



LÉMAN CHENGDU  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

## LFA Meeting Notes on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019

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### In Attendance

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**LFA Parents:** Cindy G., Florence, Jeff, Lilian, Josephine, Norma, Cindy N., Lucy, Evelyn, Grace, Paola, Chini, David, Sherry, Wendy, Sylvia, Amy, Aejung, Chris, May, and Virginia

**Faculty:** Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Richard, Mr. Steven, Tina, Mr. Tom, Mr. Paul, and Mr. Jarrett

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### Food Policy

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Mr. Ferguson shared that due to new China policy, no outside food or drink can be distributed or sold on campus. The LFA enquired what this would mean for International Day. The administration believes that it would also apply to International Day. They expect to know more information in the following months and hope that policy will either change or that permits will be granted for special occasions. Mr. Ferguson expressed that this is an unfortunate policy to which we must do our best to adhere. For now, it is okay to bring in outside food for one's self, so long as it is not shared. The administration also stated that they will make the official Chinese document available for the LFA to read.

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### Safeguarding

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Mr. Steven stated that safety is the number one priority of Nord Anglia and that all staff are checked out before being allowed on campus. The teachers receive safeguarding training including what to do in instances of abuse or neglect. All staff members receive I.D. badges and are to look out for adults on campus without badges. This means that parents should not be wandering around campus unaccompanied by a staff member. Mr. Ferguson explained that they want to keep security as tight as possible and are reevaluating how to make this work as smoothly as possible. The administration suggested that parents ought to make an appointment before coming to the school or to call reception to give advance notice. They value parental input and may soon implement a parent ID card and/or a sticker pass for vehicles.

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### Student ID Cards

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The LFA mentioned that families have long been awaiting student ID cards and inquired as to whether they will be a possibility this school year. Mr. Steven stated that secondary students would be more likely than the primary students to wear and keep student ID cards safe and suggested that if Leman families would like to receive an immediate school ID card they can go through the Chinese government, which will give the student access to student discounts across the country. Parents can obtain a letter certifying their student's enrollment at Leman and from reception.

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## Athletics

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Mr. Tom expressed that the LFA has been a big help in past athletic events and due to the new food policy, we will need to reimagine the role that the LFA can play in future events. He shared that the Explore China trips are rapidly approaching and even though there have been a few hiccups with the location changing, both Mr. Paul and Mr. Tom have been working tirelessly along with the tour company, Extravagant Yak, to make sure the trips will be a success. He admitted that there were complaints about the short notice to submit payment, but also acknowledged that the information regarding the trips and payment schedule were shared with parents from the first day of school. The athletic department is constantly evaluating and reevaluating the processes of the excursions and vowed to continually work hard to make it an enjoyable experience for all involved. Mr. Ferguson added that Explore China trips for next school year are already being researched and the school welcomes parental feedback and input to make sure that the trips are appealing and accessible to everyone. The LFA inquired whether there would be an effective means of communication from teachers to parents while the trips are underway. Mr. Ferguson shared that the most successful way to communicate with parents during this time will be via WeChat. Therefore, *temporary* WeChat groups will be established during that time and disbanded once the students are safely home.

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## Communication

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Mr. Steven explained that as WeChat is a social media platform, it is not compliant with the Nord Anglia and GDPR data protection policy. As the number one priority for Nord Anglia is safeguarding the children, they have removed WeChat as a means for parents to communicate with teachers. This will prevent the unauthorized spreading of photos of the students and also protect the privacy of Leman families. Parents are still allowed and encouraged to communicate with one another via WeChat. Teachers will communicate with parents via SeeSaw, ManageBac, and Email. Both SeeSaw and ManageBac can be downloaded via an app to smartphones, making it more convenient.

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## Languages for Middle Years Program

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Mr. Jarrett briefly explained the changes in the rubric for the Languages program in MYP. He shared that from now on when students receive scores of 7-8, they will be able to move to the next level of study. The language program is now IB compliant. There will be a parent session on September 20<sup>th</sup> by Ivy and William to help explain these changes. Mr. Jarrett also shared that the Creative Active Service Enrichment (CASE) program has changed slightly in that students can receive 8 credits total, with a max of 5 credits in any category. At the end of the school year those that have completed the program will receive a principal's award. Students that are working on the program have been adding information to their ManageBac folder.

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## Construction & School Updates

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LFA thanked the administration for explaining which projects had been taken on over the summer holidays and inquired which projects will be part of the coming year's schedules. Mr. Ferguson stated that the rubberized surfaces under the playground and climbing frame will be replaced this school year. There will be updates to the air filtration throughout the school. They will continue to update the gym and pool areas, and plan to hire a designer to streamline the library space, transforming it to an up-to-date student learning center. Next school year they look forward to expanding into many more educational projects to benefit Leman's students.

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## Communication Liaisons

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The LFA stated that they are happy to pass information from the teachers to the parent groups for each grade or classroom. They request that teachers ensure that information is in a shareable file such as a PDF or flyer to make distribution easier. In addition to individual homeroom parent liaisons, Josephine from the LFA committee is the liaison for Primary school and Florence is the liaison for Secondary.

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## Uniforms

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LFA shared that many parents complained about the pullover jacket being unbreathable and difficult for younger kids to remove on their own and asked if the hooded sweatshirts could be used. Mr. Ferguson stated that their will be a full zip version available before wintertime and that the hoodies are no longer part of the Leman school uniform.

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## Emergency Transportation

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The LFA inquired regarding what type of transportation would be used in an emergency situation and to which hospital the injured would be carried. Mr. Ferguson explained that minor injuries will be cared for by the school nurse and that in the case of major injury the hospital used would depend on the type of injury. He also admitted that Mr. Paul would need to answer this question more in depth as he handles these matters.

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## Substitute Teachers

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LFA asked about the removal of substitute teachers for the school and who would care for the children when a teacher was out. Mr. Ferguson maintained that the best teachers for the job are the ones that are within the walls of Leman. He stated that they are experienced, qualified, and they know the children best. He also stated that in the case that someone needs to be called in as a substitute, they have some trained teachers available.

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## Cafeteria Logistics

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The LFA inquired about the cafeteria logistics that had met some difficulties at the start of the school year. Mr. Ferguson announced that a new strategy has been implemented, with no staggering of lunch periods for the students, giving them ample time to finish their meals without feeling rushed. They are planning to open up the second floor of the cafeteria as the school continues to expand and will continually monitor the situation to ensure that lunch hour is a smooth operation.

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## Secondary Counselor

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The LFA noted that parents were enquiring about the lack of a secondary counselor and worried that it would impact their student's University applications. Mr. Ferguson assured that obtaining a counselor for Secondary school is a top priority and they are working to do it as soon as possible.

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## Parent Involvement

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The Administration shared that Léman welcomes parent involvement and expertise in working with the teachers and students to make this a successful school year. Parents should contact homeroom teachers to volunteer.

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## Upcoming LFA Events

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The LFA announced their upcoming annual coffee to take place on the morrow at Ascott. They are also looking forward to a luncheon for the parents on September 20<sup>th</sup>. In October the LFA will host a wine social at the Fairmont on the 19<sup>th</sup> and on the 16<sup>th</sup> will sponsor a CPR class at the school and welcome parents, ayi's and teacher assistants to attend. When the LFA questioned whether they will take part in the Halloween festivities, Mr. Steven mentioned that the Secondary students will likely not be involved this year. Mr. Ferguson stated his intention to communicate with the LFA regarding their involvement by the end of this week.

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## LFA Meeting

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The meeting began at 11:00am and ended at 12:30pm.