



CASTOR VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

Welcome Package

Dear CVES Family!

The following welcome package has been put together to give you as much information as possible about being part of School Council.

We hope you find it useful – please read it through, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Have a great year 😊

Castor Valley School Council
castorvalleycouncil@gmail.com

Save the Date



Our first council meeting of the 2019-2020 school year is: **Thursday, September 26th**

6:30pm in the school library

New Members always welcome!

There are 4 ways to join Council: as an Executive Officer (voting), as a Member at Large (voting), as a Member with Portfolio (voting or non-voting) or as a Non-Voting affiliate.

Please note, at our first meeting, we vote in the new executive members, and you can fill out a self-nomination form to become a voting or non-voting member. If you would like to have a VOTE on important topics, then please nominate yourself to become a voting member. *The responsibility of a voting member is to attend and participate in all 8 school council meetings held throughout the year.*

Descriptions of the roles/responsibilities of the positions are contained in the CVESC Constitution which is available on our web site: <https://castorvalley.ca> or by emailing us. Self-Nomination forms can also be found on our website, and there will be copies at our first meeting.

Reasons to be part of council:

- Keep informed and up to date about what is going on in the school.
- Have input into events and council priorities for the year.
- Understand how the money council raises, will be used to improve and benefit our school.
- Hear plans and updates from our principal and teacher representatives.
- Meet other parents and council members.

Who and what is CVESC?!

Castor Valley Elementary School Council (CVESC) is a group of parents, teachers and administrative staff, who, through active participation, strive to improve student achievement and create a positive and fun learning environment while fostering communication between parents, the school and the school board.

We are always looking for new members to join us, and fresh ideas, are always appreciated.

We meet eight times a year, usually on the third Thursday of every month (except December and March).

Did you know that CVESC runs our hot lunch program, milk program and many events throughout the school year? Any funds we raise go directly back to our kids to enhance the learning environment and to cover the costs of items and activities that are no longer in school budgets such as arts, sports and music programming, the library and our playground. As well as funding our own Council initiatives in the school, we also offer the school's staff and teachers the opportunity to apply for Ad-Hoc Council funding for events, activities and items that will benefit the school and students.

Connect with us!

One of CVESC's main missions is to keep you informed in all things council-related! We do this through school-wide emails, our website <https://castorvalley.ca/> and our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CVESC/>. We send out information pertaining to our events via Facebook, and emails.

If you are not receiving Council emails, have changed your email address, or would like to add an address to the distribution list, please email castorvalleycouncil@gmail.com. **Your email address will always be kept confidential.**

To ensure you receive Council emails and newsletters, be sure to add our castorvalleycouncil@gmail.com email address to your safe senders list so we don't end up in your spam!

Other school-related information you may find useful:

Drop Off & Pick Up

If you wish to drop off or pick up your children at school, please take note that yard supervision starts at 9:05am for morning drop off. Kindergartens get dismissed at 3:30pm, and all other grades get dismissed at 3:45pm.

Library

Castor Valley has a part-time Library Technician on staff. Every student has the opportunity to participate in a Library Book Exchange once a week – your child will have the same Library Day every week. Keep track of those books, as there is a replacement fee if they're lost or damaged! On days when the Library Technician is not in the school, the Library is available for individual teachers and classes to use.

Scholastic Book Orders

Teachers have the opportunity to earn free books for their classrooms by sending home Scholastic catalogues every month. There is no obligation to buy books, and not every teacher participates (this is teacher-driven initiative and not school or Council-driven). You'll know if your teacher participates if/when you see the catalogues in your child's backpack!

Spirit Days

Every once in a while, you'll be informed (usually through a school-wide email) about a *Spirit Day* where the whole school is invited to participate to show school spirit and solidarity. Past spirit days have included Crazy Hair Day, Pajama Day, Hockey Jersey Day, What Not to Wear Day, and more! These are completely voluntary, but lots of fun for the kids!

Milk Program & Lunch Program

Council offers daily white milk (only for grade 1–8) as well as a lunch program, both at affordable prices. Forms are sent home for both programs in September.

Lunch Lady

Once again, we are excited to have the Lunch lady return to our school on Mondays and Thursdays every week. Orders are all done online. Go to <http://thelunchlady.ca> under ORDER now. You must create a log in to order. If you are new to the lunch lady, you will find your child's classroom (teacher name) in a drop-down menu. Please remember that lunch orders MUST be submitted by the WEDNESDAY before each Monday service, and the FRIDAY before each Wednesday's service.

Popcorn days

Popcorn days are a huge hit with the students. For a toonie, your child can buy a bag of Papa Jack's popcorn (Peanut Free, Gluten Free and Trans-fat free). Email and Facebook notifications will remind you of popcorn days!

Need labels for your children's belongings?! Check out mabel's labels.



Click on support a fundraiser and select Castor Valley Elementary School in Greely, ON from the drop-down list.

<http://mabelslabels.com/fundraising/>