



Annual General Meeting Report—Wednesday, October 16, 2019

It is a pleasure to welcome our St. Clement's community to the Annual General Meeting this evening, and to present my report on the 2018-2019 school year in which I share the many successes our students and School have enjoyed over the year.

This past year saw the completion of our second year of our 2017-2020 Strategic Plan which was an extended focus on past priorities including Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Leveraging our Close-Knit Community, and Ensuring Future Sustainability. We are pleased with our accomplishments to date including, but not limited to:-

- Our School's timetable has been adapted and implemented with positive feedback from the majority of students, staff and parents.
- As a result of commitment from our staff and purposeful relationship-building, the School has deepened connections with partners such as Wandering Spirit School in Toronto, Moose Cree First Nation in Moose Factory, Ontario, and the Kasisi Project in Uganda. All of these connections will enhance our girls' opportunities for learning and understanding.
- A Grades 1 to 8 audit of the School's teaching and learning was initiated in order to ensure our program's equity, diversity and inclusivity.
- Significant work has been done on our Campus Master Plan to consider urgent facilities needs in support of our girls' learning.
- With our Alumnae network *SCSConnect* now in place for a year, and continuing to grow, we are able to leverage connections not only amongst alumnae but also with the School. Alumnae have been able to post and have success in acquiring employment, and they have overwhelmingly indicated their interest in connecting with and supporting our girls and the School.
- The support of the School's Parents' Association (PA) contributes significantly to our close-knit community. Closer connections with the School's Academic Administration and faculty has enhanced the community's engagement with, and enabled increased understanding about, our programs.
- The implementation of our School's Diversity Strategy has been supported by the PA through their ongoing sponsorship of our LINCWell Speakers' Series. Last year's theme was diversity, and our community benefited from hearing Hadiye Roderique, Dr. Leonard Sax and Dr. Buju Dasgupta. In addition, signage with our School's Mission, Values and Diversity Statement has now been finalized and posted.
- The recommitment to a small school population while ensuring exceptional faculty and staff has been paramount and the School will continue with this focus into the future.
- The School's clearer focus on creating compelling cases for philanthropy has resulted in outstanding support from our community including:-
 - surpassing our Annual Fund goal of \$600,000 to enable the refurbishing of each of a Junior, Middle and Senior School classroom;
 - raising a remarkable \$350,000 for our roof project to be completed for the fall of 2020; and
 - the exceptional response from all constituents to our Philanthropy Survey in the spring, informing and confirming the School's work on facilities and fundraising.
- The School's endowment growth continues with important programs such as our Grad Class Gift which endeavors to have each graduating class raise over \$25,000 to be endowed and directed to financial aid.

We have indeed, set a strong foundation for our new 2020-2025 Plan, which is in the very early stages.

Academic excellence and rigour is the quality for which St. Clement's has been best known through history. Our 54 graduates of 2019 were accepted into their universities of choice in Canada, the United States, and abroad. Over the last four years, our graduates have received an average of \$1.25 million in scholarships. Five of our 2019 graduates started their next stage of learning internationally – one at each of the following universities: The University of Edinburgh, Scotland, University of California, Berkeley, University of Nottingham,

England, Tufts University, Massachusetts, and Tulane University, Louisiana in the USA. 48 are studying at Canadian universities of every size and in every region, and one student is on a gap year.

The Class of 2019 is engaged across many fields of study:- Life Sciences, including kinesiology, nutrition, and medical science; Applied Science, including nursing, chemical and physical sciences; Engineering, including biomedical, industrial, systems and computing, mechanical, and environmental; Business Administration, including commerce, management, financial mathematics, and organizational studies; Combined Arts and Science; Media Studies, including media, information and technoculture; Architecture; Liberal Arts and Social Science; Contemporary Dance; professional programs, including medicine and veterinary medicine and surgery.

Our 2019 Grads and their parents are the fifth graduation year in a row to endow a Grad Class Scholarship Fund for financial aid by raising \$28,810. This outstanding achievement leaves a legacy with which each girl can connect in the years ahead. It also reinforces an example for future graduating classes. The securing of endowments for financial aid enables the School to fulfil what has always been a priority - ensuring that mission-fit girls regardless of means are able to attend St. Clement's.

Advanced Placement (AP) results were very strong last year with St. Clement's producing an outstanding ten AP Scholars; six AP Scholars with Honour; 16 AP Scholars with Distinction, and eight National AP Scholars. Two students received their AP International Capstone Diploma, and two students received their AP Capstone Diplomas. SCS students wrote 209 AP exams in 13 subject areas and our winners of the AP National Scholars Award yet again making SCS one of the top AP Girls School in Ontario.

Our students are involved in many academic contests and competitions over the school year, and continue to achieve impressive results.

St. Clement's students wrote many Math and Science contests this year and achieved high standards relative to their peers in other schools:-

Math

- We had outstanding results in the Math contests in 2018-2019 with a large number of Grade 9 to 12 students opting to write these optional contests.
- In the Waterloo competitions, we had 46 certificates of distinction awarded to students in Grades 9 to 12 for being in the top 25% of all contest writers.
- In the Euclid competition one of our Grade 10 students placed in the top 0.6% of the 24,000 students writing - the Euclid is Waterloo's most difficult Grade 12 contest.
- We had a student place 12th in the Canadian Intermediate Mathematics competition, which is an incredible achievement.
- The St. Clement's Grade 10 team placed 39th in Canada on the Galois Math competition.

Science

- Chem 13 News Exam, sponsored by the University of Waterloo, is an optional contest written by AP Chemistry students. Last year we had 12 students write the exam, with five students scoring in the top 25th percentile.
- The Avogadro Chemistry Contest, sponsored by the University of Waterloo is an optional contest written by Grade 10 and 11 students, last year we had 12 students write the exam, with seven students scoring in the top 25th percentile.

In addition, as a result of our new timetable we have been able to use common flex time for a new and innovative Grade 11 STEAM project. Our Grade 11s learned about the Design Thinking process and applied brainstorming and ideation strategies to develop a solution to a complex problem of their choice. The project culminated in the girls presenting their solutions in April.

Students were active participants at the Southern Ontario Model United Nations (SOMA) this year, representing countries from all over the world. In association with the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of

Toronto, a team of six students participated in the Global Ideas Institute. Our team investigated the topic of excessive plastic waste accumulation and designed a solution that, according to the judges, was "creative, feasible [and] innovative."

Our Languages Department had many achievements from last year:-

French

- 15 students represented SCS at the Concours D'art Oratoire, the French public speaking contest for Independent schools, 12 students from Grades 4 to 8 competed at the Toronto Montessori Schools in Richmond Hill, and three Upper School students represented SCS at the Alliance Française
 - two students placed 1st in their category;
 - five students placed 2nd in their category;
 - one student placed 3rd in her category.

Diplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française (DELF)

- with the launch of DELF program at SCS, students are able to sit an exam and earn a certificate in French language proficiency (similar to the TOEFL for English) - one student successfully completed the B2 level with an average of mid-80s - confirming her full independence in French.

Spanish

- One student achieved 5th place in the Grade 11 Spanish category at the Ontario Secondary School Spanish Contest.

Classical Languages

- One student was recognised for the best composition in school for the SCRIBO International Latin Composition.
- 18 Senior Classics and Latin students took part at the annual Ontario Student Classics Conference at Brock University where SCS brought home over 50 ribbons competing in 60 categories and achieved 6th place overall in the province.
- Medusa Mythology Exam saw:-
 - three of our students won the Corona Olivae certificate;
 - one of our students won the Corona Laurea certificate for Superior Achievement.
- National Latin Exam written in the spring saw:
 - two students achieved results cum laude;
 - two students achieved results magna cum laude;
 - four students were awarded silver, maxima cum laude for their achievements.
- National Classical Etymology Exam is optional where students examine English words derived from Latin and Greek roots:-
 - three students won bronze medals;
 - three students won silver medals;
 - four students won gold medals.

Papyrus, our annual student art and literary book was nominated for the Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literary Magazines (REALM) First Class Award, the second highest award given, and one of only two Canadian schools to be recognized at this level. The REALM program is designed to encourage all schools to develop literary magazines that celebrate the art and craft of writing.

October 2018 saw SCS hosting the annual International Independent Schools Public Speaking Competition (IISPSC), an intensive four-day tournament with high school students from around the world competing at the highest level in a variety public speaking and debating events. It was a full-school and full-community effort, and by all accounts, it was a great success of which we should all be very proud. Along with our hosting duties, we had competitors in the IISPSC: a Grade 12 student earned 1st place in the after-dinner speaking category, which qualified her for the Worlds tournament; in the tradition of the IISPSC, she also had the distinction of presenting her speech at the end of the closing gala dinner.

In November, our keen group of Grade 9 debaters won the overall team title at the Zommers Cup debate competition at University of Toronto Schools. It was SCS's first-ever victory in this annual event.

At the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Competition at Branksome Hall in the spring, the same Grade 12 who did so well when we hosted the IISPSC was SCS's sole representative. Here she performed very well and earned a spot in the finals in the impromptu speaking category, where she earned a top-ten finish. This is a very impressive result, and we are extremely proud to have had her represent SCS, both inside and outside the competition rooms.

Our Clementines have continued to excel in the area of Computer Science and Robotics. Our programs have grown and have inspired students over the past year.

Last year we once again hosted a Lego Robotics Tournament at SCS. We welcomed over 100 students from Grades 6 to 10 competing for a spot at the provincial championships. The tournament was very successful, with St. Clement's Grads refereeing and judging, parents organizing logistics, and current students organizing volunteers and the scorekeeping. Our senior team qualified for provincials where they achieved outstanding results, earning two call-backs, and winning the core-values award.

Our Computer Science and Robotics students attained a number of very notable achievements:

The VEX teams had an outstanding year. Our student leaders coached four competitive teams – 416A, 416B, 416C and 416X, who participated in three qualifying events during the season.

Our teams grew stronger with each qualifier and worked hard to improve their robot designs. Two of our teams entered the provincial level held in St. Catharines during February. An incredibly proud moment for our teams was when, for a brief moment during the competition, one of our teams ranked first of all 60 teams. Not uncommon to SCS, our teams displayed incredible team spirit and won two energy awards in recognition of their unparalleled enthusiasm.

This is the first year that SCS ran a Programming Team as a separate co-curricular activity and we entered three different competitions. We were rewarded with two teams qualifying for the regional qualifying competition where SCS was the only school with two all-female teams at the event.

We had a successful season athletically with many notable finishes in our 2018-2019 athletics season:

- Junior (Grade 10) Cross Country Team was CISAA champions, and went on to run at OFSAA along with one Novice (Grade 9) and one Senior runner who finished 2nd and 3rd at CISAA respectively.
- Alpine – Open Team CISAA Champions – a Grade 11 student placed 1st at CISAA, Open Team went to OFSAA and won the OFSAA Slalom championship!
- Winter Swim Team finished 2nd place at the CISAA Championship and sent seven swimmers to the OFSAA Championship.
- Junior Softball earned silver medals at CISAA.
- Junior Girls Tennis earned silver medals at CISAA.
- Senior Girls Tennis – CISAA Champions and our CISAA champions in Senior Tennis, went on to play at OFSAA where they won a silver medal in Open Girls Doubles.
- Senior Track and Field – 13 girls qualified for Metros and three qualified and competed in the OFSAA championship - amazing results across the board, including a gold medal finish in senior girls' high jump.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award, an important component of our Experiential Education program, was well-subscribed and saw three gold, six silver and 25 bronze awards achieved by our girls. As well, for the new Grade 7 and 8 level co-curricular award, we had 11 receive their Blue Anchor Award, and seven are working on their Red Anchor Awards.

Last year was another very successful one in the Arts.

St. Clement's continues to excel at the Kiwanis Music Festival and received a \$150 award from the Kiwanis Club of Toronto Foundation. The Primary, Grade 4, Grade 5 and Grade 6 Choirs received silver standing and the Junior Choir was awarded with a gold standing.

At the Kiwanis Dance Competition, our Grades 4 and 5 Dance Teams earned silver, Grade 6 earned gold, and Grades 7 and 8 Dance Teams earned bronze.

As a part of the Canadian Independent Schools Music Festival, three SCS instrumentalists performed as members of the Symphonic Band, Strings Orchestra and Wind Ensemble respectively. SCS was also well represented with Grade 5 students performing as a part of the Junior Choir.

Dramatic productions at St. Clement's continued to flourish with the Middle School producing *Anne of Green Gables* and the Senior School producing *The Sound of Music* last year to enthusiastic and large audiences.

SCS also participated in the Canadian Independent Schools Drama Festival in Stratford, Ontario. Here they engaged in various interactive workshops run by industry professionals. In addition to seeing a production of *Billy Elliott*, the girls also delivered their own 20-minute original piece written by a Grade 11 student.

The Lumina Fashion and Design Show, in its twelfth year, involved over 75 Upper School students. Three performances were held in the spring, with the theme focused on "The Future". Proceeds from the auction of the clothes after the show and from sales of ticket, amounting to \$8,448.76 were donated to SKETCH, a local organization that fosters growth and interpersonal development in young people through the arts "a studio for young people living homeless or on the margins, navigating poverty, to make all kinds of art".

As we continue to build understanding of and engagement in communities beyond our school walls, we seek to provide students and staff at St. Clement's with the opportunity to learn about our community and different needs within it, to say thank you and further strengthen existing partnerships.

We continued our connection with St. Clement's Church in various capacities, including it being the site of the Grade 10 leadership retreat, contributing to the Thanksgiving food drive and our volunteer program with Grade 8 students at the St. Clement's Church weekly community drop-in lunch. The latter was subscribed to by many of the students more than once. Middle School card making for the Christmas season was much appreciated again this year.

School-wide community events and partnerships included a full-school Terry Fox Run at Eglinton Park, a year-long program of awareness and support for Camp Awakening, which "offers summer camp programs that give youth with physical disabilities the opportunity to increase independence, make lasting friendships and accomplish [new] things". The third annual winter food drive supporting the families of the First Nations School of Toronto, a long-term partner through our senior Indigenous Studies course, was highly successful. Junior School, once again, had their annual holiday visits to Briton House, Cedarhurst and Sunnybrook K-Wing. The Horizons peer-tutoring program with Stanley Public School continued on a weekly basis, and we welcomed approximately 30 Stanley students for a March Break Camp week led by our senior students.

Many of our Senior School students engaged in collecting and packaging hygiene products for "The Period Purse, Project", a successful ongoing student-directed connection, through the year. In relation to this issue, working with our new partnership in Uganda, the Design Course made connections regarding menstrual pad designs in step with the Kasiisi Project's directives. Preparation for first student visit to Kasiisi in March 2020 was also initiated during this year and included three staff members visiting Uganda in July.

Leadership is an important skill for our girls to learn about and acquire from Grades 1 to 12. Leadership retreats and workshops were held through the year for particular grades to introduce and explore leadership concepts and aspects of the framework as they apply to the different learners. The Grade 12s were successfully introduced to a new Leadership Certificate intended to recognize our graduates' commitment to their own leadership development and contribution to the community through completing a number of credit requirements. Over 80% of the Grad Class members chose to complete this certificate.

Environmental issues continue to challenge and inspire various initiatives at SCS through the year. New waste bin systems with proper sorting of waste materials and working with our lunch providers to reduce packaging materials proved very effective in curbing waste impact. A used textiles collection steered almost 1,000 pounds of material away from landfills, and used battery collection continued in an ongoing manner. Environment education and awareness reached all corners of the SCS community; in June St. Clement's was awarded a gold certificate from Eco Schools, for the second time in six years.

As a member of the Round Square organization, St. Clement's School is afforded many opportunities for global connections and increased awareness of the importance of engaged citizenship locally, nationally and internationally. The Six Pillars, or IDEALS, alongside the new Discovery Framework are a focus in our actions and communication.

Each year, Upper School students from St. Clement's are invited to apply to contribute to service projects around the world, or to participate in international conferences in North America and abroad. Last year four students and two staff participated in the Round Square International Conference (RSIC), ages 15 to 17, in Ottawa. Two senior students went to Sri Lanka on the RSIS Big Build project in December 2018. During March Break, nine students from SCS and six from Crescent School joined in a trip to Colombia, exploring Bogotá, Villa De Leyva and Cartagena.

Students and staff participated in the Round Square Regional Conference (RSRC), ages 15 to 17, in Lima, Peru. Throughout the year, students went on exchange to Edinburgh, Scotland and Melbourne, Australia, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Sherbrooke, Quebec. The Round Square senior student committee focused on creating commitments for students to consider when they travel on trips, plus successful fundraising at the Snowflake Sale and selling donuts.

Our Middle School Round Square program (for Grades 7 to 9) saw students travel to Belize in mid-March 2019 to learn about the culture in San Ignacio, participate in a service project, trek through the Cockscomb Basin and explore the Belizean Barrier Reef.

While we work hard at St. Clement's School to create an experience that prepares our girls and young women for the future, the additional support that we are so fortunate to have cannot go unrecognized. St. Clement's is not only blessed with a committed and hardworking staff but it is also through time, treasury and talent from parents, grandparents, alumnae and friends, St. Clement's is able to maintain its place as one of the best girls' institutions in the country.

St. Clement's success would not be what it is without the support of both our St. Clement's Alumnae Association, led again this year by Sarah Campbell, and our Parents' Association, led so remarkably by John Sayers. These partnerships are paramount to both our community strength as well as to our sustainability as an institution.

Sarah, we look forward to ongoing work with our Alumnae Association as we work purposefully on enhancing the link between current students and alumnae to enable enriched programming and opportunities. I do want to take this opportunity to recognize John's work as he now takes on the role of Past-President of the Parents' Association. John worked in partnership with the School and continued to contribute to bridging communication between home and school. He focused on engaging our parents in conversations about the School's programs and for that we are very thankful. John, on behalf of St. Clement's, I would like to present you with a token of our appreciation.

St. Clement's School is blessed, not only with a tremendous staff and Administrative Team but a strong and committed Board of Governors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Governors not only for their support of our work but for their strong strategic leadership and fiduciary sense. In addition, and in my mind, equally important, they bring thoughtful questions, an important critical eye and tremendous support of our leadership team and staff. This is something for which I am very grateful and sets St. Clement's up so well for the future.

This evening marks the departure of two of our Governors and I wish to thank them for all that they have provided to SCS.

Rob Chadwick has completed his two, three year terms, and been our Chair of the Property Committee for four years. At a time when we are working on our Campus Master Plan, Rob and his committee's work cannot be underestimated. Rob has provided good focus, thoughtful advice and assisted in us continuing our momentum towards making our facilities enhancements a reality. Rob, on behalf of SCS, I would like to give this token of appreciation to you.

Reverend Andrew Federle has been on our Board as a representative of St. Clements Church for three years. Our relationship with St. Clement's Church is an important one and we are so pleased to have continued to strengthen this partnership. Andrew has also been a great support to me along the way and a valuable person with whom to reflect on leadership and community. Andrew, on behalf of the School, please accept this token of our appreciation.

I wish also to thank Brian Denega, Chair of our Board. The relationship between Board Chair and Principal is of paramount importance. I am so grateful to Brian for his time, his patience and his perspective. He is a great partner and I appreciate the work we do together as we prepare for the future of the School.

St. Clement's is at a very exciting time. With our community's input and feedback, a forward-thinking Board and a superb Administrative Team and staff, I have no doubt that there are great times ahead.

This concludes my Annual General Meeting report.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Perry '85
Principal