



# St. Charles Home and School Annual Report 2014-2015

Co-President.....	<i>Susan Afonso</i>
Co-President.....	<i>Colomba Monteleone</i>
Co-Vice President.....	<i>Natalie Tozzi</i>
Co-Vice President.....	<i>Christine Hamaker</i>
Secretary.....	<i>Natalie Tozzi</i>
Membership Chair.....	<i>Mickey Marrassini</i>
Co-Treasurer.....	<i>Maureen Testa</i>
Co-Treasurer.....	<i>Cathy Arlia</i>
Allocation Coordinator.....	<i>Gabrielle Luciano</i>
Newsletter Editor.....	<i>Fay Zavos</i>
Volunteer Coordinator.....	<i>Carolyn Bogusz</i>

## **Acknowledgments:**

Congratulations to the many volunteers that help to make it all happen and in particular a huge thanks to our executive team for working relentlessly with one objective in mind: Doing what is in the best interest of all students. Also, a thank you to every member of our Home and School for becoming Home and School members and for supporting all of our activities which in turn helps us to build school spirit and make school more fun.

## **Meeting Dates:**

Oct. 5, 2014	Dec. 9, 2014	Feb 10, 2015	April 14, 2015	June 9, 2015
Nov. 11, 2014	Jan. 13, 2015	March 17, 2015	May 12, 2015	

## **Message from the Co-Presidents:**

We would like to thank the St. Charles community for allowing us the opportunity to be your voice as the Home & School (H&S) Co-Presidents. The 2014-2015 school year was a successful one by all counts. The St. Charles H&S Association was re-invited into the school at the school's Annual General Assembly in September 2014. Our executive team was up for a new challenge and worked diligently all year. The H&S activities, events and benefits were communicated to the St. Charles community via our H&S Newsletter as well as regular correspondence sent either via email or kiddy mail.

The H&S Association's goal is to be the crucial communication link between YOUR Home & OUR School and whose main objective is to support the success of all students through fundraising and active parental participation.

We encourage all parents to get involved and participate in being a part of your child's educational experience, there are opportunities for everyone.

On behalf of the executive committee, we would like to thank all the H&S members for your efforts this past year. Your dedication and time have helped enrich the school life for all the students and staff of St. Charles.

*Susan Afonso & Colomba Monteleone*

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St. Charles is fortunate to be able to count on the valuable support of volunteers who are involved with various committees. Many events and activities are made possible thanks to the availability and continued efforts of our volunteers. During the 2014-2015 school year, the following activities were organized by the various committees:

### **H&S Membership**

The Membership Chair oversees the administration of the membership process. We are pleased to report that our total membership (including associate members) was 54 members. We hope to maintain and increase our memberships as there are many benefits attached to a Home & School membership.

### **Welcome Back Family BBQ/Big Bang**

The Welcome Back Family BBQ was held in September 2014. With over 400 people in attendance, it was a total success. Entertainment was offered again this year which included free balloon sculpting and face painting. In conjunction with the BBQ, H&S held the "Big Bang Fundraiser" whereby tickets were sold for \$10 which in turn allowed the purchaser the opportunity to "pop" a balloon and win a prize with a guaranteed value of \$20 or more. This initiative was extremely successful and a total of \$950 was fundraised for our students - WOW!!! In addition to St. Charles families, the St. Charles staff was also in attendance which created a real community atmosphere.

### **Pizza/TCBY Lunch and Subway/TCBY Lunch**

From October to June every second Monday (or so) pizza/TCBY and juice was offered to the students. In addition, 10 Subway/TCBY days were held to add more variety to the lunch service option. The amount fundraised by offering this value added service to the community was \$12,290.

### **Fall Fundraising Campaign 2014**

This year 2 fundraising options were offered to our families, the sale of Nestle chocolates bars or the option of a cash donation. A total of \$9,033 was raised for our students. These funds in addition to other funds raised helped to sponsor some of the activities listed here in addition to classroom libraries and enhanced educational materials, recess equipment, graduation, author visits, robotics, gym equipment, music instruments etc.

### **School Photos**

In October 2014, the school photos were taken by the company LifeTouch. Again this year, the parents had the ability to purchase photos online. The committee has decided to engage the services of Lifetouch for the 2015-2016 school year. Lifetouch donated \$280 to Home & School.

### **Family Movie Night**

The community looks forward to bringing their pillows, blankets, chairs and enjoying a recently released movie in the gym as a result, Movie Nights are popular. The H&S hosted 2 movie night this past school year. In October 2014, the featured movie was "Mr. Peabody & Sherman". All proceeds from this movie night was donated to breast cancer research. A total of \$1,740 was raised and Mr. Canavan and M Yves shaved their heads for the cause. In May 2015, the featured movie was "Penguins of Madagascar". The amount fundraised from this event was \$934 and these proceeds were added to the total fundraising dollars to benefit the students.

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### Clothing

H&S offers "St. Charles Sharks" clothing to the community and includes t-shirts, hoodies (regular & zipper), sweatpants, hats and baseball caps. This is offered as a service to the community and is also a school fundraiser. In addition, school spirit is promoted by the students wearing the "St. Charles Sharks" clothing both at school and out of school. The clothing was available for viewing at the BBQ and parents then had the opportunity to order twice during the year, once in Nov 2014 and again in May 2015. The community really embraced the great looking clothes at affordable prices and as result, a total of \$770 was raised for our students. H&S plans to continue to offer this again next year.

### The Holiday Shop

The very popular Holiday Shop opened its doors during the holiday season for two days in mid December. Items were sold at a low cost of \$4 or less and allowed students to share in the joy of giving by purchasing presents for their moms, grandmothers, dads, grandfathers, siblings, cousins and even pets!!! This event is not a fundraiser and all proceeds are used to replenish inventory for next year's Holiday Shop.

### Breakfast With Santa

The H&S once again treated Santa and Mrs. Claus to a sit down continental breakfast which was also enjoyed by the students, staff and elves. This much anticipated event was held on the last day of school in December 2014. Breakfast with Santa is one of the student's, staff and volunteers, favourite events. After breakfast, the sound of songs filled not only the gym but the whole school with good cheer. This event was entirely sponsored by H&S.

### Staff Appreciation Week

Through the generosity of the St. Charles community the staff enjoyed a week of surprises and treats. Some of which included: delicious food, Italian themed lunch, gifts, and their absolute favourite - relief from their before and after school supervision duties. The students enjoyed cheering for the staff as they participated in a friendly "Minute to Win it" competition. It was all VERY much appreciated by the teachers and staff and would not have been possible without everyone's contribution. This event was made possible through the community's generous monetary donations and H&S fundraising dollars.

*In keeping with St. Charles tradition of promoting the love of reading, 2 Book Fairs were held:*

### French/English Book Fairs

The French book fair was hosted by Scholastic and provided our community with an outstanding array of French books. The French book fair was held during Portfolio Night/Parent-Teacher Interview. Based on the sales from our French book fair, the French classroom libraries received \$1,174 worth of books. The English book fair was hosted by Babar. The English book fair was held during the school's Open House. Based on the sales from our English book fair, the English classroom libraries received \$491 worth of books.

### Graduation Committee

Our Grads have enjoyed many things this year. They had a Masquerade Party in October. In June they enjoyed a pool party at Thorndale Pool along with lunch. The Graduation Ceremony and Dance was held on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Two bake sales were held (Portfolio Night and Open House). In addition \$3,000 was allocated from H&S. These funds along with the bake sales were used to finance this year's activities.

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### Winter Carnival

Carnival was held in February 2015 and this year the students participated in outdoor and indoor activities complete with indoor curling, a dance-a-thon, bingo and hot chocolate. In keeping with tradition, kings and queens were also part of the festivities. This event was sponsored by H&S.

### School Supplies/Mabel's Labels/FundScrip

In an effort to offer our parents a hassle free option of school supply shopping, H&S has been offering school supplies through the services of Editions Vaudreuil. A percentage of the total sales were returned to the school which resulted in \$66 for our students.

In addition to offering a school supply service, H&S offered the possibility to purchase labels through the company Mabel's Labels and gift card through the program FundScrip. The combined amount fundraised from Mabel's Labels and FundScrip was \$111.

### Footloose Day

Every year we conclude the year with what is the best end of year party - Footloose!!! Footloose was held on June 17, 2015 and the weather was absolutely perfect for the outdoor event. The students and staff enjoyed the following activities: playing on 3 inflatable games, a BBQ lunch, park activities, freezies and an ice-cream dessert. Thanks again to all the volunteers who were able to volunteer and help us on this very special day. This event was sponsored by H&S.

### Daycare Appreciation

Once again this year the H&S honoured the daycare and lunch staff in recognition for all they do for our children on a daily basis. In May 2015, the daycare and lunch staff was showered with thank-you notes as well as some gifts. The staff was honoured with a bistro themed luncheon which included smoked meat, chicken wings and a variety of side dishes. It was all VERY much appreciated by the daycare and lunch staff and would not have been possible without everyone's contribution. This event was sponsored by H&S.

### H&S Newsletter

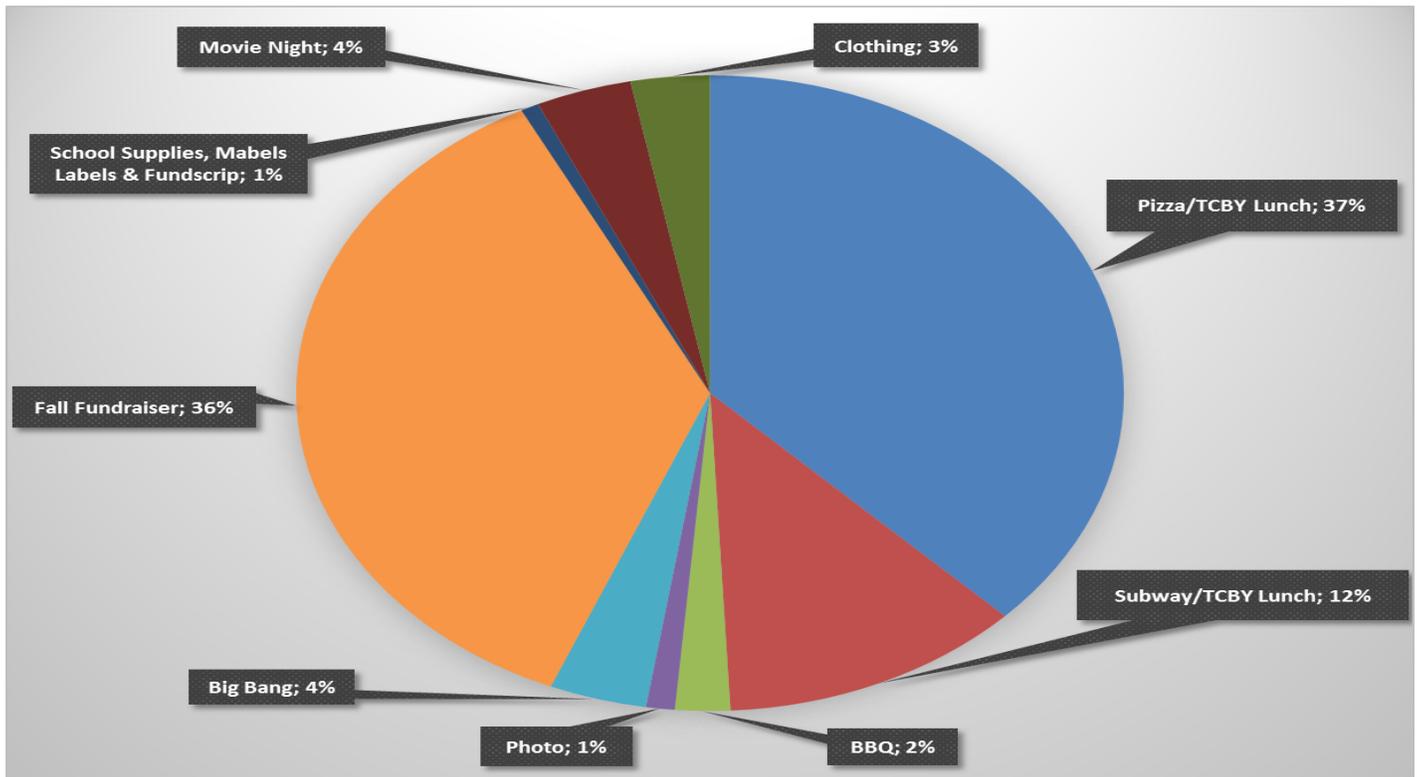
The St. Charles H&S Association is always looking for ways to increase its communication to the community. We continue to improve our communications to you and our newsletter is continuously improving. Our newsletter has definitely improved and evolved over the years and with continued effort will only get better with time.

### Allocation

It is the responsibility of the allocation committee to recommend to H&S how best to allocate the estimated funds raised during the year. Based on input from both H&S and the staff, the allocation committee considers all the wish lists received and allocates the funds based on what is in the best interest of all students. The allocation committee includes the following voting members: 6 H&S member parents (includes the H&S President/Co-Presidents who is elected automatically and allowed 1 vote) and 3 staff members. It also includes the following non-voting members: H&S Treasurer/Co-Treasurers and the Principal.

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**Breakdown of the 2014-2015 H&S fundraising Dollars**



**What were the 2014-2015 H&S fundraising dollars used for?**

