

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

January 17, 2023

Present:

Lori Press, Melissa Robertson, Lori Krebs, Andrea Gruia (parents), Scott Thompson (teachers), Kate Marien (support staff), Ekaterina Valkova-Damova (Librarian), Sam Servello (Principal).

Regrets:

Omar Hernandez, LaTasha Amisial-Vajda (parents), Adina Zairi, Rose Servello, Bettina Paliotti (teachers), Joe Lalla (school commissioner), Mélodie Charette (Daycare Technician)

1.0 Land Acknowledgement (M Robertson)

I would like to acknowledge that Elizabeth Ballantyne School is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. Tiohtià:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

2.0 Adoption of the Agenda:

On motion duly made (L Press) and seconded (S Thompson), the agenda was adopted as presented.

3.0 Approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 2022:

On motion duly made (L Press) and seconded (A Gruia), the minutes of the meeting of November 2022 were unanimously approved as presented.

4.0 Business Arising

4.1 Conflict of Interest

All members were reminded to complete the 'conflict of interest' form and send it to S Servello.

4.2 Support to Parents workshop

S Servello is looking into ÉPIC, a group that offers high-school preparation workshops, he has not received any other suggestions.

4.3 Approval of Educational Project and Annual Report

WHEREAS Article 36 of The Education Act requires that The School develop an Educational Project that is coherent with the School Board's Commitment-to-Success Plan;

WHEREAS Article 37 requires that The School produces an annual report of its achievements concerning the objectives of the Educational Project for submission to the School Board;

WHEREAS the period covered by the Educational Project is harmonized with the Commitment-to-Success Plan period covered by the School Board;

IT WAS MOVED BY Lori Press **AND RESOLVED THAT** the Annual Report on the Educational Project 2022-2023 be approved by the Governing Board, and that it be communicated to all stakeholders.

4.4 Safe Schools Action Plan Survey Results

S Servello reviewed the results, and explained how they may have been affected by the pandemic.

There was discussion regarding actions that may be taken after an incident of aggression – S Servello explained that there are various possible outcomes, depending on the situation.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Budget Building Consultation

M Robertson explained the process and shared the 2020-2021 budget building document as an example. She requested that the GB members review the document and reply to her with suggestions before January 24. She will compile the results and circulate a draft for approval.

5.2 Time Allocation

S Servello shared the Subject Time Allocation document and explained that there has been no change since last year. He explained possible changes and noted that he is currently reviewing the curriculum, with the goal of increased standardization in both content and evaluation. There was discussion regarding various subjects (e.g., Drama, Music, Health).

5.3 Criteria for Selection of School Principal

M Robertson explained the process and shared the 2020-2021 Criteria for Selection of School Principal document as an example. There was discussion about possible changes, and GB members were asked once again to review the document, reply with suggestions before January 24, and she will send out a final draft for approval.

6.0 Reports

6.1 Principal's Report

- We recently received a donation of gifts from Montreal Community Cares Foundation, these were distributed to the students during 'reading buddy' time.
- Hebrew and Spanish classes have not yet started, we are still in search of teachers for these courses.
- There is a tentative plan for EPIC to present a series of 8 workshops (high school prep) to our senior students.
- We are hoping to start a composting program soon, with the help of Royal West students.
- Renovations to the Montreal West arena will begin this summer, and it is scheduled to reopen in the fall of 2024.
- Skate-A-Thon is scheduled for next month.

6.2 Commissioner's Report

Absent

6.3 Teacher's Report (S Thompson)

- The Scholastic Book Fair was a success, thanks to Sharon Friedmann for her help.
- Spirit Week went very well, there was a different theme/activity on each day which brought the older and younger students together.
- We raised almost \$1,000 towards the Shoebox Project.

6.4 Daycare report

Absent

6.5 EMSBPC Delegate report

Absent

6.6 PPO report (L Krebs)

Parents volunteers have been in school to help with picture day, clearing/sorting of the Lost & Found items, and the Scholastic Book Fair.

6.7 Library Report (E Valkova-Damova)

Class visits to the library are going according to the schedule. Pre-K to grade 3 visit the Library once a week, and grades 4, 5, 6 – two times a week. For the three classes – grade 6 – we are planning a Battle of Books at the end of the school year, and from the beginning of the school year we have been reading books that will be part of this competition.

We organize two after class activities – Lego (2 groups) and Scratch – attended exclusively by EBS students. Talks are underway with teachers about organizing the Skate-a-Thon this year again.

7.0 Question Period

There was a concern that the lunch monitors are not receiving adequate information regarding the ECA programs that are happening during the lunch hour. S Servello will look into this situation.


It was suggested that Lee Haberkorn be invited to speak to our Grade 5/6 students regarding mental health and addition. S Servello will liaise with L Krebs and L Press in order to schedule this event.

8.0 Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at 6h30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Marien, Secretary



Melissa Robertson, Chair



Saverio Servello, Principal

March 17, 2023
Date