

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday October 13, 2022 (6:30 PM – 8:00 PM)



ZION HEIGHTS MS
SCHOOL COUNCIL

ATTENDANCE:

Newly Elected School Council Members (13 Voting Members): Phouvieng Sackda (Co-Chair), Guang Ying Mo (Co-Chair), Eric Yao (Treasurer), Key Kasravi, Dickson Liu, Jenny Zeng, Kalan Chung, Aarthi Visva, Kiran Asrani, May Mark, Fay Wang, Nina Chau, Nina Shi

School Parents (in attendance): Christine Tom, Clifford Mann, Hang Shi, Ben Wang, Susan Tsin, Czaee Arora, Norman Lin, Sugy Kodeewaran, Carrie Jiao, Hengameh Mirabedini, Samantha NG, Minako Ogawa, Jennifer Wu

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**): Hello everyone, my name is Phouvieng Sackda and I am the current Co-chair and this is my last year at Zion. Thank you for coming out to our first School Council meeting and for joining our School Council.
2. Election of new School Council (facilitated by Principal Le)
 - 2022-2023 School Council will have 13 voting members
 - Position of Secretary is currently vacant
3. Teacher’s report – (**Vice Principal O**)
 - Classes have signed up to make the morning announcements – students are doing a great job
 - Our character trait for the month of October is: Responsibility
 - This month we observe Somalian Heritage month and Islamic Heritage month
 - Our clubs and sports teams are up and running: Girls Basketball, Boys & Girls Soccer, Football, Cross Country, Choir, Library Assistants, Robotics Club, Board Games Club, Eco Club, Art Club
 - Zion has hosted 3 Soccer tournaments this week
 - Zion Activity Council (for Grade 8s): Spirit Week & Halloween Activities
4. Principal’s report – (**Mr. Le**)
 - ❖ Health & Safety
 - Masks and Sanitizer are available for students & staff
 - Classroom are operating HEPA air filters
 - Zion’s building is 50 years old and the windows are not operative. All school windows and doors are being replaced as soon as materials are available. This process will be ongoing and continue throughout the school year until completed
 - Care taking staff continues to clean high touch surfaces and area – this typically begins at 330pm daily
 - School permits for use of building facilities and gym have restarted
 - Still Pending: Science Lab Counters
 - Scheduling: Replacement of School Lockers
 - ❖ Programming
 - Grade 6 EQAO – historically Zion has ranked in the 90%+
 - We currently have 450 students enrolled – 18 homerooms (10 are IEP)

- Art & Enrichment – Zion is one of a very few middle schools in TDSB with full band & strings program – instruments were purchased by School Council
- Last year 200 students participated in Math contests – we will continue to participate in these contests for all three grade levels this year
- We are trying to plan for outdoor trips – for every class
- TDSB Parent Concern Protocol was reviewed

5. Financial report – (Phouv)

- Currently our cash bank balance is \$8,985.22. This balance was carried over from the previous school year. Since the beginning of the school year, there have been no activities or transactions
- Last year the School Council raised about \$3,000 and spent about \$3,300

6. School needs and allocation of School Council funds (Phouv)

- Request to allocate funds for annual graduation ceremony hosted by School Council at year end:
 - Amount requested: \$600 – motion by Phouv, seconded by Key – **motion carried**
- Request to allocate funds for End-Of-Year BBQ celebration for students and staff
 - Amount requested: \$1,500 – motion by Phouv, seconded by Mo - **motion carried**
- Request to allocate funds for additional School Team Jerseys (total of 55 competition uniforms)
 - Amount requested: \$1,000 – motion by Phouv, seconded by Key – **motion carried**
 - Phouv to personalize the jersey numbers

7. School Council fundraising events and activities:

- Need to set-up School Council's Fundraising Committee
- Zion Heights Spirit Wear (Started) – Fridays are usually Spirit Days
- Pizza Lunch fundraiser (need a volunteer coordinator) – Currently using Dominos – goal: once/month
- Bake sale 2x/year: winter (December) and spring

Question: Can Council members and committees utilize school facilities for meetings? Principal to follow up with TDSB (Michelle Monroe), however, Mr. Le is typically in the school building between 4pm-6pm and Council can coordinate with him to operate under his permit, as needed.

8. Class Parent Program (CPP) – (Christine/Phouv)

- Recruiting for Class Representative (Class Rep)
- Introduce Class Rep to the teacher and parents of that class
- Class Rep to create Class Group
- Currently 6 out of 18 classes have parents reps

9. Would like to set-up a School Wide Initiative and Enrichment program

- Student Wellness/Safe & Caring
Gaug Ying Mo volunteered to lead with support from Sugy Kodeeswaran and Aarthi Visva
- Math & Literature contest
Jenny Zeng to lead

10. New Business

- Parents are concerned with the school's backpack policy (Admin to review current policy)
- Parents raised concerns about the condition of the lockers – broken and many are very rusty

Motion to adjourn: Phouv Sackda, seconded by Key Kasravi.