

# Zion Heights MS - School Council Meeting



ZION HEIGHTS MS  
**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Wednesday January 22, 2020

## Attendance

Key Kasravi, JP Ngana, Elsie Mandadakis, Parisa Tashakori, Mojdeh Mojaradi, Katherine Whang, Aaron Irvani, Sylvia Yim, Banasha Shah, Dava Slater, Principal Chi Le, Acting VP Mark Kraczyński

## Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from Dec 6, 2019 Council meeting, Aaron. Seconded and approved by all present members of 2019/2020 school council

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Banasha Shah	banasha.shah@psd.com	607-234-1749

## Principal's Report:

### Term 1 Reports

Term 1 reports will not be sent home, as per Director Malloy's letter to parents. However, teachers are still expected to:

- Assess and evaluate students
- Respond to parent inquiries, including request for phone calls
- Be available for Parent-Teacher interviews on Feb 14, Friday. New this year, Friday interviews are for all day. There will be no Thursday night interviews.

The marks will be told by teacher to student and the expectation is the student writes it down. Parents with concern on student performance can still make an arrangement with the teacher to discuss, via Parent Teacher interviews or separately arranged. Teachers are still expected to assess and evaluate students and reach out to parents where there is concern/need to speak with parent.

### Asian Heritage Month

Zion will be launching Asian Heritage Month in May and would like parent council members to participate.

Currently, a performance is planned. For purposes of inclusion, multiple Asian Heritages will be celebrated.

### Facilities

New PA system is currently being installed, work to continue until March break.

Work order has been placed to replace the countertops and millwork (cabinets) for the Science Labs in Room 106 and 110. Work order is currently priced for countertops and millwork, should issues arise re: lines and pipes, new estimate will follow.

Separate work orders have been placed to replace/repair damaged/broken/aging lockers.

### Staff

Mr. Demakopoulos' return will be reviewed again end of Jan.

Mr. Gardziejczyk (gym) is on leave and arrangements for replacement are being reviewed.

## **Program**

To follow up on parents' concerns last meeting:

### *PE and Health Education Programming*

PE teachers will use 3 gym classes to support the Health curriculum in Term 2, students will be given the schedule in February. Workshops have been scheduled to support the Health curriculum (Dove Self-Esteem, Toronto Public Health). Yoga will continue to be a part of the Health & Wellness programming.

### *HSP Model*

Mr. Le circulated 2 handouts. TDSB Mission, Values and Goals; and TDSB Multi-year Strategic Plan.

[https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/Multi-Year%20Action%20Plan\\_Flow%20Chart.pdf](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/docs/Multi-Year%20Action%20Plan_Flow%20Chart.pdf)

[https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/leadership/board\\_room/MYSP\\_Guide\\_V3.pdf](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/leadership/board_room/MYSP_Guide_V3.pdf)

In line with TDSB's multi-year strategic plan and goal of inclusion/special education, HSP students will be integrated into regular classes and still be provided support for their needs. Studies have shown that HSP/applied track (i.e. separation from normal class) has not bettered the success rate of these students and hence the integration strategy.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership-Learning-and-School-Improvement/Special-Education>

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/portals/0/aboutus/research/acaseforinclusiveeducation.pdf>

### *Parent support/advise on board policies and/or advocate on behalf of their community and concerns*

Mr. Le circulated the Parent Concern Protocol.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Contact-Us/Steps-to-Address-Questions-Concerns>

Parents interest in advising on board policies/procedures may be interested in the Secondary Program Review and Optional Attendance policy that is currently under review.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Secondary-Program-Review>

Parent Council requested to have input in the Inclusion Model, as previously discussed, prior to the model being finalized in order to ensure resources are available so that all students are treated fairly and academic and learning standards are maintained. Principal committed to honoring the request to engage with Council and provide enough time to discuss further.

Council followed up with Principal Le regarding the full rotary scheduling model for next year. Principal Le agreed that the rotary model works well at Zion and benefits the students. Principal committed to maintaining the rotary schedule on a go forward and acknowledged that regardless of implementation of inclusion model, rotary schedule will remain at Zion.

Principal Le shared that the Secondary Program Review is underway. Noted that it is proposed that optional attendance applications will be limited. Parent involvement and engagement is required and survey is open now.

Work Action: Teachers will respond to emails and calls about student progress, although report cards may be affected by work action. Students will have conferences with teachers to know their marks. Perhaps students can be told to write down the info during that conference. Teachers will still call home if there are concerns

### **School/Classroom needs**

Teacher-librarians have followed up on request for purchase of chromebooks. The request was presented at last council meeting. In the last meeting, option 1 was provided as a comparison to illustrate the price difference for 40 higher end desktops, 30 of such desktops cost \$19,212 vs \$9,312 for 30 chromebooks. Option 2 for 30 chromebooks is the preferred option.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Council has made \$3,437 so far. This represents profits for 3 pizza lunches and 1 bake sale. This does not include \$320 raised during Arts Night, which was donated directly to the music department.

The Fundraising Committee has been asked to set a target and think of events to reach target. Aaron will be collecting ideas.

Money raised could be used for Chromebooks or XMovement (an additional PE activity).

For an XMovement initiative, the school maybe able to contribute 50%.

Possible donation from RBC for \$1000, same as last year.

### **Committee Reports**

SSON submitted as of Jan 22.

Key to reach out to Ken on Safe & Caring Committee updates.

### **Other Business**

Entrepreneurial adventure underway; to teach G7 and 8 financial literacy, and involves conception of business case to market of products to G 6.

School is seeking interest from Parent council to liase with the teaching team (Miss Manu) for parent volunteering opportunities.

At the meeting, Banasha, Sylvia, Key and Elsie expressed interest. Key will send email to Ms. Manu and connect interested Council members with program lead..

Council Inquired from Principal Le about possibility of recording and saving video links of school presentations and assemblies, available for watching later by parents and students, and as a venue to inform parents of going-ons at school.

Proposal to start go forward council meetings at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

### **Next Meeting**

February 19, 6 pm