

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

January 16, 2024 (TEAMS)

Present

Sam Servello (Principal), Scott Thompson, Eliane Shrybman, Carla Lioni (teachers), Robert Lennox (Chair) Melissa Robertson, Andrea Gruia, Lori Press, Louisa Jaslow (parents), Kate Marien (support staff), Ekaterina Valkova-Damova (Librarian/Community Representative)

Regrets:

Joe Lalla (Commissioner)

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

I would like to acknowledge that Elizabeth Ballantyne School is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehà: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 (S Thompson) and seconded (E Shrybman) it was unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

3.0 Approval of the minutes of November 23, 2024

On motion duly made (L Press) and seconded (C Lioni), it was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 23, 2024.

4.0 Business Arising from the minutes

4.1 Conflict of Interest forms

There are still some members who have not completed the 'Conflict of Interest' forms, R Lennox will follow up.

4.2 Approval of EBS Annual Budget

S Servello presented the Annual Budget and explained the various funds. There was a question about field trips, and he explained that we don't have a specific fee for those trips, they depend on teacher availability. A Gruia reported that the government has offered funds to help the strike, but S Servello has not yet received any further information regarding this offer.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 95 of the Education Act, the Governing Board is responsible for adopting the school's annual budget as proposed by the principal;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 96.24 of the Education Act, the school budget must maintain a balance between expenditures, on the one hand, and the financial resources allocated to the school by the school board and the school's own revenues, on the other'

WHEREAS this budget is based on the 2023-2024 MEQ budgetary parameters,

It was moved (M Robertson) and seconded (C Lioni) and unanimously resolved to adopt the school budget for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented by the school Principal, Sam Servello which forecasts revenues of \$232,811.00 and expenditures of \$1232,811.00

5.0 New Business

5.1 Review the Rules of Conduct and Safety Measures

Tabled to the next meeting – members are asked to view the document on the EBS website.5

5.2 Budget Building Consultation

S Servello showed an example of a document from 2020 and explained that this is pursuant to an annual request from the school board to prioritize our budget items. Almost all items on the budget wish list are still relevant, he and R Lennox will go over and revise the document to be sent to the EMSB.

Discussion ensued regarding ways to encourage parent volunteerism, there were many suggestions. R Lennox will send another email to all parents, explaining the role of the Home & School and Parent Participation organization and encouraging participation on their part.

5.3 Approval of Time Allocation

S Servello explained the time allocation for various subjects and recommended that the status quo be maintained.

On motion duly made (L Press) and seconded (M Robertson), it was unanimously resolved to approval the Time Allocation as presented.

6.0 Reports

6.1 Principal's report (S Servello)

- Spanish classes will begin tomorrow- there are still a few open spots
- Two new tutors have started this week, with one more to come, in support of Math, French and English in all Cycles.
- After consultation with the EMSB Indigenous community support consultant, a field trip to the McCord Museum is being planned, resources will be added to classroom libraries, workshops are planned for teachers and an art mural is in the works.
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) materials will also be added to classroom libraries
- We are expecting new soccer nets to arrive soon.

6.2 Commissioner's Report (J Lalla)

Absent

6.3 Teacher's Report (E Shrybman/C Lioni)

- Spirit Week was full of fun activities that the students enjoyed – we collected 207 pairs of socks for Bread & Beyond.
- The composting program started – it will be limited to paper towels and tissues. A group of grade 4-6 students will be monitoring and emptying the bins.
- Student teachers from Concordia have been assigned to some of our classrooms.

6.4 Support staff report

No report

6.5 Daycare Report

M Charette is currently on leave, a replacement has not yet been named.

6.6 EMSBPC Report

- L Jaslow reported that Mike Cohen was the guest speaker at the most recent meeting. He gave a presentation on how we can promote the fact that French is being taught in or bilingual and immersion schools.
- Funds will be made available to schools to hire extra tutors.
- The weight of the ministerial exam for Grade 6 will be reduced from 20% to 10%.
- Plans are underway to revamp MOSAÏK.

6.7 PPO Report

No report

6.8 Library Report (E Valkova-Damova)

- There are spots open for 3 more class visits in French for grades 5 and 6.
- The 'Festilou' storytelling event is back. This year, we have arranged for a presentation for grades 3 and 4 at the library, on May 14 (Tuesday), 9.30 to 10.30.

7.0 Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m. The next meeting will be held (on TEAMS) on Tuesday, February 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Marien
Secretary