

# Graham and Parks School

Cambridge Public Schools JK-5

## Steering Committee

10 February 2022

7:00 – 8:00 pm

### **Steering Committee Meeting Norms**

- Be punctual & prepared
- Avoid side bar conversations
- Be mindful of air time
- Assume positive intentions

Committee members in attendance:

#### Administrative Appointees:

Claudie Jean-Baptiste - Interim Principal  
Jennifer Lavalle - Interim Assistant Principal  
Lauren Morse - Family Liaison

#### Teacher Representatives:

Karima Cherguaoui - Co-Chair  
Erin Garcia  
Katie Lynch  
Melissa Mihos  
Mary Gallagher

#### Parent Representatives ([bios here](#)):

Kris Dickson - Co-Chair  
Shawdee Eshghi - Secretary  
Christian Henry  
Vivian Pales - Hiring Committee Rep  
Jessica Britton

#### Attendees

Meeting Convened, Introductions & Greetings | 7:00 pm

Principal's Update

Steering committee changes

- district want elections for family members and staff to happen in May
- this time table might leave out SEI families that join in the fall
- we will have election in Sept 22 as usual and an additional election in May 23 to get on the cycle with other school
- how to maintain representation?
  - maybe hold a spot for an SEI representative and have them join in September?
- Lauren shared a document that lays out the new membership guidelines - some small changes from what we already do now
  - for example, principal should be co-chair with a parent - this is a state requirement
  - currently, in practice, meetings are planned with not just parent co chair and teacher co-chair, but also principal and one other person
  - some flexibility - maybe rotating facilitator or collaborative agenda setting?
- School Council handbook - goal is to help councils to be more intentional about being a mechanism for equity
- Should we change the name? Other schools call it "School Council"
  - Officially changed to School Council!

Lauren

- next week at arrival and dismissal there will be a stand outside the school with free books!

Update on Principal's Search

- references are being checked
- Assistant Principal position has been posted - interviews will start once Principal position is finalized

5th grade end of year celebration

- traditions are coming back
- Portfolios - student present 2 pieces of work demonstrating their growth
  - parents and community members sit on committee
  - June 13 and June 14
  - invitations will be going out soon
- not doing the overnight this year so there is excess money
- they will use it to make their newspaper - it's \$700 vs in the past years it was \$500
- they are making a yearbook - parent donated copying
- moving on breakfast - in the past it has been catered
- they would also like to purchase flowers to give to students
- They do a walk to Fresh Pond and want to do something fun - pizza, ice cream truck or cookies
- Beach trip!