

BYRNE CREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

September 2017



The Community Council of Byrne Creek (formerly known as the Parent Advisory Council) welcomes all families to the 2017 - 2018 school Year. We hope you had a restful summer and are ready for the new and exciting challenges in this new school year. We encourage parents and community involvement at Byrne Creek. We believe that student success is achieved when we have a community that is involved and engaged.

If you are a parent or guardian of a student attending Byrne Creek Community School, if you live or work in the community you are entitled to belong to our Community Council. Our goals for this school year are to enhance relationships and partnerships with the greater community thus increasing engagement and creating healthy and safe communities.

WHAT'S HAPPENING.

What Are Community Schools and What is Happening at Byrne Creek?

A Community School is the hub of the community. It is people, a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on school success, child and youth development, family support, and community development leads to improved student learning, stronger families and vibrant healthy communities.

At Byrne Creek we focus on:

Health and Wellness: Considering the whole child and community to support mental, emotional,

physical health with programs such as Leave Out Violence, Breakfast program for all students, Snacks and Lunch programs, connecting families/students to health resources such as Dental, eyeglasses etc.

Community Development: Creating a sense of belonging for parents and community members by providing opportunities for learning and connecting. Examples: Dinners for families, workshops through the community room, Community Council meetings with parent education sessions, parent tea, youth are active in planning community events such as seniors tea, multi cultural dinners, assisting at school run events.

Lifelong Learning: Providing opportunities for all community members to develop and share their skills and passions through the Council, Community Room, Alumni return to participate in events and coach sports teams, Parents offering workshops, after school programs, mentoring with feeder schools, programs with feeder schools.

Social/Emotional Learning: We encourage the development of connected positive relationships, leading to academic and overall success. Examples: Friends of Simon and Frontier College tutoring, Red Cross Health Teen Relationships.

ALL OF THESE 4 ELEMENTS ARE INCLUDED IN BYRNE'S STRATEGIC PLAN (School Goals).

What is Byrne Creek Community Council and What Does It Do?

At Byrne Creek our council is dedicated to education and the well-being of the whole child and the community. We host monthly meetings for the parents and the community, provide parent education through guest speakers, volunteers at school events and serves in an advisory role to the school. We are not a fundraising body although fundraising is an activity that is undertaken by most Councils to support extracurricular activities.

If you have any ideas for community engagement or topics you would like to hear about we would like to hear from you. Please leave a message at the

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school for the Community Council and someone will be in touch with you.

Council meetings are held the first Monday of the month from 7:00pm to 8:30 pm starting in September with the last meeting in June. No meetings in December and February and April.

Dates for Council Meetings

September 11, 2017 - Welcome

October 2, 2017 - Grade 10 - 12 Information evening with Scholarship presentation. Students welcome.

November 6, 2017 - TBA

December 2017 - *No meeting*

January 8, 2018 -

February - 2018 - *No meeting*

March 5, 2018

May 7, 2018

June 4, 2018 - AGM



Community Council Executives for 2017-18

Chair - Naz Jakir

Vice Chair - Melanie Walkus

Treasurer - Laura McIntosh

Secretary - Hetty Alcuitas

Member at Large - Shams Chowdhury

Member at Large - Mons Delacruz



Thinking about supporting a student in your school community? Byrne Creek now has a donation option when paying your child's school fees online. Your donation could go toward school and activity fees, field trips and bus passes. Simply visit the Byrne Creek website, click School Cash Online and access your child's profile. If you do not have an account, attached is a set of instructions. These are option amounts to consider:

- \$25 - could fund a student's field trip
- \$50 - could buy a monthly bus pass
- \$75 - could pay for school or activity fees

Donations are also accepted in person at the school office. Please see Ms. Cirovic, our bookkeeper, and mention that you would like to sponsor a student.



Thanksgiving is coming up and Byrne Creek Community School would like to invite you for a dinner celebration on **Thursday, October 5 at 6PM**. It will be a traditional turkey dinner complete with mashed potatoes and vegetables. Dessert, tea and coffee will also be served. Halal options will be available. This event is **FREE** for everyone in your family. We need to know how many will attend so we are issuing tickets. Please have your student see Ms. Fujiki or Ms. Evette in the Community Room for tickets before **Friday, September 22nd**.