

Thursday, September 11th, 2003



Lady Evelyn Alternative School Council

Welcome Back!

On behalf of the School Council, we would like to give Richard Deadman a huge round of applause and to thank him for his 4 years as chair of the Parent Council. We would also like to say Enjoy having your husband back Carol!

We ask that parents participate in the Parent Council, that they become part of the schools life.

The family will always be the child s most salient classroom. We invite all parents to bring your classroom to ours.

Alternative schools thrive on parental involvement. The beaming smile on your child s face when you walk through the classroom door is usually enough to encourage more volunteering

Council Meetings

The council holds meetings once a month, open to all staff and families of the school, to discuss current issues, learn about Alternative Education , and discuss current concerns. Generally, decisions are made by consensus. **The first meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, September 16th.** At this time, we will set out times for the rest of the meetings, which rotate through different days of the week, with two afternoon meetings. Childcare is generally provided for the afternoon meetings and evening meetings when needed.

Council Meetings 2003/2004

Tuesday, September 16, 2003
Wednesday, October 15, 2003
Thursday, November 13, 2003
Tuesday, January 20, 2004
Wednesday, February 11, 2004
Tuesday, April 27, 2004
Thursday, June 3, 2004

Communication

The council strives to be as open with information as possible. To this end, we:

- " Send home monthly Newsletters that update you on council events and issues as well as current financial status, and items from the various council committees.
- " Provide a web site at <http://www.ladyevelyn.ca>. This site contains minutes from past meetings, present and past Newsletters, information of current budget cuts by the board, articles and pictures submitted to local newspapers, information on Alternative Education , a soft copy of our primer , reports from our committees, lists of meeting dates, and, perhaps most interesting, a News section where anyone can post notices or news.
- " Provide an email mailing list. This list is a on-line discussion forum where news is posted and discussions can take place. The list is open to all such that anyone can post a message by simply emailing to the list address. To join the list, simply send subscribe ladyevelyn as the subject of an email message to majordomo@ladyevelyn.ca .

Of course, keeping these channels of communication open is not without effort. We welcome new help every year in ensuring that the council remains transparent and open to all.

External Committees

The council also takes part in external committees that help direct board policy and allow us to work with other local councils. Examples include the Alternative Schools Advisory Committee and the Ottawa-Carleton Assembly of School Councils.

Supported Activities

Every year, the council invests time and money into supporting the education of our children through special activities. Last year, for instance, the council paid to bring in The Bach Choir, Blues in the School, Flying Phil, Junior Swimming, new books for the Library, emergency lunch supplies and new athletic equipment, to name just some things we sponsored. These expenses are always discussed and approved at council meetings, in consultation with the staff. As the board is forced to cut back more and more, it is left to the council to fill in the gaps in sports, music and library funding.

Fundraising

Of course, these activities cost money, and it is left to our dedicated team of fundraisers to ensure that we have the money to continue offering these activities and resources to our kids. Last year, most of our funds was raised through the Walk-a-thon, Skate-a-thon, the Friday Pizza Lunches, etc. If you want to get involved in fundraising, please let us know at the Parent Council meeting.

If you have any questions on the council or how you can get involved, do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We hope you and your children have a great year.

Sincerely,

Karen Grant
Co-Chair
237-7640
parentcouncil@rogers.com

Arlene McGinn
Co-Chair
234-0377