



November 22, 2019

Hi all,

Please find attached a collated summary of the feedback from the SAC Funds Session at the SAC Provincial Conference Nov 8<sup>th</sup>. There are many great ideas that will help you capture input from the school community on how to spend your funds.

Thank you to everyone who participated.

Thank you,

*Susan Tomie*

Director, School Administration

# How can the SAC engage the voices of the community to best inform spending decisions for SAC funds?

## STUDENTS

- Surveys
- Brainstorm in class
- Google forms
- Teachers talking to classes
- Bring ideas forward to SACs/persuasive letters to the principal from elementary with suggestions to improve learning environment
- Have student council or class rep to present ideas/share info with SAC
- Incentives to be a member of the SAC
- Project asking students to design ideal classrooms & school. Use these ideas to tailor spending
- Electronic Thought Exchange
- Classroom visits
- Engage student groups for feedback
- Ask the student one thing they think will help improve the school
- SAC "Shark Tank"
- Student create proposal on school improvement and present to SAC – contest 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> (allocation of funds)
- Students voting on teacher ideas/student ideas
- Encourage letter writing of ideas – incorporate into curriculum
- Discuss in circle time (teacher records and give to principal)
- Provide "suggestion box"
- Social media to engage student body (instagram voting)
- "instameet"
- Junior/high students to ask each other "What would you do with \$1000 or \$5000?" (same applies to staff)
- Caring School Community time
- Slide show – pictures of possibilities
- Ask students to think about what they need to support their learning. Question would be specific to math and literacy.

## PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Thought Exchanges – offer gift card for providing feedback
- Conversations at SAC, PTO, parent/teacher
- Surveys available at parent/teacher, curriculum nights; Links to surveys for the whole parent/guardian community (google doc)
- Host an evening or an event at the school – welcoming session
- Ask parents/guardians what an ideal classroom/school looks like
- Newsletter, SwiftK12, email that goes out in a monthly communication
- Approaching SAC members for relaying suggestions
- Focus groups
- YMCA settlement program meeting
- Provide an interpreter at meetings for community
- Take action – volunteer/community groups
- Parents/guardians to examine student ideas
- SAC information presentation at all school events with suggestions – ask parents/guardians what/where are things they feel their children would benefit from & give options and have them rate them in priority
- Facebook/Twitter group
- Education to parents/guardians re: SSP so that they understand what feedback/suggestions would be helpful
- Data discussions
- Equity understanding for your community
- Provide hardcopy of exemplar at upcoming parent/teacher interviews and provide paper for suggestion
- Conversations on playground/move conversation outside the school walls
- Brainstorm wall at school events
- SAC members attend community meeting (various)
- Everyone ask 1 person
- On line surveys
- Inform community on historical spending
- Share draft spending in newsletter
- Share wish list with SAC & PTO
- Go out into the community to meet with families
- One word suggestions

## STAFF

- Google forms/on line survey
  - Staff meetings
  - Wish lists
  - Talk to specialists – SLP, guidance, school psychology, learning centre
  - Surveys
  - Staff present ideas to SAC
  - Asking them to make suggestions on a classroom and school level
  - Written proposals by staff
  - Review of SSP goals
  - SAC- Home & School communication of needs and priorities
  - Requests to principal
  - Sub committee
  - SAC information presentation @ all school events with suggestion
  - Suggestion on webpage
  - Summary sent out to staff of how funds spent last year and requesting feedback which will be shared at next SAC meeting
  - Prioritize requests – What would have the biggest impact on student achievement?
  - Talk to grade levels/teams
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- Create the financial plan in the fall – have a report of spending as the year progresses

All expenditures must fit into one of the three spending categories:

- supporting the school improvement plan
- supporting policy development and implementation
- covering SAC operational expenses up to 20%