



## **CHS Dance Parents Committee Annual Report 2010-11**

**Submitted by Chair, Wendy Sewell**

The CHS Dance Parent Committee (DPC) has as its principle mandate to assist the CHS Dance Faculty and students in meeting their objectives relating to the CHS Dance Program, encourage education in Dance and the Arts for students in CHS as well as in the OCDSB and provide liaison between the Dance Program at CHS and local community institutions and organizations.

### **1. CHS DPC Meetings and Membership**

Over the 2010-2011 school year, DPC meetings were held at Canterbury High School in Resource Room from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. At the first meeting, held September 2010, the committee re-elected Chair Wendy Sewell.

The DPC has at its core, a group of people who are extremely committed to the dance arts program and to the work of this committee. This year we added student representatives from each grade. This is a great initiative and we consider it very successful. The students were committed and diligent and took an active part in our discussions.

This year, average attendance for monthly meetings was 12 people. The following were members of this year's committee:

Wendy Sewell, Co-Chairperson  
Kathy O'Hara, Secretary  
Ken Ferguson, Communications/ Web site advisor  
Nancy Blais, Costumes Coordinator  
Frances Manktelow, parent member at large  
Heather Murphy, parent member at large  
Marcia Sismon, parent member at large

Fabyenne Gosselin, Faculty Representative  
Connie St.Louis, Faculty Representative  
Jean Bellefleur, Faculty Representative

Deborah Grinnell, Arts Canterbury Advisor



## 2. DPC Activities

- A. Support the dance program and education in CHS through fundraising and event co-ordination.

This year we were able to assist the faculty in organizing the two Dance Nights 2011. The funds will pay for some costumes, supplementing the Cornwall trip and other field trips in the future.

Ticket Sales	(Dance Night Sales)
	+ (Pre-Sales)
	<hr/>
	total

Silent Auction	
Baked Goods Sales	
Drinks (Hot & Cold)	
Flowers	
DVD Sales	
Total raised	
Less Expenses	(drinks purchased, costumes, etc.)
TOTAL PROFIT	

Also this year for the first time we were able to fundraise at the presentation of the Grade 11 Trio's and Quartets evening. We held a 50/50 draw and a vbake sale during intermission. Profits from the evening were: \$000000

- B. Support the dance program and education in CHS through program promotion (public awareness).

We concentrated this year on getting more information to the parents/families of the students in the CHS Dance program. We now have a monthly which we were successful in circulating three times this past school year.

In a further attempt to improve communications with its community of students, parents, teachers, artists and other associates, the DPC has launched its own website at [www.chsdance.ca](http://www.chsdance.ca). The website includes information about DPC meetings, coming events, the How Parents Can Help list, the Arts in the Community directory, information on funding and awards, success stories, links and resources. Our website is slowly getting off the ground and we hope it will become an important tool to get information to the parents of our dance students quickly and accurately.

- C. Support the dance program and education in CHS through costume, library and archives inventory and maintenance.



Through superior efforts of members of this committee we have been successful in cleaning, updating and re-organizing the existing storage rooms. This has led to an increase in space and a more accessible and organized set up for the costumes and props.

### **3. 2010-2011: Strategic Priorities**

This school year we will continue with our objectives:

- 3.1 Support the dance program and education in CHS through fundraising, event co-ordination, program promotion (public awareness), costume, library and archives inventory and maintenance
- 3.2 Enhance opportunities for students in the dance program at CHS through school visits, tours, student workshops and seminars, performances with professional artists and local dance organizations.
- 3.3 Raise public awareness in the local community of the importance of CHS Dance Program in terms of academic and social development, and career potential
- 3.4 Promote communication and the visibility of the CHS Dance Program with other Arts Programs, Arts teachers and school councils

To accomplish the above we aim to work on:

- website updates and improvements;
- monitor the Board and Ministry developments;
- recruit new members, including representatives of dance student body and dance parent community;
- strengthening connections with faculty, board and other arts committees. (The DPC made it a priority in 2010-2011 to strengthen relationships with other advisory committees. It has established a good relationship with ACA through Co-Chair Wendy Sewell and has a good working knowledge of the Music Parent Council through Nimet Mawij and hopes to continue to collaborate with other committees.)



#### **4. Budget**

The DPC has no allotted budget. All monies which were fundraised are deposited in the school account with the understanding they are for the dance program faculty use only.

#### **5. Elections**

We will be holding elections in September to fill any vacant positions. DPC will advertise this meeting to the dance parent community when school resumes in September.

#### **6. 2010-2011 Meeting Schedule**

The DPC plans to hold its meetings at Canterbury High School, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm once monthly.

#### **7. Conclusion**

The DPC is pleased with its accomplishments over the 2010-2011 school year. It has strengthened relationships with a number of individuals and groups, raised awareness among parents of the vital role they can play in supporting arts education and initiated some awareness among the dance students themselves. We are especially proud of our new student representatives. Their participation is a key element in achieving our goals. An important focus this year will be to recruit more team members. A lot of work falls on too few shoulders.