

SAC Meeting Minutes

28 January 2026 / 6:30 PM

ATTENDEES

Attendees: Richelle Wheeler, Glenn Kremp, Samatha Stermac, Lisa Giuliani, Sarah Turnbull, Megan Evans, Alyssa Lioutas, Kelsey Clifford, Ashley O'Rourke, Robynne McKinlay, Cory Megitt

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

Regrets: Lynsey K.

AGENDA

School Projects and Fundraising Updates

The meeting began with an apology for the schedule changes and welcoming attendees. They reviewed the previous meeting's minutes and discussed ongoing projects, including fundraising for Chromebooks, which Lisa and Samantha had contacted Michelle about. The library shelving project was progressing well, with most of the units installed. The winter donation drives were successful and that a SSON regarding the principal position had been submitted to the superintendent. The grad sweatshirts were discussed, with Sarah confirming that they were on track to be distributed by March.

SAC Budget and Bylaw Updates

The SAC budget is tracking well with a surplus of \$8,500, and Natalie explained that funds were released for the Grade 6 trip and financial support. The surplus can be used for new requests or saved for next year. The council discussed the differences between appendices and bylaws and the importance of updating the bylaws and seeking member input by February 11th.

Wellness Night Planning Update

A parent-focused wellness night, which will include various stations offering activities like meditation, yoga, and technology safety. The school received a \$650 grant for printing materials and translator services, if needed. The event will be held in April, likely on a Thursday evening, and will feature a relaxed, drop-in format with a set agenda for specific activities. Additionally, she planned a volleyball tournament for grades 5 to 8 on February 17th, which will require one more scorekeeper to assist.

Student Events and Pre-Order Policy

Upcoming events including a volleyball night for older students, a movie night for grades K-4 on February 12th at 5:30 PM, and Pancake Tuesday on February 17th. The movie night's date may be changed due to parent-teacher interviews, with options to move it to Wednesday or another Thursday. All food orders, including subs, pasta, and pancakes, must be pre-ordered through the lunch system, as they are not provided for students who forget to order.

Parent Engagement and Fundraising Initiatives

The meeting focused on parent engagement initiatives and fundraising activities, with a particular emphasis on maintaining transparent processes and inclusive communication. Natalie shared insights from a recent discussion about encouraging increased parent involvement through activities like movie nights, while also addressing the need for fundraising to support these events. An update was provided about the successful Grade 6 Island trip, which was funded with a \$1,000 subsidy, and highlighted the importance of parent communication and engagement. The group also discussed the annual holiday market, which raised approximately \$2,500, and considered potential improvements for future events, including the possibility of a spring market and the addition of arts and crafts performances for younger students.

Streamlining School Fundraising Activities

The group discussed streamlining school events and fundraising activities, with suggestions to reduce the number of events and better coordinate them with specific themes or purposes. They reviewed the success of the holiday hamper program, which helped 20 families and provided 10 Christmas dinners, and considered scaling down the program for next year. The pizza and parties program was updated, with orders due by February 27th and delivery scheduled for March 11th, and there was a reminder about the importance of timely ordering to avoid shortages.

Fun Fair Volunteer Recruitment Update

The importance of volunteers for the upcoming fun fair, expressing concern about the lack of volunteers in previous events. Alyssa announced the tentative date for the fun fair as June 13th, with DJ Mike booked for \$600, and encouraged parents to volunteer to avoid cancellation. He also mentioned plans to break the fun fair into smaller categories with team leads and the need for volunteers, especially for activities involving young children.

Event Planning and Volunteer Coordination

The challenges and costs associated with an upcoming event, emphasizing the need for volunteers and the potential financial impact of cancellation. They proposed creating a Google form to organize volunteer schedules and suggested forming subcommittees for concessions and sponsorship. Alyssa also mentioned the need for a printing lead to handle banners and other materials. Additionally, they provided updates on various winter athletic events and mentioned an upcoming skate day on March 11th.

School Skating Event Planning

Plans for a school skating event on March 11th, explaining that kindergarten students will start at 9 AM, with staggered times for other grades. Parents of non-skating kindergarten students must accompany them but cannot enter the washrooms or go beyond the skating area. A skate exchange in February, collecting and distributing used skates, and will require all participants to wear helmets with cages. Parents who wish to volunteer must undergo a vulnerable sector check.

Math Partnership and Tech Updates

The school has been selected for the second round of the math learning partnership, focusing on grades 3 and 6, with staff receiving additional training. The school ordered 20 Chromebooks for \$8,000 through popcorn money fundraising, with plans to order 20 more by the end of the year. Due to cold weather, the school kept students indoors for recess, allowing only briefly outdoor access for those dressed appropriately, while maintaining a supply of borrowed winter clothing for students in need.

Grade 8 Program Planning Discussion

Grade 8 activities and deadlines, including specialized program offers, out-of-area admissions, and course selection processes. Students attending TDSB public schools will meet with her one-on-one to plan their course selections, while those leaving the board need to inform her immediately due to administrative requirements. French immersion students must attend the French immersion high school based on their address, unless the school is open to optional attendance.

ACTION ITEMS

1. All voting members: Review revised bylaws, submit suggestions to Richelle by February 11th

2. Richelle/Bylaw Committee: Review suggestions and prepare final bylaw version for voting at next meeting
3. Shannon: Take the lead on ideas and volunteer intake tool on the website (carryover from previous meeting)
4. Richelle: Organize wellness night in April - includes finding parent volunteers for stations, coordinating with school social worker and public health nurse
5. Richelle: Email fun fair donors about participation in wellness night
6. Glenn and Richelle: Run volleyball tournament on February 17th (need one more scorekeeper volunteer)
7. Richelle: Talk to admin about potentially changing movie night date from February 12th
8. Alyssa: Book DJ Mike for Fun Fair on June 13th
9. Alyssa/Ashley: Recruit team leads for concessions, sponsorship and printing for Fun Fair
10. Karen: Send out letter about Skate Day requirements including volunteer needs and vulnerable sector checks
11. Michelle: Meet one-on-one with grade 8 students for course selection before February 27th
12. Parents of grade 8 students: Inform Michelle ASAP if child is not staying in TDSB for high school
13. Richelle: Offer mentoring to potential future council chairs/co-chairs next year (if re-elected)