

SAC Meeting Minutes

19 November 2025 / 6:30 PM

ATTENDEES

Elected Members: In person: Richelle Wheeler, Glenn Kremp, Shanon Howanyk, Ashley O'Rourke, Kayla Nugent, Robynne McKinlay, Lynsey K., Cory Megitt, Samantha Stermac, Benn Brisland, Natalie DaSilva, Megan Evans. Virtually: Lisa McGran, Alyssa Lioutas, Nick Harman

Parent Representatives: In person: Michelle Eames, Emily Kritzer, Salerno, Filip Stoj, Lesley Hamilton, Kellen Unruh, Amy Unruh, Beth Miller, Sarah Turnbull. Virtually: Julia Ienco, LW, Madalena Morais, Alyssa, Saleema Osmani, Duncan, Ainsley, Julia Salerno, Alex Dunn, Kelsey Clifford,

Teachers/Admin: Michelle Lipp, Angeline Faraone, Karen Secher

Regrets: n/a

AGENDA

6:30 Welcome and Introduction - Richelle Wheeler

6:31 Review of Minutes - Shannon Howanyk

- Sept 2025 SAC minutes review including all action items.

6:34 Chair Updates - Richelle Wheeler

- Pumpkin Fest success
- Winter clothing, toy and food drive happening in November and December for local families
- Bylaws updates are an ongoing process
- Caring and Safe School Community meetings to start shortly
- SIP underway. Admin will discuss in their update
- Holiday Market upcoming Dec 4. Reach out for volunteer

- PIAC General Meeting updates
 - Parent Engagement is a big focus
 - System Level Issues for Councils
 - Currently in need of a Ward 18 rep, any parent can apply (not just SAC members) closes Nov 24
 - Voting Dec 1-5 done, announcement on Dec 14
- Changes with TDSB (more to come from Admin)
 - TDSB Conversation Series with PIAC tomorrow at 7pm on zoom
 - Inner City Advisory committee tomorrow (open to all families interested in equity)
- Chromebooks 1-1 program suspended for grades 5s
 - No other information on what that means from TDSB
 - Currently grades 6-8 have Chromebooks from previous years.
 - When student goes to TDSC highschool they their Chromebook goes with them.
 - When the student leaves the TDSB the Chromebook is returned to board.
 - Birch Cliff needs 150 chromebooks.
 - These will stay at the school and will rotate classrooms in charging carts
 - Charging carts house 35 Chromebooks.
 - BC has a couple empty carts
 - Cost is \$5,000 for a charging cart.
 - Cost for Chromebook is \$500
 - Everything must be purchased through TDSB.
 - Issue: curriculum changes quickly so information has been moved online (especially for older grades). There are no textbooks or budget for text books. So Chromebooks are imperative for student learning. And there is no funding for Chromebooks.
 - Email TDSB supervisor (supervisor@tdsb.on.ca) to voice any concerns.
 - Reach out and contact Michelle if you are interested in fundraising

- Samantha Stermac to do an initial plan to get awareness of the issue known.

6:55 Treasurer Updates - Natalie Da Silva

- Current bank balance is approximately 29K
- Based on current forecasting and expense tracking we are in good shape.
- Based on planned spending and projected income we have a \$9,500 surplus for the year
- Library shelving planned expenses for 2025-2026 is several thousand dollars. Admin to provide update on the actual need for this school year
- Budget for 2026-2027 will be discussed and voted on after fun fair in the June Meeting
- All teachers given the opportunity to request supplies/funding for SIP

7:03 Pizza Updates - Robynne McKinlay

- Numbers are up this year. Averaging 350 kids a lunch compared to 300 last year.
- French Kindie field trip on Dec 19. We are going to pilot a process so the pizza will be packaged and ready upon their return to the school.

7:08 Holiday Market Updates - Sarah Turnbull

- Same format as last year: photo with Santa, grade 6-8 entrepreneurs, class raffle baskets, and food.
- Kindie concert happening at the same time.
 - This is new this year and everyone's patience and understanding is appreciated as logistics are hard in a 100+ year old school
 - Hype kids to get traffic moving and help with logistics.
- It's mainly an event for the kids but a little bit of a fundraiser.
- Deadline for the kids to apply to be vendors in Nov. 27

7:18 Family Update - Kayla Nugent

- Winter clothing drive kicked off. Currently have 235 items.
 - Goal is to collect 1,000 items and if we do every student will receive a treat.
 - BC Families in need can come and shop for free

- Some items will be kept at the school for kids who lose winter clothes/get wet
- Food Drive starts November 17 and runs to Dec 17
 - Lead by student leadership team
- 12 Days of Christmas (Dec 1 - Dec 12)
 - Toy and Toiletry drive for BC families in need.
 - Christmas hampers will be created for families in need with food, clothes, toys, toiletries and gift card)
 - Hampers available for families week of Dec 15
 - Angie with Kayla will be selling popcorn and the funds go towards families in need
 - Comms to go out regarding all the winter donations and giving and share with Michelle for wider school updates.

7:26 Comms Update - Lynsey K.

- School Statement of Needs had 15 responses. Thank you.
 - Results are being compiled and Lynsey to send to Michelle.

7:27 Grad Update - Richelle Wheeler

- Date selected: June 22 at Birchmount CI
 - Right after Samuel Hearn graduation
 - Potential to share cost of ceremony decorations with Samual Hear
 - Goal is to have grad sweatshirts ready by March Break
 - DJ from last year (Mme. Smedley knows the details) was excellent.
 - Teachers do the certificates and ceremony and need help from SAC on decor and food.
- Misc. Grant Innovation (\$1,500 grant) needs a parent volunteer to complete it.

7:34 Sport Update - Karen Secher

- Next week is a big week.

- Sr. boys and Jr. boys both have their volleyball tournament
- Girls basketball tournament
- Girls soccer team won the eastern conference and made it to the city finals.
- Cross country
 - 26 runners went to city finals
 - Grade 6 girls team and grade 3 boys placed first. Grade 4 girls places 2nd.
- January will have boys basketball, girls volleyball and hockey (boys but girls are able to play)
- Thank you Karen and all the coaches for donating your time!

7:37 Principal Update - Dr. Faraone

- Remembrance Day ceremony went well
- Early reading screening are finished and standard diagnostic tested
- Parent Interviews were well attended and progress reports went last week.
- EQAO scores have not released from the ministry
- Tomorrow there are 3 assemblies to go over safe behaviour when snowing outside
- Brave ED will be in the school teaching kids self-regulation Dec. 8
- The leadership team will be decorating the tree in the foyer and toys, toiletries and food items can be dropped off under the tree.
- Menorah will be going up in Dec 14
- Playground update
 - prep work scheduled for July 2026
 - Scheduled completion Nov 2026
 - Playground rated for kids up to grad
 - There will be one soccer field
 - Benches are breaking, and could be removed as they are a safety issue
- SIP Updates

- Plan and progress will be measured in 6 week cycles
- The first cycle with teachers has begun
- Admin is meeting with each teacher cohort every 3 week (kindie, grades 1-3, 4-6, and 7-8)
- SIP updates will happen at each SAC meeting
- A board outside the office will be maintained with updates for parents with each area of focus based on the multiyear plan
- Data was used from several sources (EQAO, board, ministry and school data) to create an improvement plan with an initial focus on consistent small group instructions, tier 1 intervention strategies (what is essential for few is good for all), classroom environment is the third teacher
- Wishlist for small group instruction (games, bank of activities, task cards, small white boards, standing desk) submitted to SAC and will be voted on today
- English Kindies scientist in classroom

7:52 Request for Funds Vote - Richelle.

- Scientists in the Classroom for French Kindies (13 Yes, 0 No)
- Shorts for basketball (11 Yes, 0 No)
- Website subscription (12 Yes, 0 No)
- SIP items for school (12 Yes, 0 No)
- Night of the Arts (12 Yes, 0 No)

8:00 Meeting Adjourned

ACTION ITEMS

1. Reach out and contact Michelle if you are interested in fundraising for Chromebooks
2. Samantha Stermac to do an initial plan to get awareness of the issue of no Chromebooks
3. Admin to confirm need for library shelving for 2025-2026 school year.

4. Comms to go out regarding all the winter donations and giving and share with Michelle for wider school updates
5. Results of SSON to be sent to Michelle. (Lynsey)
6. Grad sweatshirts by March Break (Benn)
7. English kindie teachers to look into scientists in the classroom
8. Shannon to take the lead on an ideas and Volunteer intake tool on the website.