



## School Advisory Council Annual Report – June 2023

School	Brookside Junior High
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Please list SAC members including names, membership type (i.e., parent, community member, staff), and role (i.e., Chair, Vice Chair).

Jennifer Helm – Chair  
Alison Lawlor -Vice-Chair, Parent  
Michelle Smith – Secretary, Parent  
Tammy Richards – Parent  
Patricia Straps – Parent  
Cameron Debaie – Teacher (NSTU)  
Evelyn Lamplugh – Teacher (NSTU)  
Marjorie Conrad – Admin Assistant (NSGEU)  
David Pedraza (8) – Student  
Charlie Whiting (7) – Student  
Vacant – Grade 9 Student  
Vacant – Community Member  
Vacant - Community Member  
Vacant - Community Member

Lisa Mansfield – Principal (PSAANS)  
Andrew Bray – Vice-Principal (PSAANS)

Please describe a summary of work undertaken by the SAC to improve student achievement and school performance.

The School Advisory Council at Brookside Junior High was extremely active this year. We saw Jennifer Helm step in as Chair and many other new members arrive because of students and parents coming from elementary and grade nine parents moving on to the High School. In the wake of COVID and the challenges that brought to student and families well-being, a central focus this year was increasing student engagement and well-being, while supporting the implementation of curriculum renewal through meaningful classroom experiences.

Having new members as part of the Brookside SAC brought some new ideas for school improvement and immediately plans were being made to extend our outdoor classroom and have our surrounding school outdoor space reworked for our students and staff. A grant

application was put together and submitted to the Prospect Road Recreation Association (PRRA) and we were successful in securing funds to complete this project in the coming year. Having new and improved outdoor spaces will be a benefit to our students both academically and will also support their well-being as we look to give alternate means of educational experiences.

The SAC has set a budget of \$7894.00 to help support student academics and well-being and as a team, we wanted to be creative on how we spent these funds. We reached out to teachers and asked what they wanted in their classrooms to support learning and received an overwhelming response in return. We had 8 classroom teachers out of our 14 homerooms request books, board games, STEM kits, storage solutions, flip charts, flex seating arrangements, crib boards, cards to help support their student's creativity and learning. In addition to classroom resources, books and materials, the SAC also decided to enhance our students outdoor time by provided sports bins for every grade level from 6-9.

Please list any significant milestones and success stories that the SAC would like to highlight.

The sports bins that were put together for every grade level was one of the accomplishments that had the students extremely excited. Unstructured outside time, especially for Junior High Students having no "play" equipment, often leads to more difficulties and challenges. After introducing the sports bins, almost every student was busy playing with items and interacting with each other in a positive way. Each grade level had a rolling bin filled with outdoor basketballs, volleyballs, tennis balls, frisbees, skipping ropes and soccer balls. Students were thrilled to have these high quality, new items to play with and this limited many of the negative behaviour incidents that came when students were idle.

Another milestone would be securing the PRRA funds to improve our outdoor space around the school. We had started working on our outdoor classroom the previous year and although this space currently very useable with amazing wood benches and natural stone seating, the new projected plan would see a 40'x40' space be cleared and groomed with picnic tables added to both enhance our outdoor classroom options and make alternate seating and play space for students in the mornings and at lunch. We are extremely excited to see this develop.

Please describe any related sub-committee work undertaken by SAC members (e.g., School Options Committee).

N/A

### **Statements of Revenues and Expenditures:**

Expenditures supporting the school improvement plan (e.g., providing resources to support math and literacy instruction).

Various classroom materials were purchased after being requested by 8 out of 14 classroom teachers at Brookside Junior High. Funds totalling \$6,092.36 were utilized to provide books, games, and classroom supplies to enhance student engagement and learning.

Expenditures supporting policy development and implementation (e.g., supporting and promoting new policies).

Materials to promote Curriculum renewal were added into the above funds. These were chosen by teachers to promote inquiry, project-based learning and enhancing students experiences in the classroom.

Expenditures covering operational expenses; up to 20 per cent of provincial SAC funding may be used as operational expenses, if necessary, to encourage and support member participation).

SAC members have agreed to have an end of year dinner to promote active involvement and participation throughout the year. This year we decided to go to Marten's Kitchen and our members enjoyed dinner and appetizers at a cost of \$368.80. Student members were also invited and this served as our end of year celebration and closing for SAC.

Please return to School Supervisor by Monday, June 22, 2023. Thank you.