



Leslieville Junior Public School Council Welcome Package September 2022

Hello and Welcome!

The Leslieville Junior Public School Council is a dedicated group of parents and caregivers who generously volunteer to work together with the school administration to enhance the student experience here at LJPS.

We've put together this Welcome Package – September 2022 to give you a sense of who we are, what we do and how you can get involved.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL?

School Councils are groups of volunteer parents and guardians, as well as members of the school administration, who work together to enhance the student experience.

School Councils in Ontario are governed by regulations 612/00 and 613/00 of the Education Act. Their purpose is clearly defined and one we believe in: "The purpose of a school council is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents."

Leslieville's School Council is open to any parent or guardian with a student in attendance. Even if you can only attend a single meeting or volunteer at one event, **we would love to meet you!**

WHO RUNS THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

It is run by parent and guardian volunteers. Every September, an election takes place for Council Executive members (see more below). There are also many volunteer positions to help with everything from communications to planning events to submitting grant applications.

Everyone is welcome to attend a meeting and at our meetings everyone has a voice and a vote.

The more voices we have at our meetings, and the more diverse those voices, the more the decisions we make as a Council - about events, fundraising, programming and more - will reflect the wants and needs of our school community.

Leslieville School Advisory Council
Welcome Letter – September 2022

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE ROLES, SUBCOMMITTEE ROLES AND VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Here are the formal Council roles voted in at the September meeting – and anyone can take on these positions:

- Chair/Co-Chairs
- Secretary/Co-Secretaries
- Treasurer

We also have Subcommittee Lead roles for: communications; eco team; volunteer organizer; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; grants; and more. We always need event planners, fundraisers, day-of volunteers, writers and other skill sets so we hope you'll join us at a meeting to get a sense of how you might be best able to get involved.

WHEN ARE THE MEETINGS AND CAN ANYONE ATTEND?

We meet on the **third Tuesday of each month** and encourage everyone to participate. The monthly meetings are a great way to stay informed about what's happening at the school, and to have a say (and a vote) about things that matter to you.

WHEN IS THE FIRST MEETING?

Our first meeting will be at the school **Tuesday, September 20th from 6pm to 8pm in the staff lunchroom located on the 2nd floor.**

The agenda will include:

- Introduction to Council and its committees (and how you can get involved);
- Election for Executive positions;
- Principal and Teacher Updates;
- Discussion about upcoming initiatives and events.

We'd really love to see you there.

Sincerely,

Amy Lazar Kleiman & Meaghan Hastings
School Council Co-Chairs 2021-2022

For all the latest information about LJPS School Council, please follow us on Facebook: @leslievilleparentcouncil and on Twitter : @LJPSCouncil . Visit our website for more info: School Council website at www.leslievilleschoolcouncil.org



2021-2022 Successes

Our focus during the last school year was to provide a helpful, collaborative voice to ensure our children were safe and happy, as many were experiencing in-person school and virtual school during a disruptive worldwide pandemic.

We worked hard to create opportunities for parents, students, and the school community to come together, in most cases virtually. By June, we were able to come together in person for some fun and engaging events.

We wanted to share with you some of our notable achievements:

- We hosted a **day-long DJ dance party** outside for all LJPS students, including our virtual classes in June.
- We organized **two Coffee Under the Canopy** events for parents and caregivers to meet and mingle under the canopy.
- In December and March, we organized **Staff Appreciation Lunches** to thank school staff and administration for all that they do.
- We participated with 5 other area schools in a 3-session **virtual series, How to Talk to Your Kids About Racism** with The Freedom School.
- Our **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee** hired a consultant to survey **LJPS parents about community comfort and safety**, and held a virtual information night to discuss results and actions to improve parent engagement.
- We had a parent-led, family-activated **School Yard and Kindergarten Garden** clean up and planting day.
- We have a **parent-led communications team** that updates the permanent school sign, runs our social media channels and designs posters to promote events.



What our fundraising supports:

We help to fund programs, items and initiatives that enhance our children's learning experience throughout the school year. In addition to the successful initiatives listed, here are some more examples:

- **Purchased 10 portable microphones** for teachers to amplify their voices while teaching in masks and outside.
- Every teacher has access to \$150 for a **Classroom Enhancement**, funded by School Council and most of our teachers took advantage of it.
- In the past, we have assisted in bringing in a program called **Scientists in the School**, so every class could experience a unique in-person science activity. Last year, many classes chose to participate in the program virtually.
- Jointly-funded **two virtual learning initiatives for our school community**, with five area schools, which included a 3-session Anti-Racism series about How to Talk to Your Kids About Racism with The Freedom School and a series of Indigenous Knowledge sessions.

PLUS we have two initiatives planned for September 2022 including:

- **Welcome Back Picnic & Dance** with families and DJ Mike Harding on September 14 from 5-7pm
- **Birthday Books Program** for all LJPS students, rolling out all year Sept-June with students choosing a free book (sponsored and provided by School Council) in their birthday month.



Join Leslieville School Council: Make a Difference for Your Children

We welcome you to School Council - whether you are new to the school or already part of our community, we want you to participate. If you are a parent/guardian, you are automatically a member of the School Council.

The Leslieville School Council is a group of parents and school staff who **meet once a month** to discuss important matters affecting our school.

Why join?

- Learn about issues such as: budgets, staffing, EQAO student testing, special events, initiatives and fundraising.
- Play an important role in the flow of information between the School Board and the school community.
- Influence and make decisions that affect our students and the programs in our school.
- Be involved in your child's education. Parental involvement is directly linked to student success.
- Become a bigger part of the Leslieville family and get a behind-the-scenes look at our school and the TDSB.
- It's easier than you think! And we're a pretty fun bunch, if we do say so ourselves!

Where: 2nd Floor Staff Room

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

First meeting: Tuesday, September 20

Elected Positions on Leslieville School Council

An election for positions on Leslieville's School Advisory Council is done at the start of every school year. Nominations for elected positions are taken at the first School Council meeting. If you wish to nominate yourself or another parent for one of the following positions, please attend **the first School Council meeting on Tuesday, September 20 at 6-8 p.m.**

- Chairperson/Co-chairs
- Treasurer
- Secretary

There are non-elected Subcommittee Leads and volunteer roles all year long. Come out to a meeting to find out how you can get involved!

***If there is more than one nomination for a position an election of these positions by the previous School Council will take place one week following the first School Council meeting.



利士梨村公立小学家长理事会： 让您的孩子与众不同！

欢迎您在新的学年来到利士梨村公立小学。我们想告诉您我们的家长理事会以及参与其中的方法。无论您是学校的新成员或是已经是其中的一分子，我们都欢迎您的参与。如果您是父母/监护人，您已自动成为家长理事会成员。

利士梨村公立小学家长理事会由家长和学校的工作人员组成，每月聚会一次，讨论影响学校的重要事项。我们商讨预算，人员编制，EQAO学生的测试，特别活动和筹款等。

家长理事会同时也在教育局和学校社区信息交流中担任重要角色。我们可以影响和制定有关我们学生和学校课程的计划。

最重要的是，利士梨村公立小学家长理事会在您的孩子的教育中扮演着重要角色。家长的参与直接关系到学生的成长。请考虑成为利士梨村公立小学大家庭的重要一员。

时间： 9月20日
每月的第三个星期二)
地点： 一楼会议室
时间： 下午6:00至8:00

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