

## ATTENDANCE

Duke of Connaught: B. O'Brien, K. Helpert, C. Gambacourt

SAC: Bev Grondin (Chair), Tanya Barrett (Chair), Margie Akins (Co-Secretary), Colin Foster (Co-Secretary), Rachel Schmidt (Co-Treasurer), Daniela Fermo (Co-Treasurer), Ameet Sengar (Ward Rep), Jennifer Farr (Co-Fundraising)

Sign-In: Jill Hollingsworth, Laurie Barnett, Adene Kuchera

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Welcome and request for all other business – pizza lunch (J. Hollingsworth)
- 2) Approval of Minutes
- 3) Treasurer's Report
  - Fundraising ideas for next year
  - Budget approval for next year
- 4) Ward Report
- 5) Review of year end survey
- 6) Principal's Report
  - Academic review
  - Staffing
  - Extracurricular
  - Facilities
- 7) All other business:
  - Parking Lot

### **2) Approval of Minutes**

Minutes approved by Colin and Tanya.

### **3) Treasurers Report**

- Creator Fair - \$1000
  - The maker part was a hit, and the new location. It wasn't as busy as previous years because it was on a weekend. **[note from Bev...not sure this is exactly what was said since it was historically on a weekend. We think we could make it more successful as a mid-week event next year]**
- Teacher allotment (\$150 for classroom enhancement) was well received and almost all used.
- Main bank account almost at \$20k. Spent our PRO Grant on math workshop. Just applied for mental health workshops (\$1000). TDSB grant is at about \$1300. Other money is at \$3500, to be carried forward.
- SPENDING: Draft budget for next school year was created to get next year's SAC going

as soon as possible. Estimated \$15k carried forward. Some \$7000 is ear-marked for the play that is happening next year.

- Main thing: over \$50k in funding requests. SAC is trying to accommodate \$38k of those (e.g. stage curtain will not be accommodated).
- Mobile gardens was a big request (\$6000 over 3 years – they’re applying for grants too).
  - It was suggested that SAC or requester look into businesses that provide funds for green initiatives. Example: garden centre can donate plants, home depot can donate lumber, etc.
- New backboards on basketball nets so that they adjust in height in the Woodfield Gym – fund 1 pair a year over 3 years (\$3500 for 1<sup>st</sup> year).
- Decided to reduce what we’re offering teachers for enrichment (\$150 to \$100). Totals \$5000.
- Did not have enough volunteers for events which didn’t raise enough funds to do all we wanted to do. Example: we spent \$2500 on Creator Fair (of \$5000) and made \$1000. This year was lowest volunteer count in recent years.
  - SAC is trying a new approach that will have satellite committees functioning independently on one specific task (e.g. grant writers, catering) instead of coming to monthly meetings etc. There is a committee formed that will do food at all events next year, so parents aren’t scrambling for dinner.
- Learning Commons (Library) – requested \$3000. Just made \$3000 donation to library so we’ll donate \$1000 for now. If we make more money than projected next year then we’ll meet the \$3000 goal.
- Funding Performances (e.g. Tribal Vision, Sean Booth) - \$2500 budget to ensure that these continue to be funded. Children from all grades get access to at least one performance.
- \$4000 towards technology – likely sensory carts. Leaving wiggle room for other requests by using “technology” terminology.
- Instruments need to be repaired and replaced – SAC is funding half.
- Grad needs an increased budget. Refreshments for 400 people at \$350 doesn’t work. Next year \$500 has been requested.
- Boat Cruise – allotted \$1000, camp subsidies are \$3000.
- Community In-Reach was \$3000 this year to help any student in need, but only \$500 was used. We’ve budgeted \$1000 next year.
- This draft budget will be online and **not set in stone**. It also has to be voted on by the 2018/2019 SAC Executive first. At the September meeting this year the budget was due to be finalized in October and was rushed so the SAC has

developed this draft. We also don't know who will be elected next year. SAC is just trying to provide a working document for next year. The final approval is in the Fall. We can also get some project-specific volunteers based on the draft suggestions.

- For increased volunteers, have the Duke SAC brochure ready for the first week of school. Also have SAC presence at Curriculum night. New parents are generally more willing to volunteer.
- FUNDRAISING IDEAS (different from before)
  - Find high-income, low-volunteer events.
  - Wine survivor - \$10 to join, \$15 buy-in (bottle or LCBO gift card). Collections for a few weeks. Then start draw. If your name is drawn then you're out. Pay \$5 for immunity. Last 5 names in get to split bottles/cash. Start mid-September, draw mid-October [**until early December -- added by Bev**].
  - Jungle Sport – organization that comes and sets up climbing structure in gym for the week, every class gets to experience it. Very confidence building. Plan is to host 2 evenings w/ 2 1-hour sessions. \$150/hr for staff, 50 participants, parent-child. \$10/head, \$750/night profit. Little volunteering needed because it's staffed. Open to community if not sold out – but waiver is needed.
  - Pizza Lunch – made over \$1000/lunch. Students have been involved in helping on the day. In the initial launch for Pizza Lunch, the form should mention that there are families in need and donations are appreciated (add donation option to the form).
  - \$1500 from letter-writing campaign. Hoping to make \$3000 by sending letter out earlier and more often.
  - Holiday Breakfast is changing – Woodfield Gym party to be replaced by holiday-themed movies and cartoons (party is volunteer heavy). Didn't sell out this year. Kelli will volunteer to control that forms are submitted by teachers on time. **Every campaign should notify administration to control submissions.**
  - Electronic payments? Workload to the office would be enormous to do electronic payments, and some people still prefer cash.
  - Big Fundraiser – dance-a-thon. Company that's approved by TDSB, pay a max of \$2000 depending on what's raised. Budgeted to profit \$10k. No volunteers needed. Happens during school hours.
  - Marlies Game Day – date and rewards to be determined when schedule is released. Choir participation is possible. \$5/head, rewards based on sales, build community.

- Consider using high school students as volunteers so they can get their volunteer hours.
- Motion to pass? Yes, and seconded. Draft budget approved. **To be posted on Facebook page shortly.**

#### 4) Ward Meeting

- French Review process closes tomorrow – all programs under review. Abundance of feedback from students, parents, and teachers. Encouraged to continue to submit. Data to be processed over the summer – to determine policy and direction going forward.
- Is Sheila running again? No. Term finishes in December.
- Phil Pothen very active about safety around schools. Safetoschool.ca was developed by Secord Elementary. They want parents from across the Board to lobby for change. Petition going around asking for photo radar around schools (provincial).
- Vision Zero meeting – J. Farr brought school concerns to the meeting, from our survey. 50 signatures on the survey asking to move the TTC stops. Mary-Margaret McMahon's transit representative confirmed TTC is taking our concerns seriously. Our area isn't a "school zone" in the City.

#### 5) End-of-Year Survey

- 25 responses of 900+.
- 9 volunteered, 5 willing to be part of a committee.
- 25-30% response rate at other schools so we're not sure how to reach more people. The NTR is very comprehensive, so responses would likely be the same even if the Principal sent out requests.
- Comments: healthier drink options at pizza lunch – milk has health [code] issues.

#### 6) Principal's Report

- Huge staff turnover at end of year is not unusual (e.g. retirements, 4 over 5s, and young staff moving to new opportunities).
- 11 open jobs remain.
- French Pool – all new teachers get to look at postings. End of July is the expectation. If positions aren't filled after that then it goes into August.
- Play Days are coming up.
- Yearbook is complete.
- Grad location has changed to Riverdale Collegiate – bigger, more seating, air conditioned, no parking.

Duke of Connaught

SAC MEETING – June 14, 2018 (6:30-8:00 p.m.)

- Carl – Eco schools – we expect to know next week what the results are. Impressed with our commitment to reducing waste and eco-literacy. Any perks in maintaining platinum level? Won a free presentation from earth rangers (Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, k-6, maybe 1-6). 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row to achieve platinum status. Still too much paper being wasted, and need to reduce energy costs.
- Can handouts be pdf'd instead of being sent in backpacks? Parents would sign up for electronic only. **Carl will look into it.**
- Pride celebrations next week. Culminating into a song on Friday.

#### **7) All Other Business**

- Parking lot – reminder to slow down, don't park in drop off zone, and don't walk through the parking lot. Requested that this be a regular reminder on the NTR. Parents are in a rush but we all want our kids to be safe.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.**

Minutes by SAC Co-Secretary M. Akins