

Zion Heights MS – School Council Meeting #3

Wednesday November 24, 2021
6:30 PM to 7:30PM

Attendance

Principal Chi Le, teacher Mr. Singh, June Leung, Aaron Iravani, Terri Wen-Ying Sung, Chickita Ngo, Dickson Liu, Seelan Visva, Jean Paul Ngana, Banasha Shah, Mojdeh Mojaradi, Katherine Whang, Kalan Chung, Kiran Asrani, Samson Chiu, Jenny Zeng, Henedy Eng, Jessica Li, Michael Zhang, Minako Ogawa, Tejal Mody, Yash Mody, Cathy Wu, Suzy Chen, Christine

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

Co-chairs – Phouv and June

Good evening and welcome to the second School Council Meeting. Thank you for joining us. We have much to get through today and I hope we can address everything in today's agenda.

Approve Agenda for the meeting – Motion : Katherine, second : Banasha

Approval of October 27th, 2021 meeting minutes – Motion : June, second : Aaron

3. Students' Report

Presentation by Bernice and Elenna from Class 8-1

Exciting learning activities at all grades.

4. Teacher's Report – (Mr. Singh)

Grade 6:

A combination of social studies, language and data management and are using various social justice themes and exploring ways of showcasing that data whether that be graphs or other forms.

In Science, they are learning about biodiversity in nature.

Grade 7:

Students are exploring landforms and have just finished creating a multimedia presentation Language- working on short stories using the NANOWRIMO program. Nanowrimo is a non-profit organization that supports young writers and challenges them to write and be daring creatively. Art- Venturing off looking into elements of game design

Grade 8:

We are exploring models of integers and are moving toward using algorithmic/abstract thinking to solve more complex problems. We are engaged in an inquiry in Geography where they are choosing a place they may like to create a settlement. In science we are continuing to explore microorganisms and particularly the process of diffusion and osmosis. Drama and Art - Pixel art creations and monologues or smaller drama pieces.

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

COVID safety update – cohosting (with Pineway and Steelesview) TPH vaccination education Session – Wednesday December 1, 2021, 6pm – 7pm (tentative). Parents will receive an invite and there will be a Q/A session.

Programs & Extracurriculars – will be gradually phased in starting in January and starting with Grade 7 & 8 students. Students will need to update their vaccination status on the TDSB website in order to partake in extracurricular activities. Homeroom teachers will also help in this process and ensure the confidentiality of all students. A TDSB letter will be sent to families tomorrow as this is a board wide policy and all students need to update their vaccination status in order to be able to join in on extracurricular activities.

People / Staffing - Ms. Zenith Issacs, one of our Lunchroom Supervisors has been hired as our temporary school COVID screener and is helping out in the morning to screen students and following up with parents when required. We are currently have an additional LRS vacancy so community members who have experience volunteering and/or working in schools or with children are welcome to email their resume directly to our Vice-Principal Mr. Emmanuel Peter or drop it off at the school. LRSs work for 75 minutes a day Monday to Friday during our two lunch periods. Two office staffs are on leave – wishing them speedy recovery. There are two temps filling in for them at this time.

Mr. Peter: Lockers have been assigned to students. This is well received by students, they are excited about it. The use of lockers will be scattered throughout the school. There will not be any locks on the lockers.

6. Discussions

Class Parent Program (Christine):

Currently there are 14 parent reps, we need 3 more as per the list below for our in-person classes and need 1 more for our virtual classes (see below):

IN PERSON CLASSES

6-1 Ms. Peter	Parent Rep: LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEER
6-2 Ms. Corrieri	Parent Rep: Melissa Bessey
6-4 Mr. Campbell	Parent Rep: Kalan Chung
6-5 Mr. Nini	Parent Rep: Christine Tom
6-6 Ms. Gonsalves	Parent Rep: Kiran Asrani
7-1 Mr. Tong	Parent Rep: Phouvieng Sackda
7-2 Ms. Saba & Ms. Kang	Parent Rep: Ha Hoang
7-3 Ms. Tsoy	Parent Rep: Jessica Li
7-4 Mr. Dykshoorn	Parent Rep: Olivia Mo
7-5 Ms. Tharmaratnam	Parent Rep: LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEER
8-1 Mr. Singh	Parent Rep: Ina Ai
8-2 Ms. Tam	Parent Rep: LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEER
8-3 Mr. Chong	Parent Rep: Chiho Iwatha
8-4 Ms. Cattell	Parent Rep: June Leung
8-5 Mr. Dafos	Parent Rep: Ken Ng
8-6 Ms. Park	Parent Rep: Banasha shah

VIRTUAL CLASSES

6 Ms. Evron	Parent Rep: David Zhang
7/8 Mr. Caligiuri	Parent Rep: LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEER

Spirit wear – School apparels (June)

133 orders were submitted and the Council raised approximately \$830 which is impressive.

5. Financial Report (Treasurer: Terri Sung)

As of October 31st, the total amount in the account is \$9,158.34. This was carried forward from the previous school year. Since the beginning of the school year, there has been no activity or transaction in the account since the start of the year.

6. New Business

Middle-School Experience for our Students

Banasha: Giving our students middle – school experience for them to remember and cherish in the future. With the reduction in restrictions, can we look at the gaps as a group of parents and try to bring it back. Leadership skills by creating the opportunities for them, such as school trips. Volunteer sub-committee for this initiative: Banasha, Chiho, Kalen, Aaron, Terri, Katherine and help from VP Mr. Peter.

Mr. Peter: Pandemic Recovery Plan – Good resources available online. 8 areas of focus – one key area being wellness and belonging.

School Wide Initiatives – Enrichment Program

Clubs and after-school programs can commence with limitations in January.

Field Trips and workshops are expected to begin in January 2022. Workshops on Cinematography, black racism workshop through organization from York University are examples some of the workshops that will be coming to Zion next calendar year.

Contests and Competitions

Jenny Zeng: Grade 6 Gifted wrote 2 math contest, 2 students did very well and got high distinctions.

Mr. Peter and Mr. Singh and Jenny to organize academic (including science) contests. Briefing including deadline for registration to be provided for the next Council Meeting or communicated with the parent community through parent reps.

Students can participate in only one extracurricular activity at a time.

Potential activities: Lego Mindstorm, Robotics – To be determine in the new year.

Graduation (June)

Ms. Joan McArthur (Chair of the Graduation Committee) – coordinating graduation for our grade 8 studens. June to work with Joan to organize the graduation, including booking a venue etc.

Motion to adjourn: Banasha

Second: Aaron

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 26, 2021, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm