



**ÉCOLE FACE SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, EMSB
Monday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting
MINUTES**

6:30 pm Welcome

JL called the meeting to order at 6:38. AG to take minutes as TS is at a performance.

Present:

Chair: Jessica Lipès (JL)

Parents: Allison Gonsalves (AG), Jess Con-Portegal (JCP), Anne Krag (AK), Fabien Welp-Barr (FWB)

Staff: Paraskevi (Voula) Tsagaroulis (VT), Christine Philp (CP), Theodora Stathopoulos (TS), Marie-Eve Arseneau (MEA)

Administration: Jennifer Harriet (JH)

1. Adoption of Agenda

- Proposed (JCP), Seconded (MEA) (shifting one agenda item)

2. Adoption of Minutes from the GB meeting March 21 2022.

- Proposed (CP), Seconded (AK)

3. Public question period

- No public, no questions

4. Follow up from March 21st 2022 meeting:

- Presentation on new FACE buildings (Joint CSSDM-EMSB meeting March 29th 2022)
 - Information session, presented the physical plans of the buildings
 - Questions about AC (required for secondary but not for elementary). FWB clarifies that it is not mandatory for elementary. It is more challenging for planning.
 - MEA reiterated the concerns about no drop off area. Teachers have concerns about parking.
 - No cafeteria – very common at elementary level. Students will eat in their classroom, which poses difficulties for remediation/classroom work during lunchtime.
 - JL questioned what the plan is for organizing the link between the two schools (at the administration level). MEA answered that music is the link between the two schools – it seems that the team will be split. Secondary team and Elementary team. This is challenging because the music teachers often form a bond with kids in elementary that persists to secondary (contributing to persistence)
 - No concert hall in the elementary school building. Secondary the concert hall is quite small. For orchestra we may need to rent a space for concerts.
 - JH described planning for teaching assignments. For admin, there will be a VP on each side for CSSDM, but for EMSB there will be someone in each building and tasks will be divided.
 - Information is all posted on the EMSB website.

5. Student Council GB Representation Criteria

- TS presented a report about the representation of students on the GB. Following a January meeting with staff council a member requested to review the GB policy of including students. TS proposes to strengthen the representation of students on the board. This could include a

campaign to increase awareness of the GB and the potential for student involvement in the GB. Should happen in the month prior to the first GB meeting. Deadline for nominations, and a staff council chair should receive these nominations. Does not need to be a student council member. Staff council can review profiles and ask for additional references if necessary. Staff council will vote on representatives.

- See Student Rep Criteria Profile document
- Staff council has voted on this document – presented to GB for discussion
- VT clarifies that each grade holds elections for student council. Students present a platform, and the students then vote on who represents their interests. VT is worried that the criteria may exclude students who are very active in student council. VT is worried that the criteria are too involved, and they require students to be involved in too many events. Primary concern is for students who have not been at FACE as long. TS clarifies that the GB candidate should be one that is not involved in student council. TS emphasizes that this is a desired list of characteristics but not a mandatory list. VT clarifies that criteria are generally good, but we could potentially turn away that do represent what the students would want, based on the eligibility criteria. TS clarifies that the student should be representing the majority of the students.
- MEA suggests that most students don't know what the GB is. MEA suggests that between the two student reps, some should have some experience of elementary at FACE.
- JCP suggests that most students interested in the GB will likely already fill these criteria. Concerns: 1. Parents don't have any of these criteria; 2. Student representative should articulate ideas and represent the student body, but there is a worry about giving teachers too much power to select the student. We should be careful that the student representatives are not just the favourite students. TS suggests that the nominations are from the students, but the teachers decide. Suggests also that criteria for students will raise the bar for parents.
- FWB shares JCPs reservations that anything that discourages any one in any way to participate in the GB is not desirable. We need students to participate, and the criteria might discourage students. Perhaps we can look at a model of shared responsibility for students. The list of criteria will likely discourage students. We would sooner take someone than no one.
- JL suggests that the list of criteria might be presented in a "softer" way to encourage students to apply. Some students might not see themselves in the list but might actually have the qualities in the list of criteria.
- MEA suggests that we are not giving students enough credit and there may be way more students who would respond to these criteria than we think. If we present the position as an important experience that they will learn from and that will be an important contribution to their CV. TS mentions it's a question of education – students need to have an understanding. MEA thinks there are many candidates on the EMSB side.
- FWB asks if it is possible to spread the responsibility among students. MEA argues that we need consistency. FWB asks if we might have rotating reps who can discuss amongst themselves and pass along information – this lessens the burden from one student. MEA suggests that this is why we want a student who meets these criteria because we want someone who can commit. FWB suggests that having a group of students might be more representative of all students' interests.
- JL suggests that the role should be explained more clearly to students
- JCP reiterates concern that we also capture students who do not fit into the mold of a "good student"
- MEA FACE students are unique – it is a big responsibility. We need students that are

involved and committed and the criteria that TS submitted is a way to ensure this. This is not a “one profile” but is a way to see if they are serious about it. Suggests maybe a scholarship could be offered to the GB student reps.

- TS discussed this with Emily (student rep) and she was 100% in agreement (unfortunately could not be here tonight). Emily had no objection.
- JL asks if in the past there was a selection process? TS clarifies that this was informal (hand-picked), and there was screening by the administration. This process is more transparent. TS says that we don’t want someone who is not interested in the arts.
- FWB says the list is exclusionary. Is worried that students who may be interested would get eliminated based on the criteria in the list. Disagrees with the list of criteria.
- MEA provides example of the foundation when they need to approve projects – they have a grid with criteria. Maybe projects don’t meet all, but they might meet some.
- AG recommends that the wording is changed from “Student profile” to something that is not a list of criteria the student MUST have, to something as “recommended criteria”
- FWB suggests that this could be written so that it doesn’t seem like a threshold of criteria that must be passed in order to qualify.
- JL suggests that the document can be re-written so that it is friendlier
- FWB suggests changes (I couldn’t catch them all)
- MEA – will take the document back to staff council to soften the language, while including the criteria.
- TS suggests that a parent can soften the language. JCP volunteers himself and FWB to do the softening.

6. Safe School Action Plan

- Priority was to include school yard climate, second priority was mental health.
- Virtual session for parents, so far only 3 parents have signed up, reminder will be sent out.
- No questions about the action plan
- CP proposes to adopt MEA seconds – all in favour

7. Reports

○ Principal’s Report

- JV is on medical leave (short term)
- JH is doing interim Principal and VP – dealing with some teacher absenteeism
- Interim VP will replace JH (short term) (Lara Chapparo, starting on Thursday)

Items for approval

- Safe School Action Plan (see item 6) – approved
- Donation to PPO for the FACETival (to be held June 10). GB has \$250 in the budget to donate for the event. FWB asked what the fund is usually used for – it is used for the GB to purchase snacks, so we should donate it to the FACETival. Budget is also often used for workshops, but none are held this year. FWB proposes, MEA seconds to donate the money to PPO.
- Production week – 11E to come in later after their production – MEA proposes, **Voil a seconded**
- Kindergarten lunch and dismissal time is moved. MEA proposed, FWB seconds. Motion approved. Morning will stay the same.
- Grade 1, 2, 3 – MSO May 16th, (\$9 + busses). School schedule will be modified to include the youth concert. AK proposes, MEA seconds.

Items for information

- K1/K2 outing to insectarium, and school is covering cost of the trip.
- May 13th is the welcome to kindergarten event in person!!
- Registration is ongoing. Kindergarten for next year is at 19, so there is only one class so far. We need 7 more students to split the classes.

2022-23 numbers:

- Elementary 173 students
 - HS 132 students
- Next GB meeting we will review the code of conduct for next year. School fees will be presented and the school calendar.
 - AG inquired about K2 – one class for next year.
 - JCP asked if we are within range of benchmark targets for registration. JH reminds that we have class sizes that are mandated by the government. We typically have about 32 K students, but in the last couple of years, Kindergarten has declined. Other grades are around the same size, but we are seeing decline in enrolment at the kindergarten level. Might add a page for parent testimonials to the website to encourage enrollment. JL suggested a mechanism for parents to talk with parents. TS asked if we have reached the maximum for each class, and if we are at the point when we are doing the lottery – we did have a draw at the beginning of the year. Grade 7 still has a list, and Grade 6. Grade 1 has a waiting list. Eligibility is a difficulty (families from Ukraine is a problem). Work permits leading to PR is a difficulty.
- Teacher's Report
 - See point 5 student representative
 - Students' Report
 - Ukraine fundraiser was great. Raised \$100 for Red Cross. Raffle prizes from PPO.
 - May 10th denim day. Need approval to collect class to class donations. Donations will go to Care foundation. VT proposes, CP seconds.
 - Professional Staff Report
 - No report
 - Representative to EMSB Parents' Committee (EMSBPC) Report
 - No report
 - Parent Participation Organisation (PPO) Report
 - Took Easter break to embellish the school yard (looks great!)
 - May 13th there will be planting and gardening.
 - Representative on CÉ FACE Report
 - Selection criteria for principal
 - No trips are planned for the end of the year bc of Covid restrictions
 - Proposition for modification of the dress code – similar but no hats and no bra straps.

8. Varia

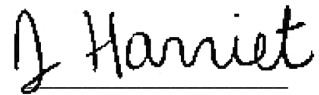
9. Closing Remarks

8:35 meeting is adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 16th 6:30PM



Chairperson's Signature
Ms. Jessica Lipes



Principal's Signature
Ms. Jennifer HARRIET