

EARL HAIG SCHOOL COUNCIL TOWN HALL

December 5, 2023
Earl Haig Public School

ATTENDEES

| Name | Role | In Attendance |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | | |
| Danielle Rombough | Co-Chair | Y |
| Tanya Mustachi | Co-Chair | Y |
| Madelaine Hamilton | Treasurer | Y |
| Daniel Segal | Treasurer | Y |
| Cleo Buster | Secretary | Y |
| Polly Vandenberg | Secretary | Y |
| Robyn Vanpee | Fundraising Lead | N |
| Zoe Lamothe | Fundraising Lead | Y |
| Heather Cockburn | Ward 16 Council Rep | Y |
| Zoe Lamothe | Communications Lead | Y |
| Kelly Antoine | Communications Lead | Y |
| Pilar Hernandez | Nutrition Coordinator | N |
| VOTING MEMBERS | | |
| Jennifer Scott | Member-at-large | N |
| Lucy Saunders | Member-at-large | Y |
| Evelyn Paraschos | Member-at-large | Y |
| Shannon Butcher | Member-at-large | Y |
| Charlotte Chevallier | Member-at-large | Y |
| Barbara Bower | Member-at-large | Y |
| Derwin Remedios | Member-at-large | Y |
| | | |

| SCHOOL STAFF | | |
|------------------------|----------------|---|
| Aileen Burke-Tsakmakas | Principal | Y |
| Jennifer McColl | Vice Principal | |
| Rob Taylor | | |
| Lydia Bracht | | Y |
| Kelly Ritsakis | | |
| Agapi Zegas | | |
| Charlotte Wheeler | | |
| Tina Zegas | | Y |
| SCHOOL COMMUNITY | | |
| Victoria Koo | | Y |
| Dawn | | Y |
| Flynn Paquin | | Y |

Attendees on Zoom

AGENDA ITEMS

Welcome remarks and Land Acknowledgement (Danielle Rombough)

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.

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes accueillis sur les terres des Mississaugas des Anichinabés, de la Confédération Haudenosaunee et du Wendat. Nous voulons également reconnaître la pérennité de la présence des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuit.

1. Approve the Minutes from Last Meeting:

- 1.1. Revision to Minutes from Nov. 8th, 2023: Wording updated to note that SAC will contribute to cover partial costs for gym updates, SAC will not pay for the entire cost.
- 1.2. Danielle motioned to approve the minutes Cleo seconded. Minutes approved.

2. School Updates:

- 1.3. Portables are supposed to be ready after the Holidays.
- 1.4. Book Fair is scheduled for Dec. 11th – Dec. 15th in the Library, school newsletter will have more details on exact hours

1.5. Recess and Reduced Outdoor Space:

- 1.5.1. New supervision schedule for recesses will need to be implemented once the portables are in use because they take up a lot of area that was previously used during recess.
- 1.5.2. Mr. Taylor is working on getting the gym up and running for games during recess
- 1.5.3. New Games are scheduled to be spray painted in the paved portion of the yard
- 1.5.4. Questions from Grade 6 student Adam Segal – Would like the division of the field to be eliminated so a full soccer game can be played. Currently, the field is divided in half at recess with Grade 7/8's on one half and grades 4-6 on the other half. Response from staff is that when the field is not divided and all grades play at the same time, there are more injuries, and the games are too aggressive. We have limited field space and students need to understand that the space needs to be shared with everyone. Additionally, students need to respect that not everyone wants to play intense soccer. The games need to be kept casual and inclusive.

1.6. Field Update:

- 1.6.1. The field is scheduled to be completely re-sodded this summer. Richard Christie – Senior Manager of Sustainability noted we are scheduled for turf field in 2026 (EH is 4th on the waiting list)
- 1.6.2. Jack of Sports would be cancelled over the summer to allow the sod to grow.
- 1.6.3. Is SAC allowed to fundraise for the turf field? Regulations say. We can fundraise for the field but not for items that require on-going maintenance.
- 1.6.4. There is irrigation at the field but it is broken. Question from parent – can we get the irrigation fixed before the sod is planted this summer. Answer: That is the idea.
- 1.6.5. Ward 15 – Richard Christie speaking Jan 23rd – virtual mtg. anyone can attend.
- 1.7. Primary concert scheduled for Dec. 19th at 6:30pm
- 1.8. Lost and Found – is located on two tables across from the office. Please check-out the tables for any lost items as everything not claimed will be donated on Dec. 21st.
- 1.9. Grade 8's – Course selection starts this week. Contact Ms. McCaul with any questions. There is more info. on this in the weekly newsletter.
- 1.10. Lunch: students need to sign out at the office if they are leaving school grounds during lunch. They need to stay out for the entire lunch and then sign back in when they return at the end of lunch.

1.11. Library:

- 1.11.1. A bunch of new books have been purchased for the library. They focused on teacher's needs and what students would like to see in the library. Books are supposed to arrive prior to the new year. New furniture for the library has also been purchased, supported in part by the school pop-corn sales.
- 1.11.2. Forest of Reading starting in new year.
- 1.12. Gym scheduled to be painted over the Holidays.
- 1.13. Lunch & Snack Program: There have been several complaints about the lunch program. There was also a request for a survey of the lunch program. SAC is working with school staff to answer any questions the community has and share more information about the lunch program, including putting info. on the SAC

website. It is a volunteer program, run by donations and parent volunteers. It is not run by the school or the TDSB. More information, including the monthly menus can be found in the school weekly newsletter.

1.14. The school staff are doing a bake sale at the Winter concert. Would like SAC's help in advertising for the event as well as in baking treats for the sale. Contact Ms. Bracht for more info. or questions.

3. Fundraising

1. Pizza lunch raised \$1,500
2. Winter Concert – thinking of having 2 tables out to share info. about the SAC with some hot drinks. No fundraising just info.
3. Spring Fair – committee starting to work on donations now
4. Hullabaloo – considering something for parents in Spring. More to come.

4. Finance Update

1.15. Finally gained access to the SAC bank account. Account was moved by the TDSB to Pace Bank. Pace charges a \$15 monthly fee as well as cash transit fees - \$20 per every deposit. Treasurers looking into how/if we can move the account to another bank that doesn't charge fees.

- \$36k balance in June 2023
- Current balance is \$40,259.61 Dec. 4, 2023
- \$20,145.92 Still available to use
- \$19,000 already allocated / voted on

5. Voting Items

1.16. VOTE: Field Trip Allocation Fund

Option 1: \$200/Classroom = 29 classrooms = Total: \$5,800
Option 2: \$150/ Classroom and all teachers = Total: \$5,550
Option 3: Not allocate money to field trip buses
APPROVED Option 1. 9 votes. Check to be written to TDSB and they will distribute.

1.17. There was a lot of discussion around allocating money to the field trip busses: Staff noted the overall costs of field trips have gone up. Should there be a clause for any unspent money to go towards covering unpaid field trip fees, that the parents are supposed to pay? Can we use this towards a supply teach? How often are support teachers on trips? Answer: Often. Are teachers currently asking for subsidies for field trips? How does the school evaluate if a student can't afford a field trip? Is there a requirement to take a field trip? Answer: No. You can't make a teacher take their class on a field trip.

1.18. VOTE: 8th Grade Trip – SAC will give \$1,400 towards trip to Pinecrest.
APPROVED unanimously.

1.19. VOTE: Grade 5 graduation party - \$320 16 student/ \$20 student
APPROVED unanimously.

1.20. VOTE: Meeting dates in 2024

APPROVED unanimously.

6. Adjournment

- Polly motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tanya seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Proposed Meeting Dates:

SAC Planning Meeting Wednesday, January 17, 8:00pm - Virtual
SAC Planning Meeting Thursday, February 8, 8:00pm - Virtual
SAC Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, February 13, 7:00pm – In Person
SAC Planning Meeting Tuesday, March 5, 8:00 - Virtual
SAC Planning Meeting Wednesday, April 10, 8:00 - Virtual
SAC Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, April 16, 7:00pm – In Person
SAC Planning Meeting Thursday, May 9, 8:00pm - Virtual
SAC Town Hall Meeting Wednesday, May 15, 7:00pm – In Person
SAC Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, June 11, 8:00pm - Virtual

Minutes prepared by Cleo Buster
Next Meeting January 17, 2024 at 8:00pm virtual

Connect with us online:



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