



# Commission scolaire English-Montréal

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## English Montreal School Board

### COMPLETING THE GOVERNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

#### **Members**

Please list each member of the governing board and identify the group each member represents, e.g., parents, teachers, other staff, daycare, students, community, socio-economic, etc.

#### **Attendance Record**

This is optional but will provide information to the school community that could assist them in the election or selection of members to sit on the governing board.

#### **Number of Meetings Held**

Identify the number of regular and special meetings held during the year.

#### **Activities, Programs, Services & Issues /Actions Taken**

List the major topics by month that were dealt with and the associated actions taken.

#### **Sub-Committees and their Mandates**

If your governing board established sub-committees to look at issues and make recommendations, please identify.

#### **Informing the School Community**

The school community includes parents, staff and sometimes the larger community. Briefly describe the method(s) used, e.g, newsletters, notices, etc.

#### **Recommendations**

Please indicate any recommendations for next year's governing board in terms of actions to be taken, issues to be addressed, method of operation, etc. You may wish to identify specific measures you would like the school board to take which would assist the functioning of the governing board.

#### **Chairperson's Message**

This is optional but might include observations about the general assembly, the accomplishments, the challenges, the general functioning of the governing board, etc.

**GOVERNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT  
2020 / 2021**

<b>School:</b>	<b>Elizabeth Ballantyne School</b>
<b>Principal:</b>	<b>Ms. Christina Chilelli (<i>principal</i>) / Mr. Saverio Servello (<i>interim principal</i>)</b>

**Governing Board members and meeting attendance breakdown**

NAME	POSITION/ GROUP REPRESENTED	MEETINGS ATTENDED												TOTAL	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
Melissa Robertson	Parent / Chairperson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							7
Saverio Servello	Principal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							7
Maria Orjuela	Parent			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							5
Nina Hébert	Parent	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓							6
Monica Morales-Perez	Parent / Treasurer		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							6
Lori Press	Parent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							7
Lisa Bucciarelli	Parent / EMSBPC Rep		✓		✓	✓		✓							4
Kate Marien	Community Rep / Secretary				✓	✓	✓	✓							4
Lucy DePetrillo	Teacher	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓							6
Jessica Doubt	Teacher		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							6
Rose Servello	Teacher		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							6
Melodie Charette	Daycare Technician			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							5
Joe Lalla	EMSB Commissioner			✓	✓		✓	✓							4
Ekaterina Valkova-Damova	Community Rep / MWCL Librarian						✓	✓							2
Total Regular Meetings		6		Total Special Meetings						1 (AGM)					

**Activities, Programs, Services & Issues and Actions Taken**  
**Governing Board Resolutions Discussed**

Activities, Programs, Services, and Issues	Actions Taken
<b>September (29/09/2020)</b>	
Motion to approve community representative: Kate Marien	Appointment
Creation of a GB Fundraising subcommittee	4 GB members committed to volunteering
Motion to approve GB Code of Conduct	Approved
<b>October</b>	
<i>MEETING CANCELED</i>	
<b>November (24/11/2020)</b>	
Motion to approve 2 <sup>nd</sup> Community Representative: Ekaterina Valkova-Damova (MWCL librarian)	Appointment
Motion to approve change in 2020-21 school calendar: 3 additional PED days from government	Approved
Motion to approve daycare handbook	Approved
Motion to approve sexuality education curriculum	Approved
<b>December</b>	
<i>MEETING CANCELED</i>	
<b>January (26/01/2021)</b>	
Motion to adopt the EBS Educational Project	Adoption
Motion to approve the Budget Building Priorities**	Approved by e-vote
Motion to approve time allocation of compulsory & elective subjects	Approved
Motion to approve Criteria for the Selection of a New Principal**	Approved by e-vote
<b>February</b>	
<i>MEETING CANCELED</i>	
<b>March</b>	
<i>Switched meeting dates to the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month as opposed to the last. See April's actions.</i>	
<b>April (06/04/2021)</b>	
Motion to support the West-End High School Committee in their mandate to create a new local High School	Approved
Support to Parents Workshops (Discussion)	Consultation
Outdoor Classroom	Consultation

<b>May (04/05/2021)</b>	
Motion to approve the EBS Code of Conduct	Approved
Motion of blanket approval for the purchase of 2021-22 workbooks	Approved
Motion to approve 2021-22 school fees	Approved
Motion to approve 2021-22 school supply lists	Approved
Mandate for fundraiser alternative to purchase of school supplies	Lori P. volunteered to lead the initiative
Motion to approve funds transfer from the Welfare/Activity Donation Fund to the Beautification Donation Fund for the creation of a soccer field	Approved
<b>June (08/06/2021)</b>	
Motion to increase lunch supervision fees (+\$45)	Approved
Motion to approve distribution of GB graduate awards: 4x \$50 ( <i>Bonders Bookstore</i> )	Approved
Motion to approve 2020-21 GB financial statement	Approved
Resolution to adopt the EBS 2021-22 operating budget	Approved

\*\* indicates E-mailed resolutions

### **Sub-Committees and their mandates**

A fundraising sub-committee was established to fill in the void left by the challenges in operating a Home & School committee during the pandemic. The focus was on raising funds for the graduating class of 2021 to assist in their graduation activities / celebration.

### **Informing the School Community**

Identification of the Governing Board members, meeting dates, minutes of each meeting, and the MESA were posted on the school website, with the absence of a Board photo due to virtual challenges. Where required, e-mails and recorded phone messages have been sent to each EBS family. This annual report will be posted upon approval. Verbal communication with the school community has also been a constant.

### **Recommendations**

1. For the subsequent governing boards, I would recommend a review of any major decisions that were made by the previous year's board members to examine whether those decisions were, in fact, the most beneficial to the students of EBS. A sub-committee could potentially be formed with the mandate to examine the outcomes of motions that were approved that have a larger impact on the school community as a whole.
2. I would recommend that members of the governing board be permitted to sit in on the governing board meetings at other schools so that they can learn different ways of functioning as a GB and to better acclimate new members to the possibilities that are afforded to a school's governing boards.

## **Chairperson's message**

While this year began with uncertainty, significant change, and heightened anxiety, I am proud of the way in which Elizabeth Ballantyne was able to rise to all of the challenges and ultimately keep our students, staff, and families safe. Adults and children alike were confronted with the opportunity to grow, shift our mindset, and learn just how resilient we could be.

I am thankful to all of you who have joined me in this unconventional year of governing board at EBS and for taking the time to be truly present during our meetings for the benefit of all students. Your insights, questions, and ideas were truly appreciated and are always very much needed in order to have the most comprehensive view of any issue. Life unfolds in 3D, so a singular point of view will never render an entire image. Your voices are all so very important. I would also like to thank Mr. Servello who came into our school as interim principal, just as the pandemic was being declared, but who courageously led our school through the ever-changing restrictions and updates while trying his best to foster positivity and encourage introspection every day.

My second year as chairperson has been a different experience, but one that was nonetheless rewarding. I enjoyed being a part of the robust discussions during the year which I feel required a degree of trust amongst the members and, most importantly, the nurturing of an atmosphere of inclusivity. I wish a bittersweet farewell to the Elizabeth Ballantyne Governing Board, as my 5<sup>th</sup> and final year comes to a close. I am eager to witness the incredible work and innovative changes to be introduced by GB in the years to come!

**Adopted by the Governing Board on:**

Thursday, September 30, 2021

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**Ms. Christina Chilelli**  
**Principal**



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**Ms. Melissa Robertson**  
**Governing Board Chair**