



Northern Gateway  
Public Schools

# School Council Annual Report 2014-2015

(~~Insert School Name~~)

Onoway High

The following report reflects the activity of the School Council during the 2014 - 2015 school year.

## 1. Executive Members:

Chairperson: Brenda Scattery

Assistant  
Chair: Melanie Fitzgerald

Secretary: Colleen Patience

Treasurer: Christine Peck

## 2. Meeting Dates:

(Include the number of attendees for each meeting; school personnel and trustees are to be included in this count.)

- September 10 - 13
- October 8 - 16
- November 12 - 16
- December 10 - 5
- January 14 - 13
- February 11 - 12
- March 11 - 14
- April 15 - 19
- May 13 - 16
- June 10 - 23

### 3. Major Activities:

(Include a brief description outlining the purpose and outcome.)

- **Strategic Direction**

The School Council is given an opportunity to have input into the strategic direction and goals established in the annual school improvement plan. A review of 2013-14 data results and School Improvement Plan goals for 2014-15 was conducted in November led by Mr. Trodden. A review of the Accountability Pillar results was conducted with Mr. Trodden in October.

- **Budget**

Each year Council is asked to review school budget information. Opportunity for questions regarding the allocation of funds is given in fall and input into the planning for next year is provided in the spring. Mr. Trodden shared budgetary information surrounding the building of the new school.

- **Policy and Activity Advisory**

The School Council has an opportunity each month to receive information regarding the policy and activities at the school. The principal provides a report of the main activities that have occurred in the previous month and an overview of those that are forthcoming. The School Council has an opportunity to ask questions and provide input related to this information.

### 4. Parental Involvement:

(Include the types of activities and the roles of the parents.)

- - Collaborated to improve communication with all school community partners
  - Strengthen parent participation with SC goals and operations
  - Review current operations
  - Support school administration and teachers with student learning outcomes
  - Identify strengths and areas for improvement
  - Participated in activities and sessions with Mr. Trodden as outlined above
  - Continued collaboration (SC Chair and Principal) on parental feedback from the SC "Transitions" workshop with feeder schools and set goals to improve their experience transitioning into OHS – prepared a summary to share with parents regarding the measures and endeavors taken by OHS Administration, in addressing their concerns
  - Set 2 School Council goals based on the above collaborative process with feedback from the "Transitions" document, and in conjunction with strategies and policies put into place the previous year within the school
  - Maintained a growing communication/collaboration email group to include feeder schools
  - Set goals to accommodate improved and more efficient communication with parent base (to include feeder schools) with the goal to ensure we maximize our representation of all

parents, rather than the SC meeting regulars – through various mediums to include website, newsletter and email

- Maintained a communication email list to all existing parents, inviting all OHS parents to participate, , and worked to create new opportunities for parents to join this group, through School Council presence at various functions throughout the school
- Developed new processes to invite parents into the school – eg. Parents Morning Coffee Club – parents come for coffee and greet students with a smile and greeting as they come through the door, and hobby/talent share with other parents, students, teachers
- Worked closely with the fundraising society to affect a tight working partnership in support of OHS and SC goals
- Collaborated with Society to improve our banking relationships, practices, and fee structure – this was significantly time consuming, involving meetings, written correspondence and researching options
- Supported Society in their Casino expenditures
- In collaboration with Society, appointed a Grant Writing representative
- In collaboration with Society, supported several fundraising efforts of Europe Trip group through accommodation of AGLC gaming license requirements.
- In collaboration with Society, upheld a set of Fundraising Request Guidelines that must be adhered to when supporting school groups with fundraising
- Supported requests for funding assistance from OHS, and made recommendations to the fundraising society accordingly
- SC Chairperson attended the grade 7 orientation meeting at OHS
- Concluded the annual SC bylaw review
- Conducted election process for executive positions for the following school year
- Maintained presence at school functions such as "Awards Night", "PTI's" etc, graduation.
- Prepared the Annual School Council Report
- Welcomed guests to SC meetings for specific purposes of improving practices
- Welcomed students to SC meetings, and advocated for greater student voice in our School Council operations.
- Collaborated with Principal and Trustees on the new school "build"
- Reviewed Annual School Council reports from all schools throughout the Division
- Provided feedback to Principal regarding a controversial work of art that was on the school wall in the hallway
- In collaboration with OES, hosted a Bus Driver and Custodial appreciation event

**5. Major Challenges:**

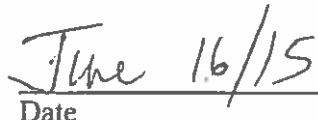
(Comment briefly on why these particular challenges exist, and what action the School Council and School Administration are planning to take to address the challenges.)

- Strengthening parent involvement with SC - we have put plans into place to improve communication, to include maintaining and building upon our email list, collaboration group - liaison with feeder schools etc., twitter page, website, school newsletters, and we did appoint communication coordinators to facilitate these efforts. We are strengthening our parent presence in the school with new incentives.
- Fundraising – we continue to accommodate groups who require support for fundraising – grad, Europe trip, sports groups, music program etc. We will continue to work collaboratively with Fundraising Society to ensure all protocol is adhered to and invite parent groups into our School Council operations. We also are filtering all requests through the Principal to ensure continuity and appropriateness, and to avoid duplicity and/or misrepresentation within the community.
- Building partnerships – school, teacher, student, parents, community – all have a vested interest in the education of our children. We plan to capitalize on our communication improvements and invite the community into our school.

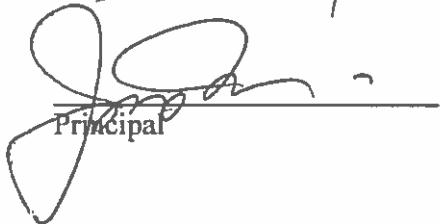


School Council Chair

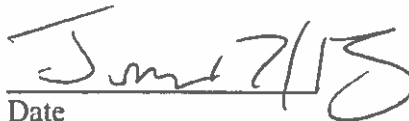
B. Scatterty



Date



Principal



Date