



SCHOOL COUNCIL YEAR-END REPORT

Please make a submission by 31 October. Your submission will be shared with the School Principal, school office staff, the Policy Analyst, and the Family Community Engagement Coordinator.

For additional guidance, please refer to [School Councils Policy P.014.SCO](#)

And [School Council Elections, Constitution and By-Laws Procedure PR.509.SCO](#)

School Name: *

Le Phare Elementary School

School Council Chair: *

Marianna Connors and Jaya Gupta

School Year

2022-2023

The School Council Mission and Vision: *

Our Mission

Le Phare School Council is led by parents, dedicated to enriching the school experience for students and families in our school community.

We've got GOALS

- 1)Support education Raise funds for classroom items, performances, academic resources, extracurricular activities, play equipment, upgrades, and more!
- 2)Collaborate with teachers Liaise with teachers & Principals, share feedback, offer advice, discuss priorities, and work together.
- 3)Enrich our community Lead and join school events, foster community outreach, support parents, and enable inclusion for all families at Le Phare.

Members of the School Council: *

Co-chair Jaya Gupta

Co-chair Marianna Connors

Co-Treasurer Neil Qian

Co-Treasurer Nicole McCann

Co-Secretary Tanya Thomas

Co-Secretary Samenah Bartholet

Member, Lunch Lead Bonny

Member, Lunch Support Sam Neale

Member Steve Chapman

Member Julia

Member Lunch Volunteer and On Site Coordinator Kristina Sarris

Member Pavel

Member Rachel

Member Caroline

Member Peg Sun

Member Ghada

Admin Deirdre Sims, VP

Admin Juliet Robinson, Principal

Note from the School Council Chair: *

Our priorities in 2022-23 were to engage families, build up the capacity of Council, focus on free, inclusive events, and prioritize building community over fundraising. We were guided by our initial Family Survey conducted early in the school year.

Our biggest challenge has been the departure of our Principal, the acting appointment of our new Principal, and then her subsequent departure. The administrative turnover has been difficult for students, families and for Council.

One of our greatest successes has been inviting and building up Council membership since its lowest point during/post Covid, including building our volunteer roster for weekly student lunches, the School's annual Literacy Week book exchange, and helping at our Monster Mash, Movie Night and Spring Picnic.

A summary of the School Council activities this school year, including fundraising activities, if applicable: *

Family Survey: Conducted early in the year, the guide for our activities and investments. Findings were posted on our website and discussed among Council. <https://lepharees.ocdsb.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=225070&pageId=37518114>

Monster Mash: This year offered the return of our Monster Mash event, the first time in-person since Covid. We offered it with free entry as a costume dance party for families, as well as a quiet movie space. Families were pleased to see the annual Monster Mash return.

Our 2022 Toy Drive this year was a big hit, collecting dozens of toys and delivering them to Toy Mountain at the mall. Thanks again to a parent at Performance Sports Therapy for partnering with us to collect as many toys as possible. Happy Holidays Ottawa!

Movie Night: We hosted a successful movie night for families. Again, consistent with our priorities for the year, entry was free. We offered popcorn and drinks for sale. We hosted two movie rooms (one for the youngest kiddos, and another for the juniors). It was well attended and fun activity for all.

Spring Picnic: With the rain, we held our event indoors instead. We sold pizza and snacks and combined our event with our PRO Grant project - which included a cultural, diverse performance as well as a DEI book giveaway that the children were very excited about! We're pleased whenever we can host families.

Student Lunches: We were pleased, post-covid, to get student lunches up and running again. Pizzas and Sub days, rotating on Thursdays, helped to bring funds into Council that were reinvested in school priorities. One of the highlights of our Lunches program is the option for families to "buy a lunch" for a student who may not have otherwise been able to participate; and then Council orders lunches for students with the help of the VP. It's a very charitable and generous element of our lunches program.

Fundraising: We did not prioritize fundraising this year, with a focus instead on community building. Fundraising activities included:

Our student lunches program earns a modest profit, and other small fundraising opportunities did help Council support the school.

Weekly "popcorn days"

Inviting online contributions to the "Students' Wishlist" <https://lepharees.ocdsb.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=225070&pageId=33554602>

FundScrip and Mabel's Labels ongoing "kickback" style fundraisers.

Modest profit from events (eg selling pizza and snacks)

If fundraising activities are applicable, please indicate the spending plans approved by your School Council: *

Our Council sets aside 10% of all revenue toward our "Community Fund" which is a charitable fund to support local families.

Another 10% is conventionally set aside to save over the long-term for an eventual new play climber.

Our most notable expenditures this year included: field trips; donated student lunches; Grade 5 graduation T Shirt gifts; Staff Appreciation luncheon and gift cards; contributions to the School's Luv2Groove dance program; DEI book giveaway; French take-home readers; e-reading software licenses Raz Kids; and extracurricular activities for families (eg swimming membership at Splash Wavepool).

Comments for the successor School Council: *

We have a healthy School Council and a very engaged community. We'll continue to let families be our guide! Our Annual Plan, established in June, will be the new guide for next year's Council, outlining activities and priorities month-by-month.

Names of School Council members contributing to this report: *

Marianna Connors, Co-Chair
