



Zion Heights MS – School Council Meeting #1

Wednesday September 29, 2021
6 PM to 7:30PM

Attendance

Principal Chi Le, teacher Phil Dykshoorn, June Leung, Phouvieng Sackda, Aaron Iravani, Terri Wen-Ying Sung, Chickita Ngo, Dickson Liu, Jianfen (Jenny) Zeng, Seelan Visva, Jean Paul Ngana, Banasha Shah, Christine Tom, Mojdeh Mojaradi, Katherine Wang, Kalan Chung, Helena Zhao, mehri Maghsoudi, Czaee Arora, Kaiyan Fu, Hamid reza, Yashika Asrani, Shadi Lessan, Priya Mokha, Vivian Yao, Helena Chen, Samson Chiu, Jenny Zeng

1. Land Acknowledgement

"We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and the Inuit peoples"

"Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes accueillis sur les terres des Mississaugas des Anichinabés, de la Confédération Haudenosaunee et du Wendat. Nous voulons également reconnaître la pérennité de la présence des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuit."

2. Welcome and Introductions

Principal Le:

- Welcome all parents and guardians to our first school council meeting of the year.
- Privilege to return to the school community, honoured to be back serving this community.
- 3rd year as principal, last year I served as an interim centrally assigned principal supporting the virtual school in learning centre 2

3. Elections Chair/Co-chair, Secretary & Treasurer

Executives:

- 1- Co-Chair
June Leung – Current Co-Chair (Will continue for the second term)
Aaron Iravani – Current Co-Chair (Completed 2-year term)
New Co-Chair elected: Phouvieng Sackda (Year 1)
- 2- Treasurer
New Treasurer: Terri Wen-Ying Sung – (Single applicant, no election)
- 3- Secretary
New Secretary elected: Aaron Iravani

Voting members (Total of 15):

June Leung
Phouvieng Sackda
Aaron Iravani
Terri Wen-Ying Sung
Chickita Ngo
Dickson Liu
Jianfen (Jenny) Zeng
Seelan Visva
Jean Paul Ngana
Banasha Shah
Christine Tom
Mojdeh Mojaradi
Katherine Wang
Kalan Chung
Helena Zhao

4. Principal's Report – (Principal Chi Le)

People/Staffing

- Reorganization moved to Oct 12 – PROJECTED 472 (ACTUAL 464) – no reorganization is expected at this time
- 1 Lunch Room Supervisor – 1 Vacancy is available for this position

Program

- Grade 6-8 Middle School
- Gifted - Intensive Support Program - Special Education Class
- 2 Virtual Classes – Grade 6 Gifted, Grade 7/8 Regular class
- Special Education Resource and English as a Second Language Support is also available to students

Parent Concern Protocol

When reaching out to your School, Principal and Superintendent this is the process we follow (Steps to Address Your Questions and Concerns):

Step One - Classroom Teacher

If you have any questions or concerns, the first person to go to is your classroom teacher. The classroom teacher can help with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Classroom rules and consequences
- Homework and assignments

Step Two - School Principal

If you would like more information or you have questions that are beyond the classroom, the school principal can help (Ward 17 Schools).

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student registration

- Student schedules
- Student suspensions
- Report card concerns
- Classroom concerns
- Code of Conduct
- Safety and security
- Budget and fundraising
- School Council

Step Three - School Superintendents

Superintendents are responsible for a Network of Schools. They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

Plant/Facilities:

- HEPA filters in every classroom
- enhanced cleaning protocols continues from last year. Chairs and tabletops cleaned nightly
- enhanced HVAC filter changes
- Health & Safety – weekly meetings with TPH, TPH nurse assigned to our school; reopening meeting completed, TDSB H&S inspector conducts monthly visits, ZHMS Health & Safety school committee w/ parent consultation
- sick kids saliva test – started Sept 21
- TPH mobile vaccine clinic sat oct 2, 10-4, anyone born in 2009 or earlier can drop in

Guidance Counsellors:

Last year we had no guidance counsellors, but expect to have them this year, starting in October.

Class Parent Program:

Objective: promote effective communication between teachers, class parents as well as communication to/from the School Council. Looking for volunteers to be classroom parents (one per class). More details will be included in the Friday Files.

5. Teacher's Report – Mr. Phil Dykshoorn Grade 7 Teacher

General Items

1. The participation of the whole school in Terry Fox run, on Wednesday 29th. All classes were in the field throughout the day and all students reported satisfaction in the activity. This year it made more personal by stickers won by students to reflect on family or friends that may have suffered with cancer or society in general.
2. The Truth and Reconciliation Day for Thursday 30th is launched this year. All classes have investigated the meaning of the words, the background as well as awareness of Native traditions. Orange shirts or orange symbols will be encouraged that day. The students have begun activities to reflect this day by poster making, poetry reading, reflection pieces.

3. All students have a library period once per week and this will be used for book exchanges as well a co-teaching situation with the core teacher and the librarian.

Grade 6

1. All students are taught by professional French teachers and the introduction of real language usage in everyday interaction is encouraged
2. All students have been introduced to standard mathematical concepts beginning with patterns and sequencing and predicting the next step.
3. Students are engaged in outdoor environmental study of the ecosystem in the large field surrounding the school.
4. Students have been introduced to language and novel studies will begin soon with conjunction with the librarian.
5. Students participate in art, physical education and geography to expand student awareness of the world. In addition, drama is being taught one time per week.

Grade 7

1. More expectation is placed on students as intellectual progress is advanced and responsibility is placed more on the student.
2. Mathematical knowledge is being built and scientific notation and order of operations are the basis of the math curriculum throughout the year.
3. In science the awareness of the classification of matter is being taught currently.
4. Novel studies are being organized and various forms and style of writing are introduced to students.
5. Art, physical education and ISS are being taught in outdoor setting if at all possible with favourable weather.

Grade 8

1. Expectation is placed on the senior classes and deportment and proper behaviour is stressed because of the example they set for the younger students.
2. Mathematics is being built up from last year and the analysis of expression and the solving of the unknown.
3. Science has microscopy and with a double set of microscopes (60 in total), all students will be able to view living specimens in the next weeks.
4. Language is an extension of the past three years with more emphasis on independent ideas, defense of a view point and logic through current social events.
5. The use of the library and independent projects and investigations encouraged.
6. Art and physical education is continued for all Grade 8 students as well drama classes.

6. New Business

School council meeting times/dates for this academic year

- 1- Sept 29 – 6 pm – 7:30 pm – 1st meeting/elections – This meeting
- 2- Oct 27 – 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)
- 3- Nov 24 - 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)
- 4- Jan 26 - 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)
- 5- Feb 23 - 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)
- 6- Apr 27 - 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)
- 7- May 25 - 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)
- 8- June 22 - 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm (depending on agenda)

General Questions / comments:

- Concern was raised by Ken Ng regarding the use of face shields at Zion during lunch time, when students remove their masks to eat indoors. Ken indicated that based on public health recommendations, face shields are not necessary and do not provide added protection. Aaron responded by indicating that face shields do provide protection indoors when the masks are removed during lunch. It prevents potentially contaminated particulates/droplets to travel from a person's mouth directly outward towards a surface or another person's face. Chi added that the implementation of face shield was discussed with the our PH nurse who visited the school and she was complementary towards it, indicating that it is a good practice. Ken further indicated that he doesn't have a problem with the face shields, rather by the fact that it is a mandatory requirement at Zion. Other parents in the chat commented that they are happy that the use of face shield during lunch time is implemented at the school.

Motion to adjourn: Aaron Iravani
Second: Phouvieng Sackda

Meeting Adjourned at 7:31 pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday, Oct 27, 2021, 6:30 pm