



CHS Dance Parents Committee Annual Report 2009-10

Submitted by Chair, Wendy Sewell

Established this past fall, 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 2009-2010 school year, DPC meetings were held at Canterbury High School in different locations from 7:00 to 8:30 pm on the second Monday of each month. At the first meeting, held September 2009, the committee elected Co-Chairs Wendy Sewell and Robert Klein.

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, average attendance for monthly meetings was 8 people. The following were members of this year's committee:

Wendy Sewell, Co-Chairperson
Robert Klein, Co-Chairperson
Kathy O'Hara, Secretary
Nimet Mawji, Treasurer and Archives and Library Coordinator
Sandra Baird, Events Coordinator
Lori Ferguson, Communications/Forms Coordinator
Nancy Blais, Costumes Coordinator
Pamela Wiggan, Fundraising Coordinator
Ken Ferguson, Web site advisor
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 Dance Night 2010. Dance Night. Profits showed a significant increase over the \$3,000 raised at the Dance Night the previous year. The funds will pay for some costumes, the Cornwall trip, a new camera, and the choreography for Dance Night.

Ticket Sales	3,441.10 (Dance Night Sales)
	<u>+ 4,038.00 (Pre-Sales)</u>
	<u>7,479.10</u>
Silent Auction	2,233.00
Baked Goods Sales	311.51
Drinks (Hot & Cold)	234.00
Flowers	70.00
DVD Sales	315.00
Total raised	10,642.61
Less Expenses	2835.19(drinks purchased, costumes, etc.)
TOTAL PROFIT	7807.42

- 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 are refining a monthly newsletter 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 is hard at work to launch its own website at www.chsdance.ca. The website will include 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 have expectations that it will be up and running in September.

- 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, and archival library.

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 2009-2010 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 collaborate with other committees in future.)



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

In the spring our Co-Chair, Robert Klein, was posted by the military to the West Coast of Canada. We will be holding elections in September to fill his and any other 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 on approximately the third Tuesday of each month, i.e. the following dates: September 20, October 19, November 16, December 14, January 18, February 15, March 22, April 19, and May 17.

7. Conclusion

The DPC is pleased with its accomplishments over the 2009-2010 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. The committee is proud to have achieved as much as we did in our first year of existence and has expectations to continue our efforts in the 2010-2011 school year.