

DATE: June 20, 2011

SUBMISSION TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
FROM: OCDSB ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS

RE: ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR!

#### BACKGROUND / CURRENT STATUS

This was a year of transition and re-grouping for ACA. It was a year filled with activity and a sense of renewed purpose. We are pleased with the final results. Appendix A

We were fortunate to be riding the *Leading the Way* wave, and believe that the Board has made giant strides in recognizing how and why the arts are important for everyone. The ideas in the Board Improvement Plan helped shape our focus and allowed us to demonstrate how the arts can help everyone.

The new Strategic Plan contains a statement that is foundational to our view of all arts programming. It states that: "Developing a culture in which all people are welcome and challenged to be creative and contributing members; feel valued and respected, and where the success and creativity of our district is recognized and celebrated". That statement could well be a mission statement for the arts.

Our formal Terms of Reference were revised this year, but our informal goals have always remained the same. We aim to laugh at every meeting, eat some good treats, respect everyone's opinions and have a good time: all the while working on making arts education at the OCDSB both equitable and of the finest quality possible, for all students, in all schools.

We started our year as the official OCDSB participant in Culture Days, September 24th and 25<sup>th</sup>. Culture Days is a collaborative, pan-Canadian, volunteer movement to raise the awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of all Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. For that event, ACA had a video made, by a student, about Arts at the OCDSB. The screening took place in the foyer of Arts Court and in the lobby at 133 Greenbank Road. The feedback from both venues was exceedingly positive, both at the time and ever since.

Our next major event was the Arts Recognition Awards Ceremony, held at a full Board meeting in October. The awards are in recognition of outstanding service in the area of arts education and are presented annually to individuals, groups or organizations, as well as for special projects and events. Nominees, and recipients include OCDSB teaching staff, senior administration and community members. Appendix B

From that point on, we became focused on working with the Board to improve arts education. ACA presented three delegations to Education Committee, spoke in support of a motion by Trustee Curry at full Board and presented a delegation to Budget Committee. Our goal, as always, is to provide advice and support to the OCDSB, and to become an integral part of the dialogue on providing the best in Arts Education. Appendix C

To help us better understand who we are and what we stand for, the Executive committee of ACA instituted a series of monthly Salon discussion topics. For at least one half hour each meeting, the group discussed topics of interest in arts education. These discussions proved to be incredibly energizing, informative and an awful lot of fun. Appendix D

We continued our “grass-roots” campaign through school council presentations about the importance of arts education, emphasizing how school councils can work with ACA in making arts education more significant in their schools.

Our membership has grown and changed to better reflect the wider community. Our current members are drawn from the parent community, particular arts disciplines, and from large and small organizations.

Our revised Terms of Reference will allow us to reach an even wider community of interested individuals. They are now flexible enough to maintain a good balance of new members while retaining longer standing volunteers who provide a stable base, corporate memory and knowledge of how the system works.

As we have done for the past few years, ACA has publicly advertised for new members via the Communications department, asked the Board to publicize this to all school councils, sent notices to OCASC and used our many personal contacts.

Next year, there will be at least six new voting members on the committee. Appendix E

### **HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS**

Our Board allocated budget of \$1020 pays for copying costs, particularly for the handouts we use at our school council presentations, meeting costs, plaques for the ACA Arts Recognition Awards and general miscellany. Appendix F

ACA meetings were held at Fisher Park School Staff Room, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm one Monday of each month. There were 8 formal meetings and one final party. Attendance was excellent and varied from 14 to 30. A similar program is planned for next year. Appendix G

### **PRIORITIES FOR NEXT YEAR**

The year 2012 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Advisory Committee on the Arts. ACA plans to celebrate this event and will continue to highlight the importance of the arts in helping all students reach their potential in all areas.

The other focus of ACA will be the Blue Sky discussions about arts with the trustees and senior staff. We hope to help the Board achieve one of the Mission statements in the new Strategic Plan: to develop “a culture in which all people are welcome and challenged to be creative and contributing members; feel valued and respected, and where the success and creativity of our district is recognized and celebrated”.

### **THANK YOU**

The Advisory Committee on the Arts could not function without the dedication of the many community members, staff and trustees, who work with us each year to keep our committee alive and kicking. To all of you, we say thank you.

Appendix A: June Report Card (p. 3)

Appendix B: Arts Recognition Award Recipients (p. 4)

Appendix C: Presentations to Trustees (p. 4)

Appendix D: Salon Topics (p. 4)

Appendix E: Membership for 2011/12 (p. 5)

Appendix F: Budget Breakdown (p. 5)

Appendix G: Meeting Schedule and Recipe for Successful Meetings (p. 6)

**Appendix A: FINAL JUNE REPORT CARD**

NAME: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS
BOARD: OCDSB

E= Excellent; G= Good; S=Satisfactory; N=Needs Improvement

GOALS	COMMENTS	E	G	S	N
Arts Recognition Awards:	Highly successful event in October; 14 recipients; tons of media coverage; Co-chairs made presentations to both the Elementary and Secondary Principals to promote the Awards for next year	E			
Arts in the Community Directory	Updated in printed handout; on-line on ACA website; and OCDSB website Given out at all school council presentations	E			
Dog and Pony Shows	Not as many as we had hoped; only 7 this year; needs more active collaboration with OCASC; yet restrained by number of active volunteers to present the shows (14 in 2009, 6 in 10/, 7 in 2011)		G		
Monitoring Board Activities and presenting ACA's ideas at Board	It was a very active year; 5 presentations in total (including May 17 on To R) 1. Feb. 15, 2011: Education Committee Recommendations on Allocations of Instructional Coaches Helped focus on the new definition of Literacy and how Arts could help Result: helped ensure 2 <sup>nd</sup> Instructional Coach for the Arts 2. Mar 10, 2011: Education Committee Recommendations for Improvement in Arts delivery at the Elementary level Leading the Way in the Arts Concept; Result: motion by Trustee Curry (see next) 3. April 19, 2011: Education Committee, then full Board Motion by Trustee Curry regarding Blue Sky discussion on the Arts CARRIED ACA an integral part of dialogue 4. May 16, 2011: Budget Committee Impact of new Ministry Guidelines on Course Fees for Arts Result: more awareness by trustees of impact on arts	E			
Membership/Recruiting new members	A good mix of old and new: will have 5 new voting members with new ideas; Retained long term base of knowledge and corporate history.	E			
Updating/ improving the website	Revised basic information; still needs more information; An on-going challenge		G		
Updating out Terms of Reference	May 17, 2011: Education Committee Recommendations for changes to the Terms of Reference for ACA Result: (passed by Board May 24) revamped Terms of Reference, Removal of 6 year limit, expansion of membership categories	E			

## **Appendix B: ACA Arts Recognition Award Recipients: 2009/10**

Elementary Literary Arts:	Susan Atkinson – Rockcliffe Park P.S.
Elementary Music – P/J:	Doug Hume – Woodroffe Ave. P.S.
Elementary Music – Int:	Alison Read – J.H.Putman
Elementary Visual Arts:	Cathy Ayotte – Trillium E.S.
Secondary Literary Arts:	Joanne Leger Legault – Merivale H.S.
Secondary Visual Arts:	Jaclyn Canas – Merivale H.S.
Leadership in the Arts Award:	Rene Bibaud – Princ. Nepean H.S.
Community Arts Awards:	Mike Tremblay – Nepean H.S.
	Tara Klager & Chantal Leblanc – Castor Valley E.S
Elementary School Event (Visual):	Education. Week Art Exhibit- Woodroffe Ave. P.S. Patrice Seyer: coordinator
Elementary School Event (Performance):	So You Think You Can Dance – John Young E.S. Lisa Levitan: director
Secondary School Event (Performance):	An Evening of the Arts – Merivale H.S. Lisa Nash: coordinator
Secondary School Event (Visual):	John McCrae Art Show – John McCrae H.S. Evelyn Michaud, Mike Goodson, Margaret Grant
Marjorie Loughrey Lifetime Achievement Award:	Fabyenne Gosselin – Canterbury H.S.

## **Appendix C: Delegations and/or Presentations by ACA**

1. Feb. 15, 2011: Education Committee  
***Recommendations on Allocations of Instructional Coaches***
2. Mar 10, 2011: Education Committee  
***Recommendations for Improvement in Arts delivery at the Elementary level***
3. April 19, 2011: full Board  
***Support for motion by Trustee Curry regarding Blue Sky discussion on the Arts***
4. May 16, 2011: Budget Committee  
***The Impact of new Ministry Guidelines on Course Fees for Arts***
5. May 17, 2011: Education Committee  
***Recommendations for Changes to the Terms of Reference for ACA***

## **Appendix D:**

### **Salon Topics**

October 25, 2010

**“What should the role of competition be in arts education?”**

November 22, 2010

**“What do the arts teach that nothing else does? What vital learning would be lost if we remove the arts from class experience?”**

January 24, 2011

**“What is the most important part/ingredient of classroom arts teaching?”**

February 28, 2011

**“What is the role of censorship in an arts classroom?”**

March 28, 2011

**“The arts in schools should be taught only by professional artists.”**

May 2, 2011

**“ We should have system-wide/province-wide standardized testing in the arts, at Grades 3, 6 and 9”.**

June 20, 2011

Annual Report

Advisory Committee on the Arts

**Appendix E:  
Proposed Official Voting Membership for 2011/12**

Community Members / Organizations

Nancy Burgoyne  
Heather Flinn  
Debbie Holzman  
Judy Kirsh  
Helen Sadler (new)  
Alina Seguin (new)  
Dale Taylor (new)  
Sheila White (new)  
Michael Wilson

Parents

Claire Pelley (new)  
Katherine Stauble  
Gabe Thirlwall (new)  
Trina Whitehurst

**Appendix F:**

**BUDGET 2010/2011  
ASN 352 CAA**

Amount: \$1020

Budget	Items	Notes	Costs	Balance
\$ 1020	9 meetings	Juices, soft drinks, cookies etc Meeting supplies, paper, markers etc	\$255	\$765
	Photocopying costs for year	Copying for meetings Copying of handouts for school council presentations Copying for other presentations	\$ 140	\$625
	Arts Recognition Awards	Costs include plaques for recipients, food for reception, any extra costs	\$560 for plaques for recipients \$15.00 for drinks (the rest was donated)	\$65
	Dog and Pony show	Extra flash drives Most costs included in copying costs	\$40.00	\$25
	MISC		\$25.00	0

## Appendix G:

### ACA Meeting Dates for 2011- 2012

Monday Sept 26, 2011; Monday October 24, 2011; Monday November 28, 2011;  
no December meeting; Monday January 23, 2012; Monday February 27, 2012;  
Monday March 26, 2012; Monday April 23, 2012; Monday May 28, 2012  
June: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!!!

### Recipe For Successful Meetings:

**Oatmeal Fudge Bars** (compliments of Lisa Nash: baker to the stars at ACA)

#### Batter:

1 cup soft butter  
2 cups brown sugar  
2 eggs  
2 tsp. vanilla  
2 ½ cups flour  
1 tsp baking soda  
1 ½ cups quick-cooking oats (or old-fashioned)

#### Fudge:

1 can sweetened condensed milk  
1 ½ cup chocolate chips  
¼ cup butter  
1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

\*\*\*

1. Grease a 9 x 13 baking pan; set aside;
2. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar; add eggs and vanilla;
3. In a small bowl, mix flour and baking soda; add to creamed mixture. Mix in oats;
4. In a heavy saucepan, mix sweetened condensed milk, chocolate chips, and butter; heat until just melted, stirring often. Stir in vanilla and nuts, (if using);
5. Spread 2/3 of oatmeal dough (will be stiff) into prepared baking pan. Spread with chocolate mixture. Drop the remaining 1/3 of dough on top, by spoonfuls;
6. Bake at 350\* for 30 minutes. Allow to cool completely, then cut into bars.

Serve at ACA meetings.