

4. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI: 941-8534
Officer responsible:	Community Support Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval of an application for funding from its 2006/07 Discretionary Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Funding is being sought by Avonhead School for costs associated with some of its pupils attending a school camp in Twizel. In particular, funds are being sought for 12 children who are unable to afford the cost of the camp. These children are mainly from single parent or migrant families. The camp will run from 26 to 30 March 2007.
3. While a request for this funding could be considered the responsibility of either the Ministry of Education or Avonhead School, staff consider that many of the activity costs associated with this camp will be incurred outside of normal school hours and are additional to standard school curriculum activities. In addition, this application meets several of the Council's Community Outcomes.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There are no legal issues to be considered. The following outlines the cost involved:

Activity/Competition	Date	Cost
Five day camp @ \$323 per child	26-30 March 2007	\$3,876

5. Fundraising towards these costs to date has involved contacting other funding bodies (e.g. community service groups, gaming trusts) to enquire as to their willingness to contribute towards these costs. This includes requesting funding for particular costs associated with the trip for all students e.g. transport, accommodation. Success in these applications would reduce the \$323 per child cost.
6. The School will also be holding fun days with a fundraising component early in 2007 to assist with reducing the cost.
7. The families of the 12 children themselves will also be requested to make some contribution to the cost of the camp.
8. This School has previously received \$534 of funding from the Board for a camp in 2005.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board agrees to allocate \$600 from its 2006/07 Discretionary Fund to Avonhead School for costs associated with meeting the costs for 12 children to attend a school camp in Twizel in March 2007.

BACKGROUND ON THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUNDING REQUEST

9. The camp will involve the following visits and activities:
 - A high country station
 - A Lord of the Rings film site
 - A hydro-electric power station
 - Mt Cook National park (including meeting with DoC staff)
 - A salmon farm
 - Mountain biking.
10. These activities contribute to the objectives of the Social Studies, Science, English, Health and Physical Activity curriculum.
11. Of the 140 Year 7-8 children intending to go on the camp, only 12 are facing difficulties in meeting the cost. These are mainly from single parent families where the main source of income is a benefit, or are from migrant families whose parents do not have employment.
12. Many of the 12 children are having academic, social or behavioural difficulties at school. These young people will benefit from the camp through the opportunities that such an experience offers to improve self-esteem, self-confidence and social skills.
13. This application contributes to the following Council Community Outcomes: A City of Inclusive and Diverse Communities, A City of People who Value and Protect the Natural Environment, A City of Recreation, Fun and Creativity, and A City of Lifelong Learning.