

DOVERCOURT PUBLIC SCHOOL SAC MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE

Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 6:30pm

Attendees

- **In person**
 - Elaine
 - Roxanne
 - Melanie
 - Nuno
 - Vivian
 - Jordan
 - Hilary
 - Lindsay
 - Deborah
 - Alexandra
- **Online presence**
 - Stephanie
 - Melissa
- **Regrets**
 - Ben

Approval of agenda and previous minutes

- No meeting quorum from last meeting
- Minutes to be shared in future

Principals Update

- **Staffing and organization**
 - Able to keep support staff, included special needs assistant, whereas many schools lost 1 or 1.5 – this was prioritized by the school
 - Lost school's VP allocation
 - Integrated special class for kids on the autism spectrum
 - Administration is getting creative with Grade 7/8: What this means is that all grade 7 and 8 will be on full rotary with classes such as art, gym, shop, etc. The 7s will be by themselves, the 8s will be by themselves
 - We have classes of 33 or 34 in 3 classes (the highest is 35) – the hope is that come Sept, we will have a reorg and plan is to ask for a teacher already in August, hoping for a teacher earlier



- **School update**

- Kids on many trips
- Concern from parents about lack of overnight trip, which was not supported by board
- There have however been lots of trips - AGO, island, Soulpepper (with SAC support)
- Important for everyone to know that we are trying to do our best given a lack of fundraising support, which is difficult particularly with equity issues
- Decision was made to not put people under pressure
- What can community do to avoid this in future – in past Grade 8s would do fundraisers (e.g. bake sales, popcorn days, clothing sale)

- **Physical space update**

- Kindergarten fence is coming with gate, latch and a new bunker for outdoor kindergarten stuff (including pieces which gr 8s helped build); That just got approval with design
- The Canada mural which is outdated and no longer appropriate – art project to change that is planned (Fall next year, with an artist) – paint over it to reflect the community makeup

- **Rodent problem**

- Because we are eating lunch indoors, rodents have been reintroduced to the school
- Problem is under control

- **Lunch room plans for next year**

- Because room is too loud, small, kids don't eat
- Plan for next year is 3 rotations of 20 minute eating time
- Supervisor takes smaller groups, eat for 20 minutes, then move to outside
- No phones allowed (policy coming in September)

Graduation

- Need parents to help with setup; time for volunteers 330
- Ordered individually wrapped cupcakes, balloons ready,
- Art installation with music connected to their art
- To be shared virtually with the entire school (23rd)
- In the Friday file week of June 6th there will be a link to sign up
- Graduation drinks ask – 76 kids, drinks (pop),
- **Motion:** Approve up to \$200 for drinks. Carried

Entry into the schools in the morning

- Noticing congestion with the KG groups, lots of drop-off
- Bike lane will also change the biking dynamic
- Next year: older students will be entering through north doors; younger kids in the south yards; intermediary in the west yard
- Typically, in June new parents would meet their teacher and know the process



- Music teacher being hired!!! (0.5) – open for all kids (with exception of KG kids, from Gr 1 – Gr 5, 7/8s have art)
- Our delivery of arts, music, etc is a choice for the schools. Schools need to fill 240 minutes in a cycle. Decision was made as a faculty to pick music.

Treasurer's report

- Approved 980 for year-end event
- On track to meet reserve for 23K next year
- Elaine to email the #s – bottom line, we are in good shape

Events update

Movie night

- Move it to the day and do cohorts Wednesday June 29th, 2022
- If parents can stay and help come in and manage the

End of year event

- Context: normally there is a Spring Fling so parents wanted something not quite as hectic
- June 16th is talent show and before that is sportspalooza
- Sportsapalooza: Grade 5s and 6s will do a demo of ultimate frisbee
- Talent show
 - Auditions the last two weeks, making a list and curating the schedule with DJ Adam; do a dress rehearsal Wednesday before (may not be an hour)
 - Idea to transition talent show to dance party
 - Financial update
 - \$300 from Kate Watson from money night is now available for end of year event
 - Perhaps \$300 from Nitty Gelatin
- Pizza party
 - **Discussed logistics of pizza:** How to manage pizza on the day of – how big is the size of order? How can we manage dividing up the pizzas? Ideas could include tickets, stamps, or crossing off names, simply creating a sign, corralling people, and divvying things up by divisions
 - After discussion, agreed to try multiple tables, parent/volunteer from each division at a table, pizza in the table, open delivery, with half pizza; \$400 for 500 slices
- **SAC to set up table for a meet and greet**
 - Discuss what SAC is and engage ore people for next year [end of year summary?]
 - Have hard copies for distribution
 - Have a sign in sheet with a QR code

- We need a permit and Caitland has submitted a permit. Plan is to have certain doors locked but access to basement

Silent auction? During talent show

- Communications push required for the Friday file; perhaps do a print communication in support as well
- Officially, auction hasn't started yet, so idea is to promote it early, then finish it after the event, including a last chance reminder

Teacher appreciation

- Sovereign and Contra have donated coffee and scones; \$100 for pickup from Loblaws
- Capture messages from community/SAC and write it on a card

Reading challenge

- Wrapping up reading challenge; \$400 dollars to be divvied up

Next year

- Elaine is committed to continuing next year, but a co-chair would be ideal
- Focus for next year should be on communications. Caitland suggested taking the communications out of Friday File, setting up an email, there are also bulletin boards as well we can use, and there can be promotion - getting signup sheets for areas of interest and signs of strength (e.g. I'm good with design and communications),
- Recruiting new members - move to back in person, with some in person (to get some teachers more parents on shift work), will help; SAC can come up with ways to pull parents an hour here and there, encourage volunteerism, including more promotion (e.g. announcement at the talent show as well)
- Fundraising: everyone can come with two fundraising ideas
- Logistics: Challenge with doing meetings with the mid-day (attendance, lack of quorum); alternative is that we continue to do evening meetings but blend them with in-person events/town hall functions
- Acknowledgement that participating at SAC is not the only way to contribute to the community. There is another group of 15 parents participating in the school improvement, and other ways to connect – for instance, a monthly drop in dinners once every 2 months would be great