



McKee School Advisory Council

<http://www.mckeesac.weebly.com>

October 2010



Welcome and Welcome Back!

The McKee School Advisory Council (SAC) welcomes all the new families and staff to McKee and welcomes back all the returning families and staff. We hope you had a great summer and have now settled into the new routines of the school year. We are looking forward to the exciting year ahead and hope we can achieve the goals we set out for the upcoming year. You can find out more about SAC, SAC meetings and events on our website: mckeesac.weebly.com

Thank you to all the parents and staff who helped out with the annual Welcome Back BBQ. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time! Special thanks to Co-chair Debbie Ralston for organizing it and Gord Schmidt for standing in beyond the call of duty.

School Advisory Council Meetings

We had our first SAC meeting for the year on September 30. It was wonderful seeing so many new people, especially newcomers to the country. Thank you for attending and welcome! The administration gave us an update on the class structure and sizes. There are no split classes this year! Also discussed was the traffic situation at drop-off and pick-up times. The administration and SAC have sent letters to the City of Toronto to ask for permission for parents to stop on McKee Avenue during those times. We are all hoping that this plea will be successful. At the end of the evening, the new SAC executive and committee representatives were selected. **Our next meeting will be held on October 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.** to discuss the SAC budget. We will decide on what fundraising events will be held and what school program will be funded with the proceeds. Input from the parents is valuable to us so please make an effort to come. As usual, food is provided and, for those who need it, there is a babysitter for every meeting.

If you are interested in helping out with SAC events - even if you only have 2 hours to spare per month - we welcome you! You can tell us about yourself by filling out the questionnaire on our website.

Pizza Lunches

Our biggest fundraiser at McKee is the Pizza Lunch that happens just about every 2 weeks. The first Pizza lunch of the year sold out! Then next two are on Thursday October 14 and 28. Pizza lunches remain at last year's prices: \$3.50 (single slice combo), \$4.50 (two-slice combo) and \$5.50 (three-slice combo). If you can help serve pizza at lunch (and it doesn't have to be every time!) please leave a message at mckeesac@gmail.com.

Playground

In the end everything came together and the track was finished before summer. This fall several additional trees will be planted, the line games and track lines will be drawn, and the playground revitalization

project will come to completion. In Phase I trihoops and a second playscape equipment were installed; in Phase II, trees were planted, two jumping pits were constructed, the track was laid, line games were drawn in both playgrounds, the nature classroom was installed, and some needed drainage was completed in the east playground. This would not have been possible without the cooperation and commitment of several groups whose efforts we applaud: the administration during those years under Cheryl Patterson's leadership, the SAC Council (with funds collected from the parents through fundraising activities), the playground committee, and McKee McKids. Several sponsors helped to supplement the money raised by our groups: Evergreen Learning Grounds grant (Toyota), Green Apple School Program (Metro) and TD Friends of the Environment. We are looking forward to watching our children enjoy the playground for many years to come.

Introducing our new SAC executive and committee members:

Co- Chairs – Jennifer Schmidt and Debbie Ralston. We are fortunate that Jennifer and Debbie are returning for another year as the Co-chair team. Both were tireless volunteers last year, helping the SAC navigate many challenges and working tirelessly on the playground project. Jennifer has three boys at McKee in grades SK, 3 and 5. Debbie has a son in grade 3.

Co-Secretaries – Frieda Chen, Jane Yi and Kate Zhang. Frieda is returning for her second year in the position and is excited to be joined by newcomers Jane and Kate. Frieda's daughter is in SK, Jane has two children and Kate's son is in Grade 2.

Co-Treasurers – Robert Co and Eric Yao. Robert has three daughters, one in grade 1 and two future McKee attendees! He was treasurer last year and we thank him for his dedication. Joining him this year is Eric who is new to Canada and has a son in Grade 5.

Pizza Lunch Coordinator – Clement Lee. Clem has two boys here at McKee in grades SK and 3. We are lucky to have his help again this year! The latest news is that the first Pizza lunch was sold out! Great job!

Safe and Caring Schools Committee representatives – Jean Yip and Kelly Moon. Jean has long played a supporting role to the SAC exec and we are happy to have her onboard in this role. She is joined by Kelly Moon. This committee is a reason we have crossing guards at the three intersections closest to McKee.

Community Representative - Nancy Sakauye. We welcome Nancy back to this post. She herself was a former SAC member and has maintained strong ties with the school as a library volunteer.

Teacher Representative – Teachers will take this position on a rotating basis. At our first meeting we welcomed Ms Shannon Weir.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Koon Wah Leung for her work as Treasurer, Julie Costanza for her hard work on fundraising and organizing the raffle and to Ms. Robyn Young who was one of the teacher representatives last year. All the best in your new pursuits!