



DUNDAS CENTRAL
PUBLIC SCHOOL

AGENDA

Dundas Central School Council Meeting

Location: Dundas Central library

Date: Thursday, November 23

Time: 6-7:30 p.m.

- I. Call to order
- II. Land acknowledgment
- III. Review and Approval of minutes from last meeting
- IV. Review and approval of current agenda
- V. Business from previous meeting
- VI. Reports
 - a. Principal
 - b. Teacher
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Student Council
 - d. Food drive - Laura L.
 - e. Blues Night - Katherine S.
 - f. Indigenous educational initiative - Jen B.
 - G. Eco-committee - Ioana C.
 - H. School resources - Joanna D.
- VII. Adjournment

MINUTES

Dundas Central School Council Meeting Minutes

Location: Dundas Central library

Date: Thursday, Oct. 12

Time: 6 to 7 p.m.

In Attendance: Laura Bartkiw, Tammy DiDonato, Katherine Scarrow, Madeline Van Impe, Marina Rollings, Becky Thomas, Bethany Foster, Ioana Crisan, Megan Beckett, Sarah Wybenga, Joanne DiMaio, Kasey Livingston, Kristyn Jewell, Jenn Blaney, Jen Moore, Nikki Carter, Amanda Gumbinger, Abby Spyrou, Alison Mann, Amanda Guyatt-Dunne, Laura Lawson, Kristyn Pickell, Jessica Pletch, Jenny Harper

I. Call to order - 6:01pm

II. Land acknowledgment - read by Ms Harper

Opening comments from Katherine

- Work together for a common goal
- Everyone has a voice
- Everyone should feel they belong
- Want to create a sense of community for Dundas Central

III. Reports

a. Principal - Laura

- Norms of collaboration
 - Be present, active listening, learning attitude, all question, ideas and opinions rare honoured and valued, open dialogue, reflection, time considerations, learning styles differ, continuous learning, equity check to ensure all voices are heard
 - 15 voting members total
 - New additions
 - Jessica Pletch
 - Kasey Livingston
 - Joanne Di Maio
 - Ioana Crison
 - Becky Thomas (Michelle Lucas Larving-withdrew)
- office updates- school messenger goes to 900 emails so hopefully reaching everyone at the school
- School cash - 2 live items: Pizza Day and Trivia Night at the Shed
- Fundraising dollars-need to be voted on and needs to go towards a specified initiative
- Reminder to check in with classroom to prevent overlap of initiatives
- P card request form needs to be be filled out and approved by the principal first
- Nutrition policy-anaphylaxis and diets
- No re-organization this year
- 5 week session for parents -Families Worrying Less Together (anxious children)
- Progress reports November 13,

- please refrain from specifically asking about how your child is doing during Meet the Teacher night, it is meant to say hello to the teacher and tour the class.
- School Improvement Plan is available for review
- Reviewed EQAO scores
- Oct 20 PD day, reviewing math and language curriculum
- Renewed Computer Technology Ontario (RCTO) program for schools to get used but in good working order computer from business to classrooms for free but just have to pay for delivery (\$400)
- Decodable Readers purchased for primary students

Facilities

City of Hamilton Trillium Award

- Over 100K in upgrades to play ground, new plants and trees, encourage kindness towards plant life
- Holland Park Garden gallery points can be donated to the school

b. Teacher - Tammy DiDonato

- Appreciation to Amanda Guyatt-Dunne, Jenny Harper, Jen Moore for attending council meeting
 - Thank you to council, outdoor play ground teaching is fun, lots of spaces for different classes, positive engagement
- Extra curricular
 - Music, Rubik cube club, Dungeons and Dragons club, Student council will soon be choosing class reps
 - Sports- volleyball, swim team, cross country

c. Treasurer - Madeline

- a. Healthy carry forward, approx \$1500 dollars for playground wasn't spent as of yet
Suggested use: purchases can be made for playground/outdoor gym equipment

d. Committee updates + fundraising discussion:

1. Fundraising plan review – 2023-2024 - Katherine- to vote at the end
2. Meet the Teacher - Katherine
 - Setting up a council table, sell Dundas Central stickers and keychains, 100% of proceeds go towards community support fund to ensure every child gets a pizza, goal of \$500 which may support pizza for the full year, some council members will rotate to be at the table and sell stickers
3. Spirit Wear – Kristin Jewell
 - Different collections, waiting on prices from JML, goal to create spirit, keep prices low, profits to go towards community support fund, plan to sell through social media, flyers, website, linked through school cash online for payment,
 - Suggestion: to provide a label to the classrooms to give to each child for reminder (for events..etc) to stick in their agenda, as sometimes extra paper get lost in backpacks or students don't write messages clearly in their agenda

4. Pizza Day – Jessica Pletch
 - Twice a month
 - Dates listed and communicated already
 - A1 Pizza - slices are a bit larger as compared to last year
 - \$3/slice, no markup (minimal), not for fundraising
 - Volunteers -great response so far still looking for a few more
 - Pizza coming on a paper plate in a bag, volunteers will label the pizza
 - Feedback: Waste concerns, full box keeps pizza warm longer, easier to carry to the classrooms, get older grades involved to help with distribution, no need to purchase totes
 - Feedback: Gr 7/8 have a different nutrition break, space in classrooms -no sinks in rooms, limited counter space
5. Trivia Night – Madeline & Amanda
 - Tickets are available on school cash
 - Low cost event Shed provides space for free
 - School parent to run the trivia
 - Doing door prizes, if anybody has anything they want to contribute they can
 - Encourage costumes
 - Costs for event: decorations, halloween candy
 - Discuss what the money is going towards
 - Possible 50/50 draw -need to confirm license
 - Suggestion: teachers incorporate a craft or something students can make to use as decorations at the event
6. Community Outreach – Michelle Lee - not in attendance tonight
 - Suggested: City Kids, 2 ways to donate, toys around Christmas, or donate money, supports kids in community
 - Raised money for Salvation Army food bank previously
 - Is there a framework or parameters for this goal?
 - Suggested: to give back to Hamilton Foundation, funnelled through the school board and given to HWDSB families, students directly benefit
 - Decided to exclusively partner with classroom food drive initiative instead, council to help with promotion, encourage donations, and help with drop off/delivery
7. Communications (IG, newsletter, website) – Kristyn, Katherine
 - Will not be doing sponsorship this year, no ads
 - Website-look into a new more modern website
 - Used to post agenda, meeting, minutes, promote events
 - Vote to use \$250 for annual subscription
 - Laura-Has to be approved by IT and privacy, costs can be paid out through engagement funds
 - School board is ok with us creating a separate website? School budget
 - Parent engagement fund is annual \$500, would use that money
 - Katherine to train the Coms (Kristen and Nikki) team on the new website
 - No commerce functionality on the website, commerce to go through school cash
 - No student pictures on website

- No way for school council to communicate to parents through the school website
- Use for fundraising for pizza day
- Vote for website 13 yes

e. Open issue/summary of discussion vote on fundraising plan

- Proposed: Trivia night to raise \$1000 for a Mascott
- Discussion:
 - Suggestion: to use funds instead for directly related to classroom needs
 - Suggestion: \$1000 split between classes or student levels
 - Bring to next meeting more info about the mural
 - Bus prices are expensive for class trips, can apply for funding to support so students can attend
 - Mascott or Resources: Tammy: what if we came up with a plan, this is what we have to spend total, and we can break it down, part mascot and part for classroom resources and bring it forward to the staff to their input
 - Change the fundraising line from \$5000 for a mural
- Annual fundraising plan not due yet, for further discussion at next meeting, delay until next month -art installation, mural, classroom mural
- What we are fundraising for at the Shed event?
- Teacher staff present at the meeting state overall support for the Mascott
- VOTE: Trivia night to purchase a Mascott through 50/50 draw, anything beyond is put towards classroom resources? All those voting
 - In favour 9
 - Against 4
 - Abstain 1

VII. New business

X. Adjournment: 7:42

Dundas Central School Council updates - distributed Nov. 16, 2023

The following material should be reviewed by all voting members by Nov. 23, 2023

Treasury update

Madeline V

A list of the financial transactions is provided by Shelley before every meeting. I am happy to provide the overall document to anyone who is interested, but it is expansive (as in the pizza day purchases cover 8+ pages), so I have provided a summary of the current balances below:

Community support fund balance: \$320

Trivia Night balance: \$1398 - \$966.45 = \$431.55 (see breakdown below)

Pizza Day balance: \$5547 (note: funds earmarked to pay for pizza up to Jan 2024)

Playground balance: \$1536 (carryforward from 2022-23)

Meet the Teacher

Katherine S

On Oct. 19, we greeted families for the first 'Meet the Teacher' night of the year. Thank you to our volunteers for running the school council welcome table and selling stickers and keychains. We raised \$320 for our Community Support Fund. Special thanks to Nikki Carter for levelling things up (posters, decor stands, etc.) with decor and ambience.

Trivia Night

Madeline V and Amanda G

We're pleased to report that our second annual Trivia Night on Oct. 24 at the SHED was a roaring success! Thanks to your incredible support, we raised \$1,398 (\$431.55 above our goal of \$1,000) which will make a significant difference for our school community. We want to express our gratitude to Shawn & Ed Brewery for generously hosting the event once again, and contributing prizes for our winners (go teachers go!), as well as to our door prize sponsors, Mindfulness and Movement, Jill Thomson and Chiwis Natural Fruit Chips. Shout out also to our volunteers and enthusiastic trivia master, Mandy Ridley, for making the event possible. The funds raised at this event were dedicated to Dundas Central's very first mascot as per the council vote in October. We're excited for the upcoming Name the Mascot contest and Spirit Day hosted by Student Council. Of the \$1398 raised, \$966.45 went towards our mascot and accessories; remaining funds moved to the DC Community Support Fund. See breakdown below.

Dundas Central Mascot & Accessories	
Item	Cost
Costume	\$561.80

Storage bag	\$18.10
Jersey	\$55.98
Neck cooler	\$18.10
Cooling vest	\$46.32
Sweat bands	\$23.60
Jacket	242.55
Total	\$966.45

Pizza Day

Jessica F

Dundas Central held its first pizza day on November 8th. The sorting, labelling and handing out process was smooth, thanks to the DC Office Staff and family volunteers who attended to hand out pizza. It is a hustle to get the pizza to all students at the right time, so we are grateful for all the volunteers who have come forward to support this process. We received positive feedback on the new pizza vendor A1 Pizza both the quality of pizza and the size of the slices. We had a last minute change in the packaging and had to pivot to using individual boxes in order to avoid cheese sticking to bags during delivery. We are continuing to work on reducing the number of boxes delivered (ex: having 1 box for 2 slices for students who order 2 slices) and would still like to look for individual packaging that creates less recycling - such as what was offered from Pizza Pizza last year. Our school recycling team has been a great asset to ensure we are avoiding waste going to the landfill. Thanks for your patience as we learn and finetune our process! Our next pizza day is November 22nd.

Spiritwear

Kristyn J and Nikki C

Dundas Central newest winter merch has dropped! It's made up of five mini collections, each representing a different theme/style/vibe. It will be available to purchase on SchoolCash Online until Nov 30th (thank you for your help Shelley Maguire!!), and will likely be available for distribution approximately 4-5 weeks later. With minimal markup, the primary objective is to amplify school spirit and engagement. All proceeds will go towards the Community Support Fund. Stay tuned for the spring line in 2024.

Canned Food Drive

Laura L

This year, School Council would like to support the staff in promoting and facilitating the charitable food drive over the holiday season. Laura Lawson update to come following her meeting with Ms. Harper on Friday, Nov. 17.

Motion for School Council

i) That School Council contributes \$200 towards a pizza party for the classroom that donates the most food items to the drive.

Blues Night

Katherine S

Inspired by the super fun Hamilton Bulldogs outing last year, we're delighted to announce the inaugural Dundas Blues Night at Griftnire Arena. This will be a family-friendly event on the evening of Thursday, January 25 (with the next day being a PA day)! This night isn't just about hockey; it's a community-driven initiative aiming to bring together families, promote youth engagement and support our local team, the Dundas Blues. To create anticipation, coach Dane O'Neill and Blues players plan to visit Dundas Central on **Friday, January 19** at 11 a.m.

Features of the event:

Kids night special: We're dedicated to making this a fantastic experience for families. Children under 13 get free entry. Adult tickets are \$10 and go directly to supporting the Blues.

Melodic harmony: Our talented Dynamics and Mini Dynamics choir, led by Ms. Pearce, will showcase their skills by performing the national anthem on the ice.

Fundraising fun: To support our cause, we're planning to sell bags of popcorn, candy drinks and merch in the lobby to those in attendance.

'Shoot the Puck' raffle: We'll also sell raffle tickets for the chance to hit the ice and shoot a puck at the end of the first period. Helmets and sticks will be provided.

Mascot mayhem: Be prepared for a special appearance by our school's mascot, donning a jersey to support the team.

Volunteers who may be interested in helping with the event, please reach out to Madeline Van Impe or Amanda Gumbinger.

Motion for School Council

i) That School Council raises a target amount of \$400 to cover the delivery costs for refurbished computers to the school as led by Rob Bell.

Indigenous educational programming

Jen B.

Proposal: To consider a fundraising initiative of \$2000 to support Indigenous Educational programming offered by the [Woodland Cultural Centre](#) and [Onkwehon:we Games](#) for prioritised classes at Dundas Central in alignment with current HWDSB strategic priorities.

Context: The HWDSB has identified Indigenous Education, Reconciliation, and Wellness as a strategic priority in the [2023-2028 Strategic Plan](#) and the [Indigenous Education Circle Action Plan \(IECAP\) 2021-2025](#). After the last council meeting, there was an opportunity to debrief, consider feedback, and explore alternatives to the mural project that support experiential learning and student achievement in alignment with HWDSB priorities, and in partnership with established educational programming offered by Indigenous-led centres and educators. Outlined below is an updated proposal that will be reviewed, discussed, and, if appropriate, voted on in the Nov 23 school council meeting.

Overview of Fundraising Proposal:

- **\$2,000 fundraising goal**
 - o Supported through Pizza Day and carry over funds
- **Pool of monies would be used to support workshops with either Woodland Cultural Center or Onkwehon:we Games by interested teachers/classes**
 - o Prioritization of classes would be at the discretion of the Principal, Teachers, Student Council
 - o Teachers would be welcome to select the resource most appropriate for their class
- **A \$2,000 budget would serve 1/3 - 1/2 of students at Dundas Central to participate in workshops**
- **Workshops can be offered on-site at Dundas Central**
 - o Teachers have indicated preference for on-site activities (field trips difficult, busing an issue)
- **Workshops ideally scheduled in late-Spring**
 - o Teachers have indicated preference for scheduling in late-Spring
- **Both the Woodland Cultural Center and Onkwehon:we Games are recommended as an educational resource by HWDSB**
- **Funds raised would go directly to supporting Indigenous educators, programs, and cultural centers**
- **Volunteer support may be helpful the day workshops run but programs are relatively low-lift to implement and deliver for school staff**
- **Unused monies could be earmarked to support Indigenous Educational Programming in 2024/25 (i.e. Sept 30, Orange Shirt Day)**

1. Woodland Cultural Centre

[The Woodland Cultural Centre](#), formerly the Mohawk Institute Residential School, offers a variety of tours, education programs, and workshops that offer students the opportunity to learn about an

assortment of topics covering the past, present, and future of Southern Ontario’s First Nations peoples.

The K-12 programs cover a variety of Hodinohsho:ni topics ranging from culture, history, art, food, and past/current issues that are age/grade appropriate and follow the Ontario Curriculum guidelines. New programming for kindergarten that includes a combination of a Thanksgiving Address workshop and the Importance of Apples and Orange Shirt Day is also coming soon. Each program offers teachers/educators before and after resources for their classrooms. Add-on craft activities are also available at an added charge.

Cost: Virtual/On-site (Schools/Charities) \$300.00 for workshop up to 40 participants (\$7.50/additional attendee) with virtual capacity of up to 500 participants, plus a \$350 speaker fee for on-site school events. \$5/per person for add-on crafts activities.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Offers unique learning opportunity for students and teachers · Aligns with Ontario curriculum · Provides additional resources to teachers · Add-on crafts provide students with a chance to create/showcase art-projects · Several classes can participate, if interested · Coordination support is available via Woodland · Funds would directly support an Indigenous Cultural Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · More costly · Registration for 2024 opened recently – scheduling may become difficult if we cannot reserve workshops soon-ish for 2023/24. · Can accommodate on-site school visits for added cost (versus workshops hosted at Woodland)

2. Onkwehon:we Games

[Onkwehon:we Games](#) (pronounced *On-gway-hon-way*, Mohawk word that translates as “the original people”) offers workshops/programs where participants learn about the history and culture of the people of the Six Nations (also called Haudenosaunee) through Traditional Games. Interactive and hands-on, their approach to teaching is Indigenous in its foundation. While learning about Lacrosse and other Traditional Games of the Six Nations of the Grand River, students will simultaneously be learning about and experiencing local First Nations culture. Based on the understanding that everything is interconnected, the programming is interdisciplinary by

nature, weaving Native Studies with Health & Physical Education, History, Geography, Social Studies & Outdoor Education.

Onkwehon:we Games offers online, outdoor and indoor (gym) programs all of which can be geared towards all ages and abilities. Generally, the workshops run 1-2 hours, however, they are happy to work with each group to provide a program that suits each school/student's needs. Ideally group sizes do not exceed 35 participants. Best suited to Grade 4 and up.

Cost: In-person \$350 for a half day (1 or 2 workshops), \$700 for a full day (2 to 4 workshops), Travel Fees are an additional \$150 (max). Additional costs to purchase game kits for the class (\$10 to \$65 each); 2-3 week lead time required for traditional game kits.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Provides a unique learning opportunity for students and teachers· Less costly than Woodland· Funds would cover a greater number of students to participate· Program designed exclusively for on-site school visits· Add-on game kits can be purchased for participating classes· Several classes can participate, if interested· Funds would support an Indigenous-led Education Program· Recommended by HWDSB Program Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Unsure of scheduling availability for late-Spring· May not be best option for K-Gr3 classes

Motion for School Council

i) That School Council raises \$2000 to support Indigenous Educational programming offered by the [Woodland Cultural Centre](#) and [Onkwehon:we Games](#) for prioritized classes at Dundas Central in alignment with current HWDSB strategic priorities.

Eco Committee

Ioana

Overview

The main objective of the Dundas Central School Council Eco Committee (“Eco Committee”) is to support and promote environmentally-focused initiatives at Dundas Central. The Eco Committee will use a sustainability lens when looking at school council initiatives, the school learning environment, and the broader school community.

Initiatives proposed for the current school year include actions to (i) enhance environmental learning and appreciation, (ii) reduce waste, (iii) promote active and sustainable transportation, and (iv) mitigate climate change impacts. Efforts will build towards the longer-term goals of EcoSchools and Healthy School Certification.

The Eco Committee proposes to raise funds for these initiatives through a basket raffle and plant sale at the Spring Open House.

Initiatives	Budget	Source	Comments
Environmental Learning and Appreciation (outdoor classroom learning supports, environmental learning experiences)	\$1,400	Spring 2024 Basket Raffle and Plant Sale	Requires staff input
Waste Reduction (Terracycle wrapper box, Staples pen recycling program)	\$400	Spring 2024 Basket Raffle and Plant Sale	Need to determine no conflict with school waste contracts
Active Transportation (new bike racks, parent engagement, active transportation week)	\$3,500	Currently unfunded	Multi-year, ongoing project
Climate Change (City Tree Planting)	No charge	N/A, Community partnership	

Motions for School Council

i) That the Dundas Central School Council Eco Committee (“Eco Committee”) be established to support and promote environmentally focused initiatives at Dundas Central Public School; and

ii) That the Eco Committee pursue the above described initiatives, with an estimated unfunded budget of \$1,800, for the 2023-2024 school year; and

ii) That necessary funds be raised from the 2024 Spring Basket Raffle and Plant Sale, and directed to support the proposed 2023-2024 Eco Committee initiatives.

School resources: Purchasing more iPads for upper grades

Joanne

Most students at Dundas Central used their own personal electronic devices for online learning during the pandemic. Unused school iPads were loaned out to less privileged schools in Hamilton. Forty (40) of these iPads were never returned (estimated \$20,000 loss in equipment).

There is a shortage of devices at the school. This is restricting students’ ability to complete school assignments. While iPads can be shared in younger grades, senior-level students must log in individually and cannot share devices. School council has not raised funds for new iPads in many years.

Cost: \$420-\$620 each, not including accessories.

Rationale:

Directly improves student achievement

Demonstrated school need

Strong support from teachers of junior/senior grades

Straightforward to implement

Motion for School Council

i) That all unspent school generated funds be used to replace missing iPads.

To table for December meeting:

- Dance-a-thon in the spring
- Museum project update