

**SOUVENIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD
2016-2017 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT**

1. The School

Souvenir Elementary School was originally founded as a high school for the St-Martin School Board in 1963. In 1965 it became an elementary school for the Chomedey community. Through the years, Souvenir has maintained a thriving, multicultural population. Souvenir has a long tradition as a meaningful and challenging learning experience in a warm and positive environment. It is committed to providing an environment that promotes student self-worth in which the unique social, emotional, physical and intellectual needs of elementary school learners are addressed. Combined with home and community, the environment gives students the opportunity to develop their potential. Souvenir's mission is to foster the development of lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

2. Programs

The philosophy of Souvenir Elementary School is that all children can be successful. It is also our belief that when parent, child, and staff communicate in a positive way on a regular basis, the child will succeed.

Souvenir is a bilingual school with Kindergarten being taught with 20% English and 80% French. The Cycles 1, 2 and 3 are taught at 53% English and 47% French.

3. The Governing Board

Composition

This year's governing board was composed of the following:

Parents: Jimmy Abraham (Chairperson), Eugene Sakellaropoulos (Vice-chairperson), Krikor Bijian (Treasurer), Effie Kontakos (Home & School Rep and Parent Committee Rep), Peter Koutroumanis, Sylvia Christou (Before & After School Program Rep, Community Rep), Nekee Doshi (Sept-Dec), Cynthia Abraham (Jan-Jun)

Teachers: Jennifer Bell-Pierre, Maria Daklaras, Elisa Mucciardi (Secretary), Deedee Steinberg, Susan Reinblatt

Professional: Cheryl Smith

Principal: Eric Ruggi

4. Field trips

Several field trips were approved throughout the school year. Most were approved at regular meetings while some were approved using electronic voting via email.

5. Academics

The governing board reviewed and approved the school's subject time allocation for 2017-2018, and the strategic plan and MESA for the 2016-2017 academic year in order to ensure that strategies are in place to either maintain or improve its current success rates. We also approved the Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan and other initiatives to promote student success.

6. Financial Matters

The governing board participated in the school board's budget consultation process and made recommendations for budget priorities. The governing board also reviewed and approved the school's 2017-2018 budget and the list of items to be charged to parents, which includes workbooks and other fees. The governing board also maintained a balanced budget of its own.

7. School premises

The governing board approved the creation of a MEES subsidized daycare for the 2017-2018 school year. The governing board also approved various rental requests from community groups and private individuals for the use of school facilities. Most importantly, the governing board approved the rental of the school for a large summer camp. The rental rates have been standardized for everyone and are in line with common rates.

8. School activities

The governing board approved the school calendar for 2017-2018, including the timing of parent-teacher meetings and ped days. We agreed that the first parent-teacher meeting and General Assembly of parents was best before the first day of school. The governing board was supportive of the many activities throughout the school year. These include the Scholastic Book Fair, Field Trips, AGAPE Christmas Basket Drive, Sports Teams, StoryTellers, Minds in Motion, Skating Rink, Fun Day and much more.

An extra special thank you to the school administration, teachers, staff, volunteers and parents who contributed to making 2016-2017 a successful year for the Souvenir Elementary School Community.

Respectfully submitted,

Jimmy Abraham
Governing Board Chairperson