



DOVERCOURT PUBLIC SCHOOL SAC MEETING

October 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm
Minutes

Present: Caitland Ellis, Deborah Aarts, Peggy Gibbons, Deb Walsh, Rashida Rosina

Regrets: Hilary Hall, Katie Quach, Lisa Kotsopoulos, Paul Tichonczuk, Chris Antonik

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION (Responsible)
Welcome - Land Acknowledgment - Approvals for: - Agenda - Prior Minutes (September 2024) - Executive motions between meetings	Attended by Caitland, Deb A., Peggy, Deb W, Sarah, Rashida Deb A delivered Approved and seconded Approved and seconded Deb W. Peggy <u>Motion between meetings:</u> We received two requests from teachers regarding the Book Club at the school. Both would like to get the orders ASAP, in order to kick off Book Club sooner rather than later, which is why we put it up as a motion between meetings.	



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

The books will stay at Dovercourt after this year's Book Club has concluded, to be enjoyed by other students, and/or absorbed back into the library.

Book Club is a voluntary program for students, with sessions taking place during recesses/lunch. It's run for at least 7 years, and SAC has supported it throughout. It has proven to be a wonderful extracurricular enrichment activity for students that complements the curriculum, builds social connections, and arms students with confidence to talk about what they read.

They had requested the following:

- **\$283.20 (tax included) for 20 books.** (\$13.99 per book for [Deadman's Castle](#) and \$12.99 per book for [Ban this Book](#), tax \$13.40.)
 - Requestor: Samantha Ling.
 - This request is for both Junior division (grades 4-6) who are reading Deadman's Castle, and Intermediate division (grades 7-8) who are reading Ban this Book.
- **\$228.72 (tax included) for 10 books.** (\$20.24 per book for [Impossible Creatures](#)).
 - Requestor: Marie Braz.
 - This request is for the Primary division (grades 1-3)

Motion: Deborah Aarts on October 6

Seconded by: Peggy Gibbons (by email) on October 6

Votes in favour:

- Peggy Gibbons (by email), Sarah Weaver (by email), Lisa Kotsopoulos (by email) Paul Tichonczuk (by Slack)
- Chris Antonik (by email) Ben Peto (by email) Hilary Hall (by Slack)

Votes against: None. Motion carried: October 8th.



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

Co-Chairs' Report	● Outline our key priorities for the year ● To raise \$ and maintain the school's strong financial position ■ Current balance is about \$23K in our SAC account. ■ At this time last year we had about \$15K. ■ Goal is to end the year with at least \$23K ● To host awesome events (focused on 3 in the remainder of the year: Dance-a-Thon, Movie Night, Spring Fling) ● To build a strong SAC community (with new and returning volunteers)	
Student Report	● Nov 07	
Principal's Report	● P.D. Days -Indigenous Education Focus ● Literacy focus with EQAO work happening ● K-8 Math screening ● Looking for elder artist to assist with art project involving woodshop ● FOCUS - Building, thinking classrooms - a traditional way of learning adapted to current ways of learning ● Looking for support in supplying books for teachers ● Grade 8 Muskoka trip planned. 2-3 nights at a cosy of \$320.00 per student	



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

	<u>Severe Budget cuts.</u> We now have almost 500 children, 38 more than last year. <u>LY budget \$79,000, TY budget \$57,000.</u> - Teachers are spending their own money in order to provide tools. - A few ideas were discussed to help with this budget cut. One idea was an Amazon wish list- Also fundraising with specific needs mentioned , when allowed. <u>School Production</u> planned for March or April where the whole school can participate. Possibly be presented at a theatre. <u>Snack Program</u>- Funds needed. A letter will go out to parents to ask for donations as we have done in the past. Pre-Covid <u>Division Wish List</u> - - Primary - Stem kits - Art carts - Intermediate - After school drama class with Jordan	
Teacher's Report	Nov 7	
Treasurer's Report Priority: Filling Treasurer role	- Current balance is about \$23K in our SAC account. - At this time last year we had about \$15K. - Goal is to end the year with at least \$23K	



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

Requests for funding Kindergarten, Primary, Junior & Intermediate wish lists	- Primary - Stem kits - Art carts - Intermediate - After school drama class with Jordan	Sarah is working on an Amazon wish list we can build for teachers
Volunteer opportunities - Pizza lunches - Reading volunteers	- Need volunteers for pizza days 15 – 20 volunteers needed to support one to one reading.- see Caitland	Sign up sheet needed- Communication help needed
Communications Updates		



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

Community/Ward Rep Updates

From Chris Antonik:

Chris had a call with Ward 9 Trustee Alexis Dawson on October 15th. Here's his report

- Phone chat went well; good rapport building; Alexis very encouraged we've got a Ward rep!
- In general, Ward Council forums are Alexis's preferred way of working with SACs (as she can interact with them all more broadly), however, we are also welcome to reach out to her anytime.
 - Expects to hold a Ward Council forum every 6-weeks
 - Date for first meeting will be announced soon
 - First meeting will include the Superintendents introducing themselves, and election of PIAC reps (the super school council); she'd be looking for 2 volunteers for 2-year terms.
 - Ward forums are open to the public
- Ways in which Dovercourt SAC could support Alexis. Have committed to **get back to Alexis** on the following two items:
 - Alexis asked DPS SAC to identify the kinds of advocacy our school parent community would be looking for this year (key priorities) - e.g., class sizes, budget, other specific issues.
 - Suggest we debate these at the November SAC meeting.
 - Would like to learn about DPS' commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, i.e., current/planned initiatives in the school.
- The #1 issue for Alexis is dealing with current geopolitical issues, and how to discuss them in the classroom as schools await direction from the ministry. This is taking a lot of her time. She noted that it's mostly parents (not students) that are raising the issue—she just wants all children to feel a sense of belonging.



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

	The effects of the Ministry's previously announced budget cuts have yet to be realized so we should be prepared to feel real effects over coming months	
Events Updates - Dates for Dance-a-Thon, Movie Night, Spring Fling - Plan for Dance-a-Thon - Priority: Filling Events Lead	- Swap Update- Very successful. We will do this twice a year January will be the next call out. No books this time. - Dance a Thon Nov. 22 - Will need some volunteers, Popcorn will be available - Movie Night February 13 - Spring Fling May 30	
Enrichment Updates	From Katie Quach - Wants to plan arts/literacy programming for the upcoming year. - Wants to know what is possible schedule-wise before she begins reaching out to artists/school programs. - Propose we meet with Caitland in a few weeks. - Jordan can do a theatre class after school for a small fee	
Fundraisers: Flipgive	Flip give is an opportunity we should try	



SAC VOLUNTEER FORM

• Spirit Wear • Other ideas	• Deb A. wants to wait for a cheque before we order more Spirit Wear	
Other Business & Adjournment • TBD	• Rashida (guest parent) had some great ideas around ways we can ask for financial support agencies. • Bulbs are being planted Oct, 22, 23, 24- Est 400 bulbs Mary Tsilka was able to get these for us free of charge • TERRY FOX results - Goal \$1600, Actual \$1685!	

Land Acknowledgment: We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and the Inuit peoples