

2021/2022

# The Mabin School Annual Report

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IMAGINE WHAT YOU  
CAN DO FROM HERE



The Mabin School





It has been said that every obstacle is an opportunity waiting to present itself, and for everyone at The Mabin School this past year, never have truer words been spoken. Unlike any other, the 2021/2022 school year was one that tested us all. From our great move out of 50 Poplar Plains, to navigating two distinct satellite campuses at 35 Prince Arthur and 24 Spadina Road; it was certainly a year to be remembered.

This was also the year we broke ground; eventually transforming Mabin into something incredibly special! In the history of our school, we've never reimagined and reconfigured our campus so extensively. The wait has been worth it.

As a Mabin graduate, current parent, and now Board of Directors Chair, I'm so very proud to be a part of Mabin's journey forward and to help the next generation of Mabinites. I will tell you with certainty that what we're working to create through our build is nothing short of spectacular. Mabin has always felt like a second home for its students, and our new Community Learning Lab will embody that feeling, in that it will be an important space designed to bring people together in the most earnest of ways.

I would like to give special thanks to everyone who helped make the past year as successful as it was. Our teachers worked in challenging and ever-changing environments, and you, our amazing families, stuck with us through so much uncertainty during the ongoing global pandemic. Thank you for your stick-to-itiveness and overwhelming support.

Finally, I would like to give special thanks to Mabin's Principal, Nancy Steinhauer, for shepherding us all through such uncharted waters. Nancy is a transformational leader, and dedicated educator who turns every obstacle into an opportunity! Nancy has a strong vision for what Mabin will be going forward, and with a talented team of educators in our classrooms and at her side, there is much to be hopeful for.

**IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN DO FROM HERE!**

# Board of Directors 2021/2022

**CHAIR**  
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# Principal's Report: 2021/2022: Flexing Our Adaptability Muscles

The Mabin School's mission is to create the next generation of original thinkers, adaptive leaders, and caring citizens. The 2021/2022 school year forced us to flex those muscles and model thinking flexibly as we spent the year working around a global pandemic, a significant building project, and a move off-site to two different satellite campuses. Despite the many challenges inherent to this complex context, our staff made it look easy, and our students thrived.

When COVID-19 struck in Spring, 2020, we turned on a dime and began on-line schooling one day after the March Break. One day, during a remote class meeting, one of our Grade 6 students informed us that the Dragon Academy was leaving its physical site and transitioning to a completely virtual learning environment. That was how we discovered that 35 Prince Arthur was available for leasing, and we quickly jumped on the opportunity to secure our home away from home away from home.

Originally, we had hoped that we could fit the entire school into 35 Prince Arthur, which had a house-y feel and a Mabin-esque aesthetic. During the 2020/2021 school year, JK-3 stayed at 50 Poplar Plains Rd, while three classes (Grades 4-6) spread out on three floors at 35 Prince Arthur, allowing for social distancing and strict cohorting as we managed learning in the pandemic before a vaccine

had been found for COVID. It soon became clear that we were going to need more space once the entire school needed to move off-site.

With that in mind, we explored a variety of options, and ended up partnering with Alliance Française, the beautiful French-language school at Spadina and Lowther. A short 10 minute walk from the house on Prince Arthur, it became



the new home for our Grade 5/6 classes, while JK-4 made themselves comfortable in the Prince Arthur space. With JK/SK on the first floor, Grades 1/2 on the second floor, and Grades 3/4 on the third floor, we created warm spaces, and made excellent use of local parks and facilities. We became expert at crossing the road to get to Taddle Creek Park for recesses, visited the Royal Ontario Museum regularly, frequented Friends House and Trinity-St. Paul's Church to use their indoor spaces for Physical Education, and even had an extensive skating unit at Bill Bolton arena. Space was tight, but we made it work, and we made sure there were plenty of hepa filters and sinks to help us fight the spread of COVID.

Now that we are back in our beautiful building with the stunning new addition and so much extra space for our students, it's hard to believe that we were

able to accomplish all that we did last year. Up until the last week in August 2022, parents would stop me and ask me – “Are we really going to be back at 50 Poplar Plains for September?” “Yes!” I promised, hoping that what I was willing was true. And it was! During our week of professional development in August, staff were still in hard hats and steel-toed boots, but we were in the building, and we were able to start school on time – with our brand new Community Learning Lab intact by the Thursday after Labour Day – just like we always do. It took another few weeks to complete the playground, but by the time the Mabin BBQ came around, the entire playground was open, our classrooms were all completed, and we were already making full use of the new Learning Commons, Art Studio, and Kindergarten spaces.

**IT FELT LIKE A MIRACLE.**





The miracle, of course, only happened due to the hard work and perseverance of an army of people. We are so appreciative of:

- Our Board, who had the vision to plan and execute this transformative building project;
- Our Building Committee, who managed every aspect of the project closely and diligently;
- Our Campaign Director, David Prendergast, and our Advancement and Alumni Affairs Committee, who ensured that we raised over \$4 million, a bigger sum than had ever been contemplated at The Mabin School previously;
- All of our donors, whose generosity made the project affordable, despite supply chain challenges and rising costs during the pandemic;
- Our staff, who made the whole process look easy, even though it certainly was not, creating that home-y feeling in new and unknown environments, and continuing to create magic wherever we were;
- Our parents, for trusting us with their children, despite many unknowns and uncertainties, and for sticking with us despite the challenges of both a build and COVID;

- And last, but not least, our students – for participating in the learning with their characteristic joy and enthusiasm, making the whole ordeal feel worthwhile – dare I say, even fun?

Throughout our year-long field trip, we continued to learn, to innovate, and to forge deep relationships with each other. As the old saying goes, what doesn't kill us makes us stronger! Our students, staff, families, and community are all closer having persisted through this challenge together. What a treat it is to be back together at 50 Poplar Plains Rd., able to enjoy the fruits of our efforts. The new space is beautiful, but more importantly, it allows us to do what we do best even better. It is a space for collaboration, for problem-solving, for creating, and for connecting with the larger community. With this new space, we are able to model excellence in progressive elementary education, nurture healthy relationships, and amplify learning for all members of our community. We have completed the build and moved home, and for that we are grateful.



# COVID-19 Advisory Committee Report

The start of the 2021/2022 school year was an exciting time at Mabin! The school broke ground at 50 Poplar Plains to realize the vision of a new and revitalized learning space that would enhance students’ ability to be original thinkers, adaptive leaders and caring citizens.

To realize this dream in the midst of a global pandemic meant, however, that things needed to be done differently. Once again, students, teachers, staff, and school administrators were called upon to practice some of the core values of Mabin in real time. For example, the school needed to move off-site during the renovations, but we also needed to ensure that learning spaces continued to allow for space between students and the ability to learn in cohorts. Two temporary Mabin campuses were therefore used – one at 35 Prince Arthur Ave. and one on 24 Spadina Rd. at Alliance Française. There were significant logistical challenges in having two separate campuses with all outdoor spaces being public ones. But the entire Mabin community rose to the challenge. We adapted, we persisted, we created solutions, we worked collaboratively, we took responsible risks and we showed empathy to create a year as deeply infused with the “Mabin Magic” as ever.

At the Board level, we wanted to continue to ensure the school’s administration was well-supported to make the difficult decisions that protected our community from COVID-19, while



also safeguarding students’ emotional well-being and academic development. The multidisciplinary COVID-19 Advisory Committee, which was originally formed in 2020, continued to meet regularly throughout the 2021/2022 school year. The Committee was lucky to have the expertise of members with a background in education, child development, medicine, childcare and law. We also ensured that the Committee benefited from the voices of different stakeholders in the Mabin community, including school administration, teachers, parents and Board members.



To a great extent, directives from government and public health have informed the operational requirements of independent schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mabin School has endeavored from day one to continually assess and discuss what is required by these directives, and, when it is appropriate, to exceed the directives. We strove to ensure that our community was well-protected from COVID-19 while also continuing to learn together in ways that best promote and protect the emotional well-being of our students. The COVID-19 Advisory Committee acts as a resource to the school’s administration to discuss and consider COVID-19 policies in place at Mabin. In an environment that can be emotionally charged, and where there are ever shifting directives as well as sometimes conflicting information, the Committee provides an important service to help ensure that Mabin’s policies meet a high standard for protecting our students and staff from COVID-19, but are also fair, reasonable and evidence-based.



I wish to extend a very heartfelt thank you to the members of the 2021/2022 COVID-19 Advisory Committee:

- Bianca Auciello
- Dr. Lisa Brooks
- Jamie Campbell
- Dr. Sloane Freeman
- Rachel Mathews
- Heather Pettigrew
- Chris Russell
- Nancy Steinhauer





# Strategy & Equity Committee Report

The Mabin School has always prided itself on being an inclusive learning environment. From the start, The Mabin School experience was to address not only the academic aspects of students' development but the social/emotional aspects and to recognize and provide for each individual. The goal was for graduates to maintain the love of learning and to be positive contributing members not only to the school community but in general.

As a model of excellence in progressive education, The Mabin School strives to create the next generation of original thinkers, adaptive leaders, and caring citizens. This becomes more possible when the diversity of learners reflects the diversity of our city and our world. For that reason, our current strategic plan identifies the following aspiration: To be in high-demand by a greater diversity of communities.

To track the diversity in our community, we have begun to collect demographic data through our annual parent satisfaction survey. Currently, the diversity of our community is most apparent in the diversity of our learners' learning profiles. Each class has a range of students with different strengths and needs, and we celebrate those differences. Our school serves the needs of gifted students just as well as those of students with learning disabilities, and can support students who are socially and emotionally adept as well as those who need more coaching and support.

In 2021/2022, our Board of Directors worked closely with Nouman Ashraf

from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto to learn more about equitable and inclusive practices in governance. As part of this work, the Board's Strategy and Equity committee worked with school staff to establish the following evolving document declaring our commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at The Mabin School:

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION AT THE MABIN SCHOOL (EVOLVING DOCUMENT)

*The Mabin School is committed to social justice. Every child is encouraged to be a changemaker, and use empathy, teamwork, leadership and problem-solving to combat injustice. Our smallness enables us to know one another deeply and to appreciate our strengths. We know that if everyone at The Mabin School is to feel a sense of belonging, it is our job to facilitate strong relationships and to celebrate difference.*

*Inclusion is a core value of The Mabin School. We welcome and support a diversity of learning profiles, and believe*

*that greater diversity leads to deeper learning. We seek to increase the racial and socio-economic diversity of our student body so that a wider range of voices can inform our understanding of ourselves, each other, our city, our country, and our world. We seek to invite and amplify the voices of equity-deserving communities, including BIPOC perspectives. We welcome families that are part of 2SLGBTQ+ communities and, as a non-denominational school, our families come from multiple religious traditions.*

*We are committed to studying and implementing anti-racist and anti-oppressive approaches, with specific attention to anti-black racism and the Truth and Reconciliation process. We strive to uncover unconscious bias at both the individual and system level, to recognize and critically engage with all kinds of*

*social injustice, and to work and learn together towards positive social transformation. We are working to ensure our staff reflects the diversity of our city so that our students have non-stereotypical models of leadership. At The Mabin School, we want all members of our community to be able to bring their authentic selves.*

*The Mabin School's Board, staff, and students are engaged in an ongoing process to continuously improve as teachers and learners in our work to become a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive learning community for all. We are committed to instilling in every child a sense of belonging. We invite all families to join us in this work.*



# Finance Committee Report

The greatest news to report is that we are back “home” at 50 Poplar Plains Road!

There were many challenges during the 2021/2022 school year, including managing COVID, managing the threat of remote learning, and managing a large construction project at a time of significant rapid inflation. This brought along a new challenge still to be addressed – the increased cost of borrowing.

For the fiscal year ending June 2022, Mabin posted a deficiency of revenues over expenses of \$155,922 driven by costs associated with rental payments related to the premises that Mabin utilized while the school was going through the construction project. Generally speaking, strong enrollment and disciplined spending show the School to have an excess of revenue over expenses when expenses are normalized for these past costs, but we now need to budget appropriately for costs associated with the financing of the construction project.

Maintaining a strong financial position and cash flow management continues to be a priority for the Board. This will require new disciplines and potential for new policies to help manage the financing and new debt that has been incurred. Mabin has a loan approval for \$5.25 million and access to a \$500,000 line of credit. This will enable Mabin to take care of all payables to complete the construction project by the end of 2022. In addition to the ongoing cash flow from operations, there should still be focus on Capital Campaigns to help reduce the

levels of outstanding debt and the cost associated with it.

The Mabin School switched to Adams and Miles LLP as their auditors. The individual that has worked with Mabin over the past few years with the previous auditor changed firms and it made sense for Mabin to stay with the individual and move over to their new firm. The Auditor indicated in their Audit Report that the school has some liquidity risk due to large invoices associated with the construction project that were outstanding at the year end. Subsequent to the year end, the bank had released their loan and Mabin was able to pay any outstanding invoices. The Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2022 were approved by the Board and presented at the Annual General Meeting in September, 2022.

Looking forward, the Finance Committee is excited to welcome back Jamie Campbell, Nii-Apa Lamptey, Mike Reid and Steven Silverberg and welcome Norm Chang as a new Finance Committee member. Nii-Apa was appointed as the Treasurer of the School at the AGM in September. His qualification as a CFA, with extensive experience in finance, make him an ideal choice as we look to the new challenge of managing the debt associated with the construction project. With a great team in place, we look forward to a busy year working closely with management and taking advantage of the amazing new building.

The Finance Committee believes the School is financially stable and well-prepared to execute the School’s Strategic Plan while managing the new debt load.

## SUMMARY OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	JUNE 30, 2022	JUNE 30, 2021
ASSETS		
Cash and investments	\$4,324,303	\$8,198,042
Other	\$2,683,419	\$1,974,285
Capital assets, net	\$9,414,163	\$1,386,734
	<u>\$16,421,885</u>	<u>\$11,559,061</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Deferred contributions	\$3,638,608	\$2,386,793
Prepaid fees	\$4,512,335	\$3,818,320
Other liabilities	<u>\$3,236,663</u>	<u>\$163,747</u>
	\$11,387,606	\$6,368,860
Net assets	<u>\$5,034,279</u>	<u>\$5,190,201</u>
	<u>\$16,421,885</u>	<u>\$11,559,061</u>
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		
REVENUE		
Tuition	\$4,017,745	\$3,857,785
Other	\$110,660	\$62,223
Unrestricted donations	<u>\$89,945</u>	<u>\$86,453</u>
	<u>\$4,218,350</u>	<u>\$4,006,461</u>
EXPENSES		
Staffing costs	\$3,224,927	\$3,058,817
Academic programming	\$305,230	\$231,419
Facilities	\$572,021	\$485,000
Administrative & general	\$119,718	\$230,426
Amortization of capital assets	<u>\$152,376</u>	<u>\$129,810</u>
	<u>\$4,374,272</u>	<u>\$4,135,472</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$155,922</u>	<u>- \$129,011</u>







Our Strategic Plan  
can also be viewed in  
the Board section of our  
website at [mabin.com](http://mabin.com)

THE  
MABIN  
SCHOOL

STRATEGIC  
PLAN

2021-2024



Our commitment to student-led inquiry: the child is leading us which instills agency, leadership, collaboration and problem solving at a young age.

Our identity as a play-based, relationship-based laboratory of learning where empathy is nurtured and modelled.

Our status as a changemaker school provides a social justice lens and authentic opportunities for our children to engage in the world with a sense of personal and collective power.

Our unapologetic "smallness" enables us to create intimacy and a sense of family.

Our approach with families: to partner with parents in service of their children's full development.

## Our Mission

To create the next generation of original thinkers, adaptive leaders and caring citizens.



## Our Vision



To model excellence in progressive elementary education.

## Our Aspiration

Build the foundation that will enable us to achieve the next level as changemakers and influencers in the field of education and children's mental health.

To be in high-demand by a greater diversity of communities.

Successfully complete the building and move back home.





Strategic Priority 1 : Model excellence in progressive elementary education



Strategic Priority 2 : Nurture healthy relationships



Strategic Priority 3 : Amplify learning





# Alumni & Advancement Committee Report

Hey Mabin! If I've ever written that before, it was from the perspective of a 10 year old Mabin student and I'm almost positive that what followed was definitely not a conversation about connection and money....Honestly, it was probably about how thankful I was for Oregon Trail.

I'm so grateful to have spent the past year on the Alumni and Advancement Committee. It's been my 3rd year on the Mabin Board of Directors, and I'm consistently so amazed, impressed, and delighted by the incredible work of Nancy Steinhauer, Mabin, and its community. Such a delight!

On the capital campaign front, what a crazy, unbelievable, seemingly impossible, turned possible, year! The Mabin School wrapped up its most ambitious fundraising campaign EVER, exceeding its goal of \$4 million dollars. The World Needs More Mabin and we'll get it!

Over the past couple of years, with the generosity and commitment of all of our donors, the capital campaign was a huge success. We'd like to take this opportunity to recognize all of you – our most supportive and generous supporters – our Mabin families. We would never have had the success we have experienced without you! Mabin families, past, present and future, truly understand the power of philanthropy and we are so lucky to have such a supportive and visionary community.

As part of our fundraising efforts, it's worth highlighting our Brick Campaign,



a super fun chance for us to pave (pun #1) the way into the reopening of 50 Poplar Plains Road. As always, the Mabin community stepped (pun #2) up and helped us place 83 (!) fun, heartwarming and touching bricks which will be forever on our path (pun #3). Truly, a wonderful culmination of efforts to see the Community Learning Lab come to life at the Grand Opening in the Fall of 2022.

The hits keep coming, as Mabin launched a new scholarship for Grade 3-6 for Girls in STEM. With programs like this,



It's empowering to see Mabin continue to embark on its journey of increasing the diversity of our student body so that a wider range of voices can inform our understanding of ourselves, each other, our city, our country, and our world.

As part of the MabinLEADs (Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Adaptive Design) program in Grades 5 and 6, The Mabin School launched a successful entrepreneurship mentorship program connecting Grade 6s - who created their own businesses - with alumni. As an alumni mentor myself, I was so impressed with the thoughtfulness of the Grade 6 students (not a word about Oregon Trail!) and Mabin was so lucky to reconnect with alumni.

All and all, a very powerful year on the

Advancement and Alumni front. These collective efforts continue to play an important role in supporting the creation of the next generation of original thinkers, adaptive leaders and caring citizens.





# Development Committee Report

The Development Committee is pleased and excited to be sharing this message with all Mabin families and supporters, present and past. It has been a transformational year for Mabin!

At the end of the 2020/2021 school year, we broke ground after over two decades of planning. At this point the pressure was on to renovate and build the new addition to our “home” at 50 Poplar Plains.

It is fair to say that at that point we didn’t fully know what the 2021/2022 school year would bring, and what we would encounter on the journey. However, the entire team including the Development Committee, Jordy Mecklinger, Ted Meighen, ARK (our Architect) and Venture (our Contractor) had a common goal to get the school back “home” for the start of the 2022/2023 year.

The entire team worked hard to be respectful of our neighbors, and we must thank our Councilor, the Councilor’s Office, The City of Toronto staff, our community members as well as the many contractors and consultants who all played a significant part in making this happen.

Over the year, in addition to creating our new fully accessible Community Learning Lab, Art Studio, new JK and SK classrooms as well as extensive external play and educational spaces, we improved every aspect of the school’s facilities.

During the summer of 2022 the School’s staff and teachers worked tirelessly to move us back into our newly created space transforming what was a beautiful empty space back into a school.

Our children returned to their “home” in September 2022, as we finished up some of the loose ends. In October, we had our grand opening attended by donors, families, friends, students, staff and teachers. What a special day! I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to all members of our community for their time and contribution to The Mabin School over the years. We are looking forward to our community enjoying the new spaces and sharing the experience with our children and beyond.





# Parents' Association Report

We approached the 2021/2022 school year with much optimism for a more normal year for our children – off site for all of us, masks on – but hopefully with the ability to gather and see each other in person! We didn't know we'd be in for such a roller coaster of a year, but we made the best of it. The Parents' Association's main goal is to build community among all of the stakeholders in the school and we learned from the prior year that building community is much, much harder when we can't gather in person. Despite the challenges, we managed to cap off the year with the biggest Mabin Day party the school has ever seen – more on that later. Here is a quick synopsis of the events we supported over the course of the year:

### PIZZA LUNCH

Pizza lunch was back! Students were happy to have pizza every Friday! Some restrictions prevented sharing between classes and fruit had to be individual so there were some hiccups along the way, but, overall, it was a resounding success. A Grade 4 student even took it upon herself to conduct a survey to see if we should continue with pizza every week in future – the results? A resounding YES!



### FALL CLASS SOCIALS

Class Reps started out the year by organizing socials for their class. In the past, this would have been parent socials but this year, we asked class reps to do what worked best for their class – parent social or whole class social. Different classes have different needs and we felt that the class reps were best positioned to make a decision that made sense.

### MEET THE TEACHER COFFEE MORNINGS

Since we were entering a second year of COVID restrictions and many parents had yet to meet their children's teachers in person, the PA worked with the school to host coffee mornings. Grade by grade coffee mornings were held in the fall of 2021. Teachers and staff were on hand to meet parents outside – a chance to put a face to a name and to chit chat. An extra bonus of this initiative was that parents also had a wonderful opportunity to chat amongst themselves and get to know one another.

A special thanks to the Duke of York Pub for allowing us to use their patio as a gathering place.

### MAGICAL MABIN MYSTERY TOUR

It was so strange not to know where your child was learning and what the space was like inside so on Sunday, November 7, the PA worked with the school to open up our site at 35 Prince Arthur. Families were encouraged to sign up for a time to come to the site and take a tour. The tour guides were none other than the students themselves! It was wonderful to see the children showing off their learning spaces to their parents and siblings. Parents were also very appreciative of the opportunity to have a glimpse into where the Mabin magic happens.

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GINGER-BREAD FUNDRAISER

Carolyn Cybulski, our Junior Kindergarten teacher, was instrumental in making sure that the annual Gingerbread Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity continued despite the fact that we weren't able to gather in person and spread the joy (and the icing!). The PA supported this initiative by providing the candy for decorating. Families built and decorated their gingerbread houses in the comfort of their own homes and submitted pictures of their creations.

### MABIN SPEAKER SERIES

The PA supported the school financially to bring Dr. Bena Kallick online to the Mabin community. Dr. Kallick is one of the co-founders of The Institute for Habits of Mind and she spoke on "Parenting in Challenging Times: Keeping the Habits of Mind in Mind." The Habits of Mind are at the core of everything at Mabin so it was a very topical presentation.



### PINK SHIRT DAY

Mabin launched a new program for the Grade 5/6s in 2021/2022, Mabin LEADs, which the PA was so proud to support leading up to Pink Shirt Day. We partnered with two student leaders to produce pink Mabin shirts that they designed with input from all students. Everyone at Mabin, students and staff alike, were given a t-shirt to mark the day.

### IAN HAWKINS SPIRIT AWARD

The PA created an award to honour Ian Hawkins who was the Mabin School Music and French teacher for many years prior to his retirement in 2018. In 2021/2022 the honour was awarded to our Grade 5 & 6 students, the inaugural class of Mabin LEADs. The students were instrumental in running whole school events such as: National Day for Truth and Reconcilia-



tion, Halloween Fun Day, Remembrance Day, Carnaval, Pink Shirt Day and Mabin Day. These dedicated students not only designed and ran the events, but they researched and shared their learning with the school. Congratulations Grade 5/6s!

**MABIN DAY – TOGETHER AGAIN!**

Mabin Day was the perfect opportunity to gather as a whole community in person for the first time in two years! Mabin Day 2022 was a time to celebrate and socialize as one big family! Students, staff, teachers, families and special guests paraded from Taddle Creek Park to Hydro Park dressed in Mabin gear and with their new Mabin hats in their house colours. May-bin, the unicorn, even joined in the parade – a sight to see indeed! When everyone arrived, a dance party awaited! There was pizza, ice cream (and veggies!). The Grade 5/6s had created activity stations and also ran a student business fair. Students, teachers, parents, staff, alumni and even some community members were in attendance. Special thanks to Jen Waisberg, Lauren Granatstein, Jordan Fogle and all of our volunteers for putting together an amazing afternoon to remember.

**MABIN BOOK EXCHANGE**

Our annual Book Exchange also returned! We collected gently used books for distribution to the students at school in June. Using the space at Friends House, near our Prince Arthur location, PA volunteers set up the donated books around the room and classes came in pairs to select two to three books of their choosing to take home. Older grades were paired with younger ones to help the younger children make their selection. Books that were not selected were donated to the Children’s Book Bank and the Thorncliffe Food Bank for distribution.

**CLASS PARTIES**

The Class Reps organizational skills were put to use for the final initiative for the 2021/2022 year – individual class parties. Many organized park get togethers to celebrate another COVID year completed!

**STAFF APPRECIATION**

The 2021/2022 school year was yet another incredibly challenging one for the teachers and staff at the school. Operating away from ‘home’ at two sites, more remote learning, cohorts – the list goes on. We were pleased to be able to provide a staff luncheon for everyone in both December and June. Another way we showed our appreciation was through our staff gifting program. Volunteer buyers purchased individualized gifts and gift cards for the teachers and staff that were distributed in December and June. Each gift was accompanied by a handwritten note from a member of the PA. The gifts are always well received and this year was no exception.

The Parents’ Association could not function without the support of the parents at the school. We count on them to volunteer their time to help us with events, act as Class Reps and join the PA Executive. Thank you to our dedicated parent community for their continued support through the 2021/2022 school year. We look ahead with optimism as we return “home” to 50 Poplar Plains Road and can’t wait to see what the next school year brings!

**Board of Directors 2021/2022**



**BIANCA AUCIELLO**  
DIRECTOR



**JAMIE CAMPBELL (‘91)**  
CHAIR



**ALAN GERTNER (‘96)**  
DIRECTOR



**MARK JONES**  
DIRECTOR



**EMILY MCKERNAN**  
VICE-CHAIR



**HELEN McLEAN**  
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**TED MEIGHEN (‘92)**  
DIRECTOR



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DIRECTOR



**JOHANNA SHAPIRA**  
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