

School Council Year-End Update

As another school year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on everything we accomplished together. It has been an incredible year for our School Council and our entire school community.

Before looking back on the year, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every parent, volunteer, staff member, and community partner who generously gave their time, talents, and support. Everything we accomplished this year was truly a team effort, and our school is a better place because of your willingness to serve.

We kicked off the year with our annual Community Potluck, which continues to be one of our favorite traditions and always sees fantastic attendance and community engagement. We're excited to announce that next year's potluck is already scheduled for September 19, so be sure to save the date!

Throughout the year, we hosted a variety of events that brought our community together and created lasting memories for our students, including festivals, concerts, movie and games nights, and many other activities. We wrapped up the school year with our annual Year-End BBQ. A special thank you to Refinery Church for once again generously volunteering to barbecue and serve the meal. We are incredibly grateful for the wonderful relationship we have built with them over the years.

One of the highlights of the year was the incredible support our community showed through our fundraising initiatives. Through Wydynowski's Sausage, FundScrip, Skip the Depot, Hot Lunch, our 50/50 raffle, and many other events, we generated more than \$20,000 in net proceeds to support our school. The library also hosted Audrey's Book Fair, which raised \$4,050 for the school library this year. Those funds helped provide kingdom pins and keychains, gym benches, music instruments, an outdoor basketball net, our Artist in Residence program, and many other initiatives that directly benefited our students.

We also celebrated a major milestone with our first-ever casino, which generated just over \$80,000 toward our future playground. This incredible achievement will have a lasting impact on our school and future generations of students.

Thanks to the success of the casino and the continued support of our school community, we are making great progress on our playground project. We have now reached the exciting stage where we will be exploring playground vendors, designs, and options. Every step brings us closer to creating an amazing outdoor space for our students. If you have

experience or an interest in playground planning, design, or procurement, we would love to hear from you.

Many of our ongoing fundraisers will continue next year, including Skip the Depot bottle collection, Mabel's Labels (be sure to label your children's belongings before the new school year!), and our twice-monthly Hot Lunch program.

Looking ahead, planning is already underway for our Second Annual School Gala on November 26. Please save the date! This will be another wonderful opportunity to come together as a community while raising funds for future school initiatives. If you are interested in helping plan or volunteer for this event, we would love to have you on the committee. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Most importantly, none of this would have been possible without our incredible volunteers. Whether you served on School Council, volunteered at an event, a field trip, helped in a classroom, or contributed behind the scenes, every hour you gave made a difference.

This year, 68 of our 292 families completed their required 10 volunteer hours, with many families going well above and beyond that commitment. To those families, thank you for your incredible generosity and dedication.

We know that every family's circumstances are different, but if more families were able to contribute toward their 10 volunteer hours, imagine how much more we could accomplish together—not only through additional opportunities for our students, but also by helping reduce the workload on our amazing staff and dedicated volunteers. Every hour matters, and every helping hand truly makes a difference.

On behalf of School Council, thank you for another incredible year. We hope you all have a safe, relaxing, and well-deserved summer. Thank you for helping make Edmonton Classical Academy such a special community. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, growth, and community.