Laurentian School Council Agenda and Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2026
Time: 6pm
Location: Laurentian Library

Agenda

Attendees:
Steve Gray - Principal
Angela Szijarto - Vice Principal (Minutes)
Karina Gumz - Chair
Adam Finch - parent
Sara Olmstead- parent
Janeth Williams - Teacher

Welcome & Introductions

What is the role of school council?

- An advisory body composed of parents, the principal, a teacher, a staff member, a community member and, in secondary schools, a student. School councils provide an opportunity and the means for parents to advise the principal and the Board on any matter pertaining to improvement of pupil achievement and enhancing the accountability of the education system to parents/guardians.
- School council is not a place to pursue your own agenda. Individual issues should be pursued through the classroom teacher, the Principal or the school Superintendent.

School Council Roles

- Election process, if necessary, to determine the following roles will happen at a later date:
    - Chair - Karina Gumz
    - Vice Chair
    - Secretary
    - Treasurer
    - Members at Large
    - Voting Members

Principal's Report - Stephen Gray

- Good News
    - Very positive start to the school year!
    - Steve spoke of the positive community at LAU
    - Council members asked what is different - we spoke of positive students, consistent administration and staff
- September Events
    - Teams
        - Boys & Girls Football
        - Boys & Girls Volleyball
        - Cross Country - Janeth spoke to this
    - Clubs
        - Bike club
        - Skateboard club
        - Cultural Appreciation club
        - Choir
        - GSA
        - Yearbook
        - Athletic Council
        - Leadership Council
    - Nutrition For Learning
        - Food for All - Angela shared the program and goals and our opportunity to be part of this pilot program
    - High School Info Presentations
        - Eastwood Integrated Arts Program - Wed. Oct. 14
        - Cameron Heights IB Program - Tues. Oct. 27
- Upcoming Events
    - Rohingya Family Info Night - Steve spoke to this
        - Wed. Oct. 28
        - Forest Hill PS
        - 2:30 - 3:30pm
    - PD Day - Mon. Oct. 26 (Union Planned)
    - Fall Fair Day - Fri. Oct. 30
    - Grade 7 Immunizations - Fri. Nov. 6
    - Remembrance Day - Wed. Nov. 11
    - Picture Retake Day - Fri. Nov. 13
    - Progress Reports go home - Mon. Nov. 16
- School Learning Focus - Steve spoke to this
    - Literacy
    - Numeracy
    - Attendance

- Laurentian (unofficial) School Beautification Committee - Steve, Angela and Janeth shared how this is creating belonging for students and staff and the community

Council Initiatives/Goals:

- Karina will apply for PRO grant - Angela sent link
- We spoke about continuing with Find Your Joy in the Spring - discussed possibility of a guest speaker
- Council would like to have a Spring Vendor Market attached to Find Your Joy to raise some funds for year end trips (busing) (vendor fees as the fundraiser)
- Council would like to be a bigger part of the Holiday Hampers and baskets - it was discussed that Sheri Bowman has taken this on in the past and council would like to support by seeking donations and helping to assemble/distribute baskets

Future Meeting Dates:

- **Tuesday, November 24**
- **Tuesday, January 26**
- **Tuesday, February 23**
- **Tuesday, April 27**
- **Tuesday, May 25**