

LE PHARE ELEMENTARY

# SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

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17 NOVEMBER 2020 / VIRTUAL MEETING

## ATTENDEES

Sherwyn Solomon

Crissy Hallock

Caitlin McIlveen

Peggy Sun

Raman Pall

Tanya Thomas

Margaret Crosier (Peggy)

Marianna Connors

Ashley Maltais

## AGENDA

### **New Business**

- There will be no school lunches this year due to Covid-19 (No Lunch Lady, Subway etc.)
- As we do not have quorum, any proposals for money motions will have to be done offline for funding.

### Fundraising

- Mabel's Labels will be a fundraiser this year, with 20 percent of funds going to Council. Last year Council made \$187.
- Budget will remain in Google Drive for all to review. During the meeting Council filled in other spreadsheet amounts for proposed spending this

school year. For instance, Council discussed spending money to install basketball nets and paint lines in the schoolyard.

- Raising funds via Auctria's online auction platform:

It was decided that a money motion would be sent out via email to approve spending for using the Auctria platform. Our initial package with Auctria would not have an annual fee, for up to \$13,500 raised through the site, this year. However, there would be a Stripe Credit Card fee (about 2.9%) for each donation. We would offer to donors to "cover the fees" at checkout. In addition, 1% of the total raised goes to Auctria on this package (ie, if we were to raise \$5,000, that would be \$50.00 to Auctria).

Jevin Maltais, who is assisting council with Auctria, will help Marianna with drafting the narrative to promote the Auctria initiative - namely using Auctria's online auction site to raise funds for school items, such as snow shoes. A Stripe account will be set up this week (platform that allows parents to pay via credit card on the Auctria website).

This week Council will email teachers to get their input on snowshoes so that we can buy the best brand that suits our needs and budget. In particular, we want to know if velcros (from Decathlon) or other types are best.

Peggy suggested snowshoes to do a snowshoe telethon so parents can sponsor their children and help raise money to recoup the snow show costs.

- A money motion for \$500 dollars for fundscrip gift cards was discussed and will be proposed via a money motion to support several Le Phare Families in need this Christmas season, in lieu of hampers which have been done in the past.

### Principals' Report

Teachers & School Administration (Principal and Vice Principal) are thankful for all Council does, and especially for the voice amplifiers for teachers that will help. Thanks also goes out to parents for all doing their part - it has been a huge group effort to keep everyone safe. So far there have been no Covid-19 cases at Le Phare.

- Staff Changes:

Joanne Lanthier who has been part of the office staff team has moved on to a new position at Henry Munro Middle School. There is currently a hiring process underway to find her replacement. Joanne was an integral part of the Le Phare school community and will be missed greatly. There are also a few upcoming staff changes due to upcoming maternity leaves.

- There is currently no information as to whether schools will continue to stay open or close in the near future.
- The School District is addressing various equity issues (ie: indigenous, racial etc.). A Parent survey was completed and data is being compiled so the District has a better picture of what is occurring. For instance, the rates of suspension for indigenous youth and other student groups were significant. Data shows that there were three times the normal rate of suspension for indigenous youth. In general, 90 percent of suspensions are discretionary in schools. Approximately ten percent of suspensions are mandatory. Suspensions from Kindergarten to Grade 3 are no longer permitted. It is the hope that we will start to see significant changes in terms of improved equity.
- The School District has hired more equity and graduation coaches who are targeted towards certain groups. In particular, Sherwyn has sought out support for translation for Le Phare. There has also been an investment of money for District documents to be translated so that all parents can access important information related to their kids' education (languages other than English and French).
- Caitlin shared that teachers have been working hard on reading assessments. Teachers will be given release time to get assessments done, and they will make plans and interventions as necessary for students needing help.

- Other

School Council has a lot of popcorn left in the Council storage room that is due to expire soon. As such, Council is donating it to Le Phare for craft projects.

## NOTES

- There will be no Council Meeting in December 2020.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Virtual Money Motions for Auctria costs and Gift cards for Le Phare families in need.
2. Setting up an Auctria site and promotion among Le Phare families.
3. Survey teachers regarding their preference for type of snowshoes to purchase.

## NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday January 19, 2021