

Zion Heights MS - School Council Meeting



ZION HEIGHTS MS
SCHOOL COUNCIL

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Attendance

Key Kasravi*, Katherine Whang*, June Leung, Jennifer Gillick*, Dava Slater*, Vice-Principal Mark Kraczynski, Principal Chi Le, Metwalli Abdelsalam, Ken Ng

Approval of Minutes:

Quorum was not met – only 4 voting* members were present. Meeting will be informational only.

Principal's Report:

Term 1 Reports

Please see attached.

Facilities

Flooring has been replaced in staffroom. The storage room in the gym will be the boys changeroom for the rest of the year. Ceiling work in the regular boys changeroom will be done during the summer. Carpet tile in Rm 200 to be replaced in March.

Asian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month celebration is potentially canceled- final decision to be made in April.

Staff

ETFO strike is ongoing.

Mr. Demakopoulos' remains on leave. Mr. Kraczynski will remain in the position for now, but will soon be replaced by another retired principal or by a temporary vice-principal

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

Ms Rafik is returning and Ms Gonzalves will be leaving.

Treasurer's Report

There is roughly \$8,000 in bank

Pizza lunch tomorrow. We expect to raise about \$500

Our net cash position will be about \$8,500

Fundraising

Key to follow up with Aaron regarding other fundraising activities and communication with Parents. If we choose to do a Please Give campaign, we need to do that before the end of the month.

There is concern that this might not be the climate for this drive.

Principal notes that morale is low amongst, staff, parent and community.

Principal shares that Mr. Miller posted a heart-breaking letter about the LGTBQ club that is not running.

Key notes that we need to pursue the fundraising if we would like to meet the requests from staff.

If we can raise \$5,000-\$6,000, we can meet the numbers for the chrome books and maybe leave \$2k-\$3k for next year. If we do not make a critical amount, we will need to forego some expenditures this year and plan to carry over, or plans will need to be modified.

There is a potential for a grant of up to \$1,000. We need to look at the needs from parents. There were about 6 items that came up from parents: parent education topics of interest, such as media, mental health etc. Key has been working with the Trustee James Li on this topic. Maybe we can video tape the Speaker(s) and share it with other schools to maximize the value from TDSB dollars. Can we make these parent education meetings easily accessible (website with login credentials)? Can we look at alternate ways to licence the presentation or a weekend conference. The discussions with Trustee include addressing the need to figure out a way to make it easier for parents to access the information if parent education is the goal.

Mr. Metwalli Abdelsalam spoke about leadership, about the administration in the school, and about how the parents are the best example of leadership. He also spoke to the need for the voice of parents to be heard by the ministry regarding this situation with ETFO. What is TDSB doing?

Suggestions were given by various members:

One of the things that some people are doing is going out on strike with the teachers.

The answer is to speak to MPP.

Put it in writing. If you look on the website, there will be an email address online to write to.

On Friday, there will be a strike at Queen's Park, parents can attend.

The Principal recommends that parents write to Sam Hammond.

Our MPP, Vincent Ke, has been met with for over an hour. He has not provided any insightful progress update or details. All we can do at this point is write to him and explain the importance of education quality and continuity for our community. If you want to play an active role, more than voting, contact the Liberal party or the NDP about what they will be doing going forward.

The 6pm start of Parent Council meeting was discussed.

Mr. Metwalli suggests more emails to solicit parent feedback.

It is noted that the meetings are open to everyone, that the minutes are posted, as are the dates.

Next Meeting

March 25th, at 6pm