

**Le Phare School Council
Meeting Notes
September 2023**

Attendees:

1. Marianna
2. Jaya
3. Neil
4. Steve
5. Caroline
6. Kristina
7. Peggy
8. Deirdre VP
9. Nila (youth/community rep; alum)
10. Brenda Principal
11. Priyanka
12. Juliet former Principal
13. Viviana and Greg
14. Sam
15. Peg
16. Christina W
17. Upol
18. Rachelle
19. Tea
20. Mateo
21. Nicole

1. Land acknowledgement by Marianna

2. A brief summary of our role and work as council.

- Some formal pieces, but mostly an informal group of volunteers trying to enrich the school with events, some fundraising, liaising with the staff etc.
- Volunteering with ONFE valid for 5 years for vulnerability check. More details : https://lepharees.ocdsb.ca/school_council/volunteers

3. VP update

- Priority for right to reading, strong capable readers in both languages
- Priority for school climate, building relationships with and among students, resilience and respect, survey as writers and math learning.
- Looking for hands on learning experiences but looking at an extremely limited budget
- Outdoors, Eg Forest walks
- New OCDSB Strategic Plan: learning; wellbeing and social responsibility – literacy and math; mental health supports and resources; cultural strengths

- Upcoming dates: Terry Fox Day(Sep 27) ; Rowan's Law(Sep 28) ; Meet the Staff(Sep 28) ; National Truth and Reconciliation Day(Sep 29)

3) Executive Roles/ responsibilities

Nominees confirmed

- Jaya and Kristina nominated and Co Chairs
- Neil nominated as Treasurer, Kristina as Co-Treasurer
- Marianna, Caroline and Sam as Co-Secretary

Total 20 nominated members, including the Executive, plus Principals

Other Members may present in future.

Final Elections form will be sent asap to confirm Membership and Executive ; Principal Spearman will oversee and validate the election results.

4) Forward planning

- Approach to school lunches (pizza and subs). Sam and Caroline will manage lunch delivery. Kristina will continue to coordinate volunteers. (If anyone would like to help in volunteer coordinator role, please let us know)
 - Upcoming Vote : vote will likely seek to confirm/update prices.
- Proposed to continue with BMO as our financial institution, continuing to separately bank not through the school; no opposition. Neil and Co-Chairs will work on financial forms to launch this year, with Brenda's signature.
- Date and time works for meetings for most Members. Just over 50% prefer virtual meetings. Potential to consider ~2 in-person meetings at intervals to enable in-person collaboration. Dates : Oct 17, Nov 21, Jan 16, Feb 20, Mar 19(TBD), Apr 16, May 21 and June 18.
- Monster Mash will go ahead, Fri Oct 27th. Marianna will coordinate, with lots of great help!
- Popcorn conversation will be deferred to next month to discuss with the Principal.
- Fruit for the office will be deferred to next month to discuss financial needs with the Principal.
- Mabel's Labels campaign will continue this fall. Promote for your friends!
<https://lepharees.ocdsb.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=225070&pageId=33554508>
- Family Survey will be re-distributed this fall, no opposition. Co-Secretaries will work with Co-Chairs to prepare a draft for Council input.

- i) Teacher Rep -Principal Brenda will assist in finding a teacher rep who can join council meetings.
- j) New and existing members willing to volunteer for upcoming events. Yay!

Special thanks to Juliet as former Principal and to Brenda for stepping in from her retirement as interim Principal until a new Principal is appointed after the Winter Break.

Special thanks to all parents for engagement and especially new parents for joining!