

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 (6:30 PM – 7:45 PM)
VIRTUAL



ZION HEIGHTS MS
SCHOOL COUNCIL

ATTENDANCE:

School Staff: Principal Le, Ms. O, Ms. Cattell

Elected School Council Members (13 Voting Members): Phouvieng Sackda (Co-Chair), Eric Yao (Treasurer), Aarthi Vesva, May Mark, Kiran Asrani, Kalan Chung, Nina Chau

School Parents (in attendance): A Monshi, Jennifer, Carrie, Amir, Czaee Arora, Faye, Melody Nguyen, Antora, Christine, Sally, Jen Li, Mink Ogawa

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”.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Co-Chair’s opening remarks – (Phouv)

Good evening everyone, I hope you are all doing well and thank you for joining us tonight. Thank you Mr. Le for setting up this evening’s meeting.

Opening chat note from Principal Le, Good evening ZHMS parents, please sign in using the chat function. Just a reminder that this meeting is open to current ZHMS parents/guardians only. We want to welcome Ms. Cattell as our teacher guest and Julia and Dhyaana as our student guests tonight.

- ### 2. a. Approval of meeting agenda – motion by Phouv, seconded by Aarthi – **motion carried** b. Approval of February 7, meeting minutes – motion by Phouv, seconded by May – **motion carried**

3. Student report by Julia and Dhyaana

- April 4 math contest; practice happening every Wednesday during lunch
- Co-ed volley practicing and preparing for their tournament in a few weeks
- Badminton team for grade 6-8 tryout complete (team has been formed – practice are in the morning and after school)
- School dance hosted by Ms. Cattell and the SAC team was a great success.

4. Teacher’s report – (Ms. Cattell)

- Zion Track and Field Day tentative date: Thursday, April 27, 2023, 9:00 am – 1:45 pm (Rain Date: May 3, 2023). The event will be run like the TDSB Track + Field meets to give all Zion students a real meet experience. Students will sign up for two events during gym classes, there will also be other non track and field activities (face painting, colouring, board games, Zone sports and activities)
- Ribbons will be awarded to participants who place 1st to 8th
- BBQ at lunch, Parent Council will help make and serve the hotdogs (volunteer link will be sent out by Phouv closer to the event date)

5. Principal's Report by (Mr. Le)

a. Health and safety update (lockers, windows/doors, science labs)

Lockers & Science labs: A contractors have visited to inspect the sites to move forward with repairs and replacement.

Windows/doors: Underway this week, some classrooms may need to be temporarily moved for a short period of time. Work will happen from 4:00 pm to 1:00 am, plus weekend to make sure it's least disruptive.

b. Programming (school trips) Response to parents feedback from TDSB outdoor ed – bookings for next year will begin in May, two teachers have volunteered to lead, Mr. Dykshoorn & Mr. Nini.

– Day trips are still happening this year for some grades that have not been on a school trip.

– There were some issues with the excursion permission form. It's been resolved as of this morning (March 28). Hard copies are also being sent out with students.

c. Staffing (school allocation)

483 students projected

Gr. 6 = 169

Gr. 7 = 145

Gr. 8 = 169

23 teachers

0.5 reduction of Spec. Ed resource

0.5 reduction of ESL resource support

0.5 reduction of VP

0.5 reduction of clerical support

Library allocation is TBD

Guidance/Transitions Allocation is TBD

EA / SNA allocation is TBD

2 Models were presented to parents

Model A had fewer combined classes and more placement options for students

Model B had more combined classes and allows for more placement options for students

UPDATED - Mar. 23, 2023 - STAFFING ALLOCATION 23.0				
REG. GR.6-8 CORE	8		VP allocatior	0.5
GIFTED ISP GR. 6-8	10		EA	TBD
Prep / FSL	3.5		SNA	TBD
SP Resource	1			
Library	TDB			
ESL	0.5			
TOTAL	23	*.05 goes to VP		
Projected Enrolment	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	TOTAL
Regular	83	78	80	241
Spec. ED - ISP	86	67	89	242
Total	169	145	169	483
Virtual			1	1

We have 8 regular classes and 10 gifted ISP classes.

Some very severe budget cuts are happening for 2023:

VP from 1 to 0.5; Special Education from 1.5 to 1; ESL from 1 to 0.5; Library funding hasn't been confirmed; EA and SNA – not confirmed.

Ms. Francis – may be returning 0.5 (e.g., AM only)

Questions raised by parents:

Are we getting less resources? [Carrie] – Yes; 0.5 going to VP

Regular class average looks like it will be 30/32 students per teacher. Gifted classes capped at 25.

Proposed classroom models include split classes. Parents' voice is huge, along with teachers' and students'; all will be consulted.

Teacher	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9						
								83	78	80							241
Model A																	
HR 1								28									28
HR 2								28									28
HR 3								27									27
HR 4									31								31
HR 5									31								31
HR 6									16	16			combined 7/8				32
HR 7											32						32
HR 8											32						32
Model B								6	7	8							
HR 1								27									27
HR 2								28									28
HR 3								28									28
HR 4									15	17			combined 7/8				32
HR 5									15	17			combined 7/8				32
HR 6									17	14			combined 7/8				31
HR 7									31								31
HR 8											32						32

Are these numbers based on TDSB projection models? [Melody]

Yes, 2 models proposed for 2023.

Model B has three combined classes; and has advantages to both students and staff.

Is this change new? [May]

The cuts are due to 61M deficit across TDSB.

No funding for library and guidance counsellor.

Lost 0.5 clerical as well as 0.5 VP.

How can parents support?

Speak to the Trustee in regards to resource allocation. Reorganization in October pending student enrolments at the school.

Models A is preferred by parents to minimize split classes.

6. Financial report – (Eric/Phouv)

Current Bank Account statement **\$15,425.67**

Allocations of school funds so far:

- Graduation reception \$600
- School team jerseys (used \$971.60 of budget) \$1,000
- End of Year BBQ for students and staff \$1,500
- School tents \$3,000
- School Club materials from various teachers \$2,800 (itemized details in February 7 Meeting Minutes)

Total allocation \$8,900

Fundraisings raised to date:

- Halloween pizza lunch \$903.98
- School Spirit wear \$670
- Holiday bake sale \$979.50
- January 12, pizza lunch \$1,196.02
- February 2, pizza lunch \$1,248
- March 23, pizza lunch \$1,217.87

Approximate total money raised to date \$6215.37

9. School Council fundraising events and activities

COMPLETED

- a. Thursday March 23, Pizza lunch (\$1,217.87 profit)

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

- Spring Bake Sale April 4
- April 27 Pizza Lunch

10. New Business?

a. Graduation reception committee

We usually have the grade 7 parents hosting this event (Phouv will send out an email to council members with more details and ask someone to take the lead.

b. Zion BBQ committee

This BBQ will be held in June before the end of the school year – date to be determine.

c. Track and Field BBQ

This BBQ is for Ms. Cattell for Track and Field Day event. Phouv will organized and put a team together to host this event.

d. Food Sovereignty Session – Learning The Basic About Foraging

A flyer will be sent out with more details and asking parents to register for this event.

11. Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned @ 7:28 PM. Motioned by Phouv, seconded by May

School council meeting dates:

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 – 6:30 - 7:30 PM (Virtual)

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 – 6:30 - 7:30 PM (In person)