

2022/2023

The Mabin School Annual Report

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IMAGINE WHAT YOU
CAN DO FROM HERE



The Mabin School



Welcome back to The (brand new!) Mabin School. During the 2022/2023 school year, we reopened our doors at 50 Poplar Plains Road and welcomed home students, families, faculty, alumni, and our greater Mabin community. A school transformed, and a Mabin poised for growth and opportunities to come.

This incredible achievement was made possible because of our leadership team, our generous donors, faculty, and our Board of Directors both past and present. To you all we owe a deep debt of gratitude. Thank you for readying The Mabin School for the next 50 years!

As a Mabin graduate, current parent, and Board of Directors Chair, I'm very proud to be a part of Mabin's journey forward as Mabin has always been a second home for its students. The Mabin I once attended has been transformed, and I take great comfort in knowing students will fill our halls for generations to come.

I would like to give special thanks to everyone who helped make our transition back to our school as successful as it was. Our teachers worked tirelessly to reinvigorate our classrooms, and our amazing families brought life back to a school that so longed for in-person experiences again. Thank you everyone for all you achieved to make this past year as special as it was.

Finally, I would like to give special thanks to Mabin's Principal, Nancy Steinhauer, for a wonderful first year back home. Through this past year and since joining The Mabin School in 2016, she has been a passionate educator and relentless advocate for inclusivity, and has always prioritized compassion and acceptance here at Mabin. This past year brought us all together again, and we owe her a sincere thank you for making that happen.

With such a strong and talented team of educators in our classrooms, there is much to be proud of and I look forward to all that's to come.

JUST IMAGINE WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT!



Board of Directors 2022/2023

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Jamie Campbell ('91)

VICE-CHAIR

Emily McKernan

SECRETARY

Ted Meighen ('92)

DIRECTORS

- Bianca Auciello
- Alan Gertner ('96)
- Corinne Godsall
- Sana Halwani
- Mark Jones
- Nii-Apa Lamptey ('91)
- Sam Margolis Fogle
- Jeffrey Orridge
- Michael Roland
- Jason Sarracini
- William Scott

Principal's Report: There's No Place Like Home!

On October 26, 2023, we celebrated the Grand Opening of our Community Learning Lab. Our new build has been 20 years in the making, and has gone through many iterations, many consultations – and as a result suits us very well!



The idea of this addition was to make the learning spaces more effective for the students who are already here. There has been no plan to increase the population of the school – 150 is the perfect size. In fact – there is a name for this number. It is called Dunbar's number, based on the work of Robin Dunbar, a British anthropologist, who suggested that 150 is the cognitive limit to the number of people with whom one can maintain stable social relationships—relationships in which an individual knows who each person is and how each person relates to every other person.

This addition, therefore, was built to make it easier for us to build and maintain the relationships in this building – to allow us space to create, collaborate, communicate, play, and learn together. In its first year, the Community Learning Lab has already allowed us to do what-we-do-best better. For instance, the week before the Grand Opening, the new space hosted a variety of learning opportunities. For example:

- Every single class in the school used the Learning Commons and Art Studio to research topics of inquiry, develop a love of reading, and create original art using a variety of mediums;
- The Grade 5s had a writing conference where they identified goals for their memoirs and participated in self-selected workshops led by their teachers and me, rotating three times through three different stations;
- The Kindies, having found evidence of fairies in the Nordheimer ravine, worked on designing and building fairy playgrounds in the new Art Studio;
- Speaking of art, the JKs, SKs, and Grade 6s started a project together – with their grandparents – with a professional artist to design a mural depicting nature in the city. This mural, a



- 3 dimensional painting which now sits in the Kindergarten entrance – is an opportunity for integration across grades and across generations;
- Our Kindie parents met with a social worker and some of our teachers to learn together about setting boundaries that support child development;
- The Grade 3 and 4 students began to design, with their art teacher, a nook where students can engage in mindful activities and self-regulate – that nook is now an under-the-sea-themed quiet space with student-generated rules and routines;
- Our classroom teachers and Learning Strategies Teachers met with Science of Reading expert Liisa Freure to learn about the latest evidence-based practices in teaching reading;
- After school, our staff met in division teams here to discuss assessment and evaluation and monitor student progress;
- During Integration Time, two of our Houses met there to build together out of cardboard;

- Meanwhile, at lunch one day, one of our teachers led a Dungeons and Dragons club in the Learning Commons for students in Grades 4, 5, and 6.
- I could go on, but you get the idea. Every day, multiple teachers make maximum use of this new space to support their students in creating, collaborating, and communicating. This space is built to facilitate 21st century learning and is helping us nurture the next generation of original thinkers, adaptive leaders, and caring citizens.
- There are many wonderful opportunities that this space affords our current students, and we have also hosted programs in the new space to serve the larger community (hence the name Community Learning Lab) as a place of learning for people 0-99. On most Saturday mornings, for example, we open our Kindergarten space up to the community and invite children 0-5 with their parents and/or caregivers to have a play-based learning experience and forge connections with other families in the community.



Our ongoing intergenerational programs encourage mutually beneficial relationships to blossom between our students and seniors in our community. This space has already housed conferences for parents and educators about important topics in child development, best practices in teaching and learning, and building professional knowledge in children's mental health. In April, we co-hosted the International Association of Laboratory School's annual conference here for lab school educators and leaders from across the globe. Visitors from eight different countries roamed our halls to observe the learning in action.

It is important, also, to note that this renovation was designed to keep the spirit of the original building alive. The old house is an important character in the story of Mabin, and it was important to us to keep the feeling of home. Nevertheless, during the build, every room was improved in some way. We added better flooring, safer infrastructure, and new classrooms. All of our homerooms are now above ground, full of light, and we have a designated space for each of our specialist subjects. And, of course, we have a beautiful new playground which allows us to continue to play all the way around the school, while providing us with new features, like our

track and our stage. There is limitless potential for learning.

We could not have accomplished this slightly miraculous feat without the support of a large portion of our community. This build was the result of the most successful capital campaign the school has ever seen. The support of our current and past families, our staff, and our Board made this evolution of the school possible. The Board of Directors supported our incredible staff through the challenging feat of moving our school off-site and then back on, all in the midst of a global pandemic. Throughout this whole process – the design, the construction, the return – the needs of the students remained at the forefront. We know that the work we have done together as a community to make this building a reality will allow us to create even more inspiring and meaningful learning opportunities for the students, with the students, and by the students.

When Gerry Mabin opened up this beautiful little school in 1980, I'm not sure she imagined that it would evolve into this dynamic, exemplary, far-reaching centre of learning, but it has. Her legacy continues to have a meaningful impact on the many lives this school touches, and our new space makes that even more possible – for our own students, and for the larger community beyond. We are all so grateful to Gerry for establishing the best little school we know. We continue to model excellence in progressive elementary education. It feels good to be home again. Imagine what we can do from here.



Marketing Committee Report

The Mabin School has historically been an “If you know, you know” kind of school. The city’s best kept secret where the next generation of original thinkers, adaptive leaders and caring citizens are born and raised. With our new building - and swagger to match - we decided the time had come for the world to get to know us a little better. The 2022/2023 school year brought the dawn of a new age where strategies to amplify our purpose, curriculum, celebrations and community members were developed and executed with excellence. While we are still learning and adapting, we are so proud of the progress we have made!

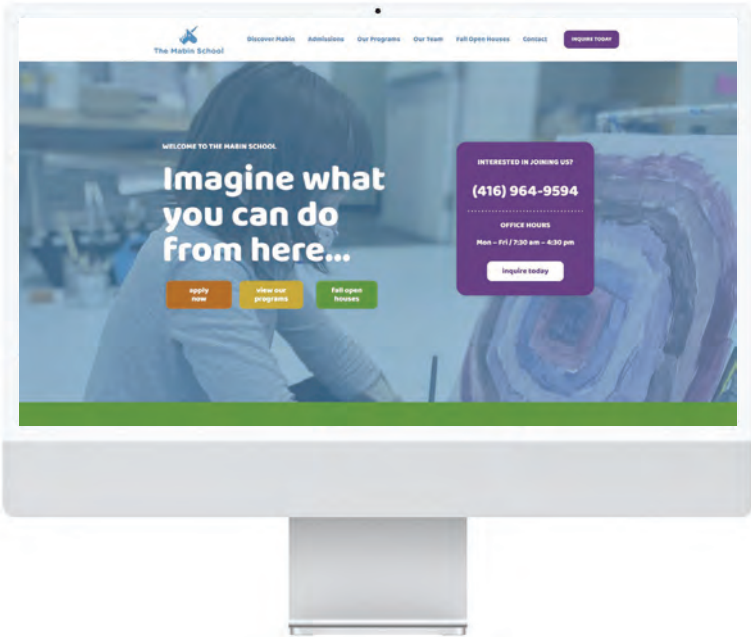
LET’S GET SOCIAL

Our efforts to amplify all things Mabin started by developing a strategy for social media. The goal was to craft an approach that both allowed our existing community members to get a behind-the-scenes look at all of the wonderful Mabin happenings, but also act as a tool to pique the interest of potential new members. Our playbook was distilled to three guiding principles: Educate & Inform, where we profile all things learning and thought leadership; Bond & Connect, where we highlight our students, celebrations and alumni; and lastly Entice & Foster Community, where we promote all of the fun events and partnerships that make Mabin, Mabin.

In addition to a content overhaul, the look and feel of our feeds got a nice glow up to ensure our brand was always present and thoughtful. The result of this mindful approach to social media has translated into a substantial increase in impressions, engagements and followers. We’ve been able to speak to new communities through some of our existing programs like Saturday Morning Choosing Time as well as new initiatives like our Girls in STEM scholarship. Head over to Facebook and Instagram to check it out for yourself, and give us a follow if you haven’t already.

NEW WEBSITE

Thanks to the talented team at Candybox and Launch48, our brand new website is up and running! We completely overhauled the site to ensure the navigation was seamless on all devices and relevant information was easily accessible. In true Mabin style, we’ve taken a nimble approach so we can adapt and evolve the site over time, taking in community member feedback and applying relevant key learnings. We’ve paired this new site with a mindful approach to Google Analytics, to ensure we are targeting the right families and audiences who believe in our mission to join our community.



Strategy & Equity Committee Report

The Mabin Board’s Strategy and Equity Committee had three clear goals for the 2022/2023 school year which aligned with Mabin’s Strategic Plan: to be in high demand by a greater diversity of communities; to address retention by ensuring high demand for JK-Grade 6; and to launch a coordinated focus on Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion capacity-building at the Board level. We are proud to report that we have made significant gains towards each of our goals. The school is currently fully enrolled and our retention rates are the highest they have been in years across all grades.

Diversity in our school population continues to be an ongoing goal for The Mabin School. Throughout last year, the committee worked with the school to identify how to best collect demographic data on our community in an effort to better understand our families’ backgrounds and identities. Broadened outreach to diverse communities through the admissions process helped to attract a wider variety of families to Mabin. This work will continue as we aim to have a school community that reflects the diversity of the city in which we live.

The Mabin Board is committed to ongoing professional development and education around equity and diversity. In November 2022, the Board participated in a workshop facilitated by the KOJO Institute, focused on equity-informed governance. The Board learned about the importance of solid policy and education and the need to establish clear targets and monitoring strategies around equity, diversity and inclusion. This learning sup-

ported the establishment and publishing of The Mabin School’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion statement. The Board will continue to pursue training and education through a variety of workshops this year focused on Equity, Diversity, Justice, Inclusion, Belonging and Acceptance and Truth and Reconciliation. The Strategy and Equity Committee will also support the staff’s development of the school’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan for Continuous Improvement and the extension of the current Strategic Plan to the 2024-2025 school year.

The work of equity and diversity is never done. We are committed to supporting ongoing, meaningful, impactful work in the Mabin community to model excellence in progressive elementary education.



THE MABIN SCHOOL’S EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

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 differences. 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

In fiscal 2023 Mabin did very well to manage its debt amidst a backdrop of significant inflation and rising interest rates. We are back home and our house is in order.

After reviewing various proposals, the school decided to replace the \$5.25 million building-related loan with a revolving credit facility. This strategy allowed Mabin to use cash on hand to pay down debt, lower interest expenses and still have access to the funds needed for operations. We are confident that this strategy positions the school well now and for the future.

For the fiscal year ending June 2023, Mabin posted a deficiency of revenues over expenses of \$39,675 which was a meaningful improvement from Fiscal 2022 (\$155,922). The better result was mostly driven by strong enrollment, new money coming in from camp-related activities, and lower rent expense; partially offset by inflationary pressures and the cost of borrowing.

With a continued focus on financial discipline and a return to a more normalized environment, Mabin should move back towards excess of revenue over expenses. Maintaining a strong financial position and cash flow management continues to be a priority for the Board with the aim to become debt free in the near future. In addition to cash flow from operations, a focus on fundraising and other new reve-

nue streams will help reduce outstanding debt and the cost associated with it.

This year’s audit proved to be another bright spot, with independent auditors Adams and Miles LLP giving a clean audit with no suggestions. A notable first, this audit review highlights the improvement management has made in its financial processes – well done! The Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2023 were approved by the Board and presented at the Annual General Meeting in August, 2023.

Looking forward, the Finance Committee welcomes back Jamie Campbell, Nii-Apa Lamptey, Mike Reid, Steven Silverberg, Norm Chang and welcomes Josh Cait as a new Finance Committee member. We have a great team in place, and we are excited to work closely with management to enable Mabin’s strategic objectives. The committee believes the School is financially stable and well-prepared for what’s to come.

SUMMARY OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	JUNE 30, 2023	JUNE 30, 2022
ASSETS		
Cash and investments	\$165,385	\$4,324,303
Other	\$2,265,501	\$2,683,419
Capital assets, net	\$12,574,547	\$9,414,163
	<u>\$15,005,433</u>	<u>\$16,421,885</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Deferred contributions	\$3,986,236	\$3,638,608
Prepaid fees	\$5,075,463	\$4,512,335
Other liabilities	<u>\$949,130</u>	<u>\$3,236,663</u>
	\$10,010,829	\$11,387,606
Net assets	<u>\$4,994,604</u>	<u>\$5,034,279</u>
	<u>\$15,005,433</u>	<u>\$16,421,885</u>
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		
REVENUE		
Tuition	\$4,577,501	\$4,017,745
Other	\$256,823	\$110,660
Unrestricted donations	<u>\$11,750</u>	<u>\$89,945</u>
	<u>\$4,846,074</u>	<u>\$4,218,350</u>
EXPENSES		
Staffing costs	\$3,507,673	\$3,224,927
Academic programming	\$382,905	\$305,230
Facilities	\$282,511	\$572,021
Administrative & general	\$291,003	\$119,718
Amortization of capital assets	<u>\$421,657</u>	<u>\$152,376</u>
	<u>\$4,885,749</u>	<u>\$4,374,272</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	<u>-\$39,675</u>	<u>-\$155,922</u>



Our Strategic Plan
can also be viewed in
the Board section of our
website at 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

To ‘nurture’ is never more beautifully defined in action than at The Mabin School. In the same way current students are nurtured by the school’s amazing community of teachers and faculty, the Advancement and Alumni Affairs (AAA) committee aims to serve as a through-thread, bringing that care and connection to the broader alumni and parent body. The mission of the committee therefore remains to serve as a catalyst for engagement, as well as a vehicle to support fundraising, all aligned with the school’s strategic goals and initiatives, both annually and longer term.

For the 2022/2023 academic year, our mission was advanced in several ways. First, we completed our successful \$4 million Capital Campaign guided by David Prendergast, who retired from a long and admirable career in fundraising. We celebrated the campaign with a reception for our donors and unveiled our new donor recognition wall. The polka-dot design was inspired by students’ art work



modeled after the work of Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. Both the student art and the donor wall brighten the walls around the accessible ramp leading up to the brand new Community Learning Lab.

Second, Erika Bolliger was hired as the school’s first full-time--and completely wonderful--Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations. David Prendergast worked closely with Erika to ensure a smooth transition into this new role. Erika spent the summer synthesizing all that she has been learning about the school into a dynamic plan to engage current and alumni families alike in the important work giving and getting involved. She has already demonstrated her significant talent and commitment in supporting a culture of philanthropy and gratitude as the school grows into the future.

Third, the school’s strategic prioritization of diversity and plurality of perspectives was applied to the committee itself by inviting alumni to join who are, variously, in high school, university, prospec-



tive parents, current parents, and even a former grandparent. The committee is already benefiting enormously from this rich spectrum of view points and connections to the school.

Finally, aspirations related to the annual fund were exceeded, with the school securing a generous matching donor and surpassing the fundraising goal by

24%. Our goal was \$150,000 and the final total was just over \$192,000. These funds allowed the school to further improve the learning environment with flexible furnishings and improved infrastructure so that all classrooms could function as an effective “third teacher” for our students. Funds were also used to ease the burden of tuition for families who needed financial support to enter or stay in our community, allowing for greater socio-economic diversity in our student body.

As my first year as the committee chair it set a high bar, not only in those tangible metrics, but also for those more difficult to define. It’s a truly wonderful group of thoughtful, talented members, keen on collaboration and open to new ideas. If you’d ever like to learn more about the committee, please reach out to me at corinnegodsall@gmail.com.



Capital Campaign Recognition

The World Needs More Mabin Capital Campaign met and exceeded its ambitious \$4 million fundraising goal thanks to the transformational and generous donations from our community. We gratefully recognize all those who helped The Mabin School realize a dream that was twenty years in the making.

\$500,000 - \$999,999
\$250,000 - \$499,999
\$100,000 - \$249,999
\$50,000 - \$99,999
\$25,000 - \$49,999
10,000 - \$24,999
\$5,000 - \$9,999
\$1,000 - \$4,999
\$500 - \$999
\$25 - \$499

Aitken Family
Alan Gertner & Family
Alda & Luke Gordon & Family
Alexis & Jordan Slatt
Alice & Charles Roy
Amber & Stafan Coolican
Andrew & June Bachman
Angela Morton & Robert Bastianon
Anita Townsend
Anonymous Donor
Anonymous Donor
Anonymous Donor
Anonymous Donors
Anonymous Donors (6)
Athena & Jason Sarracini
Atkins Family
Bandali Florence Family
Bergeron Family
Bianca Auciello & David Veneziano
Bill Switzer, Nan Shuttleworth & Hugh
Birch-Young Family
Carla Williamson & Eugene Earnshaw

Carly Gleser & Jeffrey Orridge
Carol Gray & Family
Caroline & Matt Rubinoff
Carrie & Ryan Shaw
Casey & Eric Silverberg
Chris Swail & Jeff Hull
Christopher & Lynne Stoyan
Christy Barber
Corinne & Jonathan Godsall
Cystem Contractors
Dana & Shauna Baitz
David Prendergast
Dinah Luxton & Stephen Luengo
Don & Denyse Green & Family
Donald F. Hunter Charitable Foundation
e.p.i.c. School
Egy & Rose Family
Ellie Hisama & Anton Vishio
Erica & Adam Berlin & Family
Erica & Mark Tait
Erla Glesby
Felicia Zhang & Hai Zhao & Family
Fleur Leslie & Dinesh Mahtani
Freeman Family
Gale Family
Gerry Mabin
Glen Campbell
Gratias Family
Halwani MacNeill Family
Hilary, Jody, Lauren, Evan & Andrew Berkes
Jacinda Barrett & Gabriel Macht
Jack Chu & Martina Wang
Jackman Foundation
Jacob & Jessica Perlitz
Jamie Campbell & Susan Tory & Family
Jana Henderson & John Pierce
Jay Horwitz & Natasha Moore
Jennifer & Noah Waisberg

Jenny & Corey Elmaleh & Family
Jeremy Weisstub & Jessica Ennis
Jill & Andrew Miller
Joanne Chmara & Karl Loszak
Joanne Fleming
John Kroeker, Aglaya Redekopp & Family
John Tory & Barbara Hackett
Jonathan Bloomberg & Emily Burnett
Julia Tom & Eildert Beeftink
Julie Irving & Adam Lipper
Junhong Xu & Xiaowu Yi
Kate McGilvray & David Pathe
Kathryn From & Shawn, Logan &
Josephine Thompson
Kathryn Tinckam & Takashi Yamashita
Katy & Justin Cohen
Katy DeCelles & John Shriver-Blake
Kerri Sakamoto & Daniel Tisch
Koerner Doyle Family
Laura & Michael Reid & Family
Lauren & Gabriel Granatstein & Family
Lauren & Steven Silverberg & Family
Lawrence Ho & Family
Leah & Aaron Izenberg
Lesley Shore
Lesley Stoyan & Christopher Trussell
Levinsky Family
Lia Chiarotto & Stephen O'Brien
Lili Litwin
Lindi & Michael Hollend
Lisa Ritchie & Family
Lisa, James, Maddy & Noah Brooks
Lobo Campanotti Family
Mabin School Parents Association
Mabin Staff
Maggie, Simon, Isabel & Olivia
Mammoliti Family
Marcia Taggart & Greg Sainsbury
Margaret Stuart & Dougal Clark
Maya Goldenberg & Gideon Chemel
Meighen Family Foundation
Melissa & Matt Picken
Melissa Nutik & Saul Mandelbaum
Meri, Jason, Miles, Romy & Stella Menkes
Michael & Brooke Yasskin
Michelle Barchuk
Morin Family
Nancy Steinhauer & Family
Nancy Young & Geddy Lee Weinrib
Naomi Gaskin
Nicole Kagan & Jonas Chernick

Nii-Apa Lamptey
Northup Family
Pam, Jordy, Hayley & Brandon Mecklinger
Paola S. Cohen
Patrick Hyland
Perren Family
Popper Family
Rachana Bhomavat & Shrirang Apte & Family
Rachel Jefferies & Mark Jones
Rana Solianik & Norman Chang & Family
Ricard & Capone Family
Roisin & Atul Tiwari
Roland Family
Rosemary Evans
Royer Family
Rubinoff Family Foundation
Safrani Ismail Family
Samantha & Jordan Fogle
Samara Walbohm & Joseph Shlesinger
Sammy Litchen-Erlick & Jamie Erlick
Sarah & Brett Flint
Sarah McClelland & Ron Kurt
Sasha Jennings
Satov Family
Serena Nudel
Shan Li & Helen Jaidyn An
Shapira Family
Shawn Heissler & Jack Bensimon
Shawna McLaughlin & David Wilson
Shelly & Lynn Seligman
Shields-McLean Family
Sonja & Gary Berman & Family
Sorbara & Sillaots Family
Stephen & Karen Diamond & Family
Student Fundraising
Sue & Jeremy Creed & Family
Susan Perren
Tamatha Burske
Tamara & Tim Baron
Teresa & Steven Cline
The Green & Bekhor Families
The Hilary and Galen Weston Foundation
Tiffany Klein & Dan Goodman & Family
Valerie & Dave Tih
Vivianne & Alexander Gransden
Wigdor Family
William Scott & Stephan Jost
Wiyang Li & Chengwen Ao
Yijia You & Zhiyu Du
Ying (Linda) Guo & Weiming Gao Family
Zoe Coombes & David Boira



The Pathway to Mabin Brick Campaign

The Pathway to Mabin Brick Campaign allowed donors to support our capital campaign and leave a lasting legacy along the pathway to our new Community Learning Lab. These bricks raised over \$70,000. Thank you to our Brick Campaign donors:

Atkins Family
Bachmann Family
Baker Family
Bandali Florence Family
Bekhor & Green Family
Boekelman Family
Campbell Family
Chen & Sun Family
Creed Family
Cubitt Family
David Prendergast
Diamond Family
Drs. Diana & Jaron Yau
Elmaleh Family
Erlick Family
Fireman & McKernan Family
Fogle Family
Fouli Family
Glen Campbell & Family
Godsall Family
Granatstein Family
Halwani MacNeill Family
James & Bianca Roy
Jonathan Shriver-Blake
Jones Family
Juarez Family
Katie Gertner & Gale Family
Kellner Family
Knezevic Family
Kroeker & Redekopp Family
Lampthey Family
The Mabin School Board of Directors
The Mabin School Parents' Association
Maniaci Family
Mann Family
Mecklinger Family
Meighen Family

Menkes Family
Michelle Barchuk
Nancy Steinhauer
Orridge Family
Pearl Family
Perren Family
Pierce Family
Reid Family
Roland Family
Royer Family
Ruda & Solow-Ruda Family
Safrani Family
Sainsbury Family
Sajnani Family
Sara Wilson
Sarracini Family
Scopa Family
Shapira Family
Shields-McLean Family
Silverberg Family
Silverberg Family
Simone Levey
Slatt Family
Slutsky Family
Sorbara Family
Starkman Family
Steinhauer Family
T.R. Meighen Family Foundation
Tait Family
Tih Family
Tory Family
Tsimikalis Family
Veneziano Family
Venture Construction
Vergara Jadad Family
Waisberg Family

Development Committee Report

The Development Committee is pleased and excited to share this message with all Mabin families and supporters, past and present.



This year we saw our children returning “home”. The building at 50 Poplar Plains Road took on new life as the spaces that had been created started to be used and experienced in different ways. Our building became a school once again! We learned about what worked and what didn’t and, more importantly, we learned how your children and the Mabin community wanted to use and experience their new home.

Decisions that had been made some years before were put to the test for the first time, and whilst the excitement of our new home grew, we finished up some of the loose ends in the background. In true Mabin style, our donor wall was created and the finishing touches and installations added.

In October 2022, we had our grand opening attended by donors, families, friends, students, staff and teachers. Since re-opening, we have been able to return to hosting school-wide events, like our Gingerbread Build, Winter Solstice, Pink Shirt Day, Mabin Day, Pride celebrations, and more! Grandparents and seniors are once again able to join us for intergenerational art programming and our school continues to come alive on Saturday mornings during Choosing Time for any family with children 0-5 years old.

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 own children and beyond.

Parents’ Association Report

We were so excited going into the 2022/2023 school year! We were all back together at 50 Poplar Plains Road for the first time in two years and we were able to bring back many events that we had not been able to hold since before the pandemic (and even introduce some new ones!). The main goal of Mabin’s Parents’ Association (PA) is to build community among all of the stakeholders in the school and this is much easier to do when we are all together. Here is a quick synopsis of the events we supported over the course of the past year:



THE MABIN BBQ

Our annual community BBQ was a great way to start the year. The PA hosted this event and provided food, drinks and music for staff, students, parents, caregivers and alumni to all come together and celebrate. A special thank you to the Grade 5 and 6 students for setting up fun games for all! It was the first time we were able to host our fall BBQ since 2019. We were so happy to be able to do so back home at 50 Poplar Plains Road and take advantage of our beautifully renovated space. The BBQ is always such a fun way to kick off a new school year and build a sense of community.

PIZZA LUNCHES

Students were happy to have pizza every Friday again. This was the first time since before the pandemic that we were able to enjoy pizza lunches all together and we were fortunate to have many enthusiastic parent volunteers helping us out every week. Pizza lunches came with a fruit and/or vegetable every day. Also, in response to a letter sent to us by some Grade 3 students, we offered cookies once a month during May and June as a special treat.



HOT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

In order to help with serving the hot lunch program we coordinated parent volunteers to come in every day from Monday-Thursday. This is always such a fun way to get new parents involved and to be able to see the kids in action during their school day.

CLASS SOCIALS & CLASS PARTIES

Class Reps started out the year by organizing socials for their class. We gave class reps the choice to do what worked best for their class – parent social or whole class social. Different classes had different needs and we felt that the Class Reps were best positioned to make a decision that made sense in terms of building community within each cohort. At the end of the school year, Class Reps organized individual class parties.

NEW PARENTS' RECEPTION

The PA was on hand at our New Parents' Reception before Curriculum Night in September to greet parents, answer questions and hand out welcome gifts to all of our new families.

CLOTHING DRIVE

The PA organized a clothing drive near the end of November to help students in need at Rose Avenue Public School. The Mabin community collected 45 new and gently used snowsuits, 30 pairs of mittens, 30 hats and 15 pairs of boots to donate.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GINGER-BREAD FUNDRAISER

The PA has always supported this event in the past but this year was the first that we took the lead in organizing the annual Gingerbread Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity. We had a great time gathering at the school on a Sunday afternoon in December to decorate our gingerbread houses (and eat a lot of candy). The event raised close to \$4000 for Habitat for Humanity.



FLOWERS AT THE WINTER CONCERT

We provided individually wrapped flowers for parents to pick up and give to their children at our winter concert after the performance.

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 2022/2023 the honour was awarded to Penpa Tsering, Mabin's wonderful custodian. Congratulations, Penpa!

PARENT SOCIAL

This year the PA hosted a parents' night where we invited all parents to attend a workshop at Action Potential Lab. This was held in the evening and we provided pizza, drinks and snacks. We had a great group of parents attend and had so much fun working through the various activities the Action Potential Lab staff organized for our group.



MABIN DAY

We were so excited to be able to host the first Mabin Day party back at the newly renovated school. The theme this year was Mabin's Got Talent and the highlight of the event was definitely the talent show - what an incredibly talented group of students and staff! We provided pizza,



ice cream and snacks and the Grade 5 and 6 students organized various stations for everyone. This was a great opportunity for students, teachers, parents, staff and alumni to gather and celebrate all things Mabin - and we even had a special guest appearance by our founder Gerry Mabin herself!

BOOK EXCHANGE

We collected gently used books for distribution to our students at school in June. Using our newly renovated Learning Commons, PA volunteers set up the donated books around the room and classes came in pairs to select two to three books to take home. Older grades were paired with younger ones to help the children make their selections. Books that were not chosen were donated to the Children’s Book Bank following the event.

STAFF APPRECIATION

We were pleased to be able to provide a staff luncheon for all of the teachers and staff in both December and June as well as various treats throughout the school year. 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 and in June each gift was wrapped in a new Mabin tote bag. The gifts are always well received and this year was no exception.



CLOTHING SALES

This year the PA offered various clothing items for sale, including Mabin sweats, hats, t-shirts and totes. We received a lot of positive feedback from these sales and it was great seeing the kids walking around in their new Mabin gear!

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 2022/2023 school year!

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