Environmental initiatives (e.g., eco-league, tree planting, beautification, outdoor classroom)
- ☒ c. School safety (e.g., traffic issues, yard safety and supervision, restorative practices, anti-bullying initiatives)
- ☒ d. School spirit and student social events (e.g., lunches, spirit events, assemblies, collaborative community events, field trips, extracurricular activities)
- ☐ e. Healthy Living and Wellness activities (e.g., athletic programs, healthy school initiative, healthy snacks, hot lunch programs, lice screening)

- ☐ f. Appreciation events (e.g., student recognition, staff recognition, community recognition events)
- ☒ g. Improvements to programs (e.g., technology, equipment, arts program, workshops)
- ☐ h. Strategies to better include students (e.g., equity and inclusive learning environment)
- ☐ i. Collaboration with local business and organizations
- ☐ j. Other Activities:

Please describe any issues, challenges or promising practices when organizing and implementing the above activities

C. Diverse School Community

In this past year, did your school council engage in the following activities that follow the guiding principles ([Policy #261.0, Equity and Inclusivity](#)) in the building of a diverse school community?

- ☒ a. Reducing barriers (e.g., culturally responsive pedagogy; language, special needs, socio-economic, funding support)
- ☐ b. Respecting faith-based practices in planning events (e.g., observances and practices)
- ☐ c. Increasing diverse representation on school council
- ☒ d. Providing multi-lingual resources (e.g., newsletters; interpreters; translators)
- ☐ e. Other:

Please describe any issues, challenges or promising practices when organizing and implementing the above activities

D. Fundraising

Was your School Council involved in fundraising activities during this past year?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Which of the following activities did your fundraising efforts support this past year?
(Please check all the options that apply to your council)

- ☐ Literacy resources or programs (e.g., books, library resources, Home Reading Program, Forest of Reading)
- ☐ Science/mathematics resources or programs (e.g., equipment, Scientists in the School, robotics club, math manipulative)
- ☐ Arts resources or programs (e.g., costumes, musical instruments, art supplies)
- ☐ Healthy/active living resources or programs (e.g., hot meals, sports equipment, lice check, outdoor learning environment/classroom, Eco-Challenge, Healthy Eating Program, mental health workshop, water bottle filling station)
- ☒ Technology resources or programs (e.g., cost-sharing, computers, laptops, iPads, DocCam, SmartBoards)
- ☐ Classroom/teacher resources (e.g., fund for teacher use, early years resources, teacher/class websites, indoor board games)
- ☐ Support field trips (e.g., transportation, ways to identify students)



- ☐
- ☒ School site improvements (e.g., beautification, painting, furniture purchase/repair, playground equipment)
- ☐ Support for school events (e.g., transitions events, information evenings, guest speakers, fundraising, school magazines, community BBQ, Family Nights, Welcome to Kindergarten, Graduation, fun fair)
- ☐ Supply teachers (e.g., for athletic events and competitions, release time)
- ☐ Equity and inclusivity (e.g., subsidizing field trips for disadvantaged students, special needs supports, multicultural events, food bank, community resource fund, Angel Fund – money for families who cannot afford school related costs)
- ☒ School safety and spirit (e.g., anti-bullying events/programs, yearbook, student recognition awards)
- ☐ Other Activities:

As part of the Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee’s community consultations, recommended that School Councils allocate a small percentage of their school generated funds to a centralized “YRDSB Trust Fund” that will enable low income students to participate in various activities that require additional funding.

There are some schools that do not generate a lot of money through fundraising and cannot adequately support the many low income families in their catchment area. A centralized “YRDSB Trust Fund” would assist in reducing barriers for inclusionary activities that some schools cannot support as much as they would like.

Please indicate if your school is interested in supporting a centralized “YRDSB Trust Fund” by sharing some of your school generated funds.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No



E. Additional Support and Training

The [YRDSB Director’s Action Plan](#) sets out six goals that align with the strategic plan and our Board’s Mission, Vision and Values. Please indicate if there is a need for the Board to provide additional support and training to your school in the next school year.

- ☒ a. Goal 1: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health (i.e., to build safe, healthy and inclusive learning and working environments where students and staff feel they matter and belong)
- ☒ b. Goal 2: Champion Equity and Inclusivity (i.e., to build a collective understanding of: the ongoing impact of colonialism on Indigenous Communities, Anti-oppression, and Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy [CRRP])
- ☒ c. Goal 3: Champion Equity and Inclusivity (i.e., to provide comprehensive math programs that reflect students’ identities, lived experiences, needs and interests)
- ☐ d. Goal 4: Build Collaborative Relationships (i.e., to build trust and collaborative relationships with students, families and staff through respectful and responsive communication focused on shared solutions)
- ☒ e. Goal 5: Empower Ethical Leadership (i.e., to elevate student voice in learning, assessment and decision-making)
- ☐ f. Goal 6: Empower Ethical Leadership (i.e., to build a collective understanding of ethical leadership)

Please also think about if there any additional support or training that you would like to receive for your school council next school year:

F. Any other comments

Please share your school council’s achievements and/or suggestions/feedback in the text box below:

Donald Cousens School Council supports all school initiatives and we work collaboratively to support student initiatives at the school level. We take pride in working together to plan community events and an annual fundraiser.

