

3. Major Activities:

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

- We pay for outstanding amounts to hold each year's Annual Grade 8 Farewell Supper, it is a fun event, looked forward by all.
- We sponsor the Terry Fox run each year by supplying all participants with bottled water.
- We sponsor the Darwell School Public Presentations each year, we purchase ribbons for the winners and runners up, and gifts for the judges.
- We sponsored the Dare program, and purchased the Dare T-Shirts for grade 6 students.
- We purchased gift cards to show our appreciation for our school team coaches.
- We sponsor the trophy each year for outstanding student for Grade 8 graduation, and a parent council member presents it to the student at the Grade 8 Farewell Supper.
- We had a Bus Driver Appreciation Day, we arranged for driver's to have a meal together at the local Darwell restaurant, and was paid by School Council.
- We sponsor a trophy each year for the Darwell Ag Society to help show our support for the community.
- We host a Boo Hoo Party each year the first day of school. Existing parents of School Council bring in baked goods and refreshments and offer the experiences and knowledge that they have as a parent at Darwell School. We answer questions new parents have, as well as touching base on topics we knew would come up in the future. Parents learn what they can do to be involved with their school and how to be a part of their child's education. This is a great success each year, we've gained new parent involvement in the school, and parents have gained some new friendships.
- Each year we fundraise to bring an Alberta Opera show to Darwell School for the students enjoyment.
- We supported our school Library this year by providing funding, for student awards, for a School Reading Challenge

4. Parental Involvement:

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

- We held our annual Christmas Bake Sale in conjunction with the School Christmas Concert. The proceeds were donated to local families in need. Parents baked goods and volunteered their time to sell the goodies. This event is always well received.
- We supplied all students, staff, and guests with oranges after the Christmas Concert. Parents volunteered their time to hand the oranges out.
- With the help of parent volunteers, every student, staff member, and volunteer was supplied with a free pancake lunch (complete with sausages, oranges and juice) and a free hamburger lunch (complete with burgers, watermelon, Caesar salad, veggies, and juice). We also had a soup day in which students each brought a vegetable to be put in the soup, and we completed the meal with fresh baked biscuits and juice. For each meal parent volunteers came in early to help prepare the food and set up tables and chairs in the gym, and then stayed to help dish out food to all and then help clean up.
- We organized our annual Teacher/Staff Appreciation month. Parents brought baked deserts in for the first three Friday's. The last Friday of the month parents catered a hot

lunch to the staff, and supervised students so that staff could enjoy the lunch together with their coworkers.

- The Lunch by the Bunch Committee continues to supply hot, nutritious lunches throughout the year. Parent volunteers make plan menus for the year and make up lunch order forms and distribute them to the school. Then volunteers collect the forms and balance the money, create spreadsheets for each class and make up a shopping list. Volunteers purchase food and supplies, they come in early to prepare food and distribute the food to the classes.


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.)

- Getting Parents involved has always been a challenge, but our Boo Hoo Party has helped to enlighten new parents what School Council's involvements are, and why we would love to have them attend, and we have seen some success with this. We already have scheduled next year's Boo Hoo Party and taken action to ensure it is advertised to parents
- Another major challenge has been getting community involvement in the school. We have invited seniors to our free lunches, but have been unsuccessful. Our community hall has had the same problem in the past, but has recently had success getting senior involvement with their new pickle ball tournaments at their hall. We have recently been approached by the pickle ball players to use our outside tarmats in the summer for their games, we have come to some agreements and are hoping that we have formed a new bond.
- Last year we created a "did you know" information board. Originally to be displayed at our annual Christmas concert, but we've now included this information on our School Council website. With this board we are hoping to clear up any misconceptions of the roles of School Council. Many of our parents were not aware of how much School Council helps support our school, they had no idea of all the things we've helped purchase. They assumed it was all provided from government funding. We are hoping to get more parent involvement once they realize how important School Council is.



School Council Chair



Date



Principal



Date