

**SOUVENIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD
2015-2016 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), Tammy Williamson (Secretary), Effie Kontakos (Home & School Rep, Treasurer), Eugene Sakellaropoulos (Vice-chairperson), Peter Koutroumanis (Parent Committee Rep), Sylvia Christou (Before & After School Program Rep, Community Rep), Cynthia Abraham (Parent Committee Rep – alternate)

Teachers: Jill Davey, Elisa Mucciardi, Deedee Steinberg, Susan Reinblatt, Maria Daklaras

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

Souvenir reviewed its subject time allocation, strategic plan and MESA for 2015-2016 academic year in order to ensure that strategies are in place to either maintain or improve its current success rates. We also approved the ABAV plan and the École-en-Santé initiatives.

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 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 also approved various rental requests from community groups and private individuals for the use of school facilities. The rental amounts have been standardized for everyone and are in line with common rates.

8. School activities

The governing board approved the school calendar for 2016-2017, including the timing of parent-teacher meetings and ped days. The governing board was supportive of the many activities throughout the school year. These include Field Trips, AGAPE Christmas Basket Drive, StoryTeller, Trotti-bus, Minds in Motion, Skating Rink, Golden Touch, Family Fun Fest and much more.

9. New leadership

The governing board acknowledged this year saw a large change in leadership. A new Principal and Vice Principal as well as a new Governing Board Chairperson and Secretary. Through the tenacious and organized efforts of the new Principal Eric Ruggi, the school has run very well all year.

An extra special thank you to the school administration, teachers, staff, volunteers and parents who contributed to making 2015-2016 a successful year for the Souvenir Elementary School Community.

Respectfully submitted,

Jimmy Abraham
Governing Board Chairperson