



**ÉCOLE FACE SCHOOL**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, EMSB**  
**Monday, September 27th, 2021, 6:30 p.m. Virtual Meeting**  
**MINUTES**

**Welcome**

GB Chair Jessica Lipes brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 6:30pm

**Present:**

Parents: Elizabeth Foley (EF), Maria Panova (MP), Fabien Welp-Barr (FWB), Jessica Lipes (JL), Maryke Mynhardt (MM), Jess Conn-Potegal (JCP), Anne Krag (AK), Allison Jardim Gonsalves (AJG).

Teachers: Theodora Stathopoulos (TS), Paraskevi Tsagaroulis (PT), Christine Philp (CP)

Special Ed Technician: Vivian Halperin (VH)

Non-Teaching Professional: Elizabeth Pellicone (EP)

Students: Melodie MacDonald (MM), Emily Chernock (EC)

Administration: (Principal) Joseph Vitantonio (JV), (VP) Jennifer Harriet (JH)

Regrets: Teacher Marie-Eve Arseneau (MEA) (attended first 20 min of meeting), Community Representation: Genevieve Dodin (GD) (due to internet connection problems).

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved: TS Seconded: EF

Adopted as presented unanimously

**2. Presentation by EMSB representative Nathalie Lacroix-Maillette concerning the Protocol d'entente**

Principal JV gave a short introduction prior to the presentation and expressed a positive impression and attitude in working with the CSSDM to date. He reiterated that the new FACE administration is working collaboratively with the EMSB administration and all efforts are made to maintain a working relationship and collegial atmosphere in the school.

EMSB representative Nathalie Lacroix-Maillette (NLM) reminded us of her visit in January 2021 and her promise to present us a draft of an entente document by March 2021 but unfortunately we have arrived at the end of September 2021 and a draft has not been completed. Initially there were some irritants in several areas but after meeting with all the different departments, namely: a) finance b) HR and c) PED Services agreements were reached.

Nevertheless, no agreement has been reached yet on the topic of Material Resources especially with regards to maintenance of the buildings. In this area, CSSDM is now requesting that the EMSB make commitments for financial contributions to its buildings. EMSB was not asked to contribute in the past. As a result, the lawyers have requested that the drafts of the entente not be shared at this point in time.

NLM notes that the collaboration between the two parties has been fantastic and notes, as an example, the IT issues and specifically the use of Mosaic for both boards.

She reiterates that there is no entente yet because both DG's are new and unfamiliar with the dossier, but that a meeting is intended to take place next month to revisit and hopefully, resolve the pending issues. She assures us that she is confident that an agreement will be reached.

A question period following NLM's presentation.

Q : When do you foresee a draft that can be shared ? A : Maybe Christmas

Q : Since a contribution is requested for the old and new buildings will this give EMSB some control over our environment ? A : No. CSSDM is still the legal owners of the building and as such, EMSB cannot direct or control their own environment in someone else's building.

Following this point NLM noted the comments made to include safety in the negotiations, as for example there is presently nothing in the entente to address COVID-related issues and concerns e.g. air filters & filtration. The point that was raised is that, even although each board has its own health and safety officers, they do not always follow the same protocols. It was concluded that NLM and JV will meet to discuss some of the unique items to be addressed since a school of this type is the only one in Quebec.

Q : When will the time for consultation be ? It was missed last year. A : When the lawyers give the OK, the document will be shared to solicit comments and input.

Q : How can the GB be part of the process of the entente writing ? A : The section on the functioning of the two GB's is finished and it will not change. It includes 5 points on how to operate and the lawyers have agreed to share it.

JV will share with GB members.

Q : Are you concerned about the negotiations ? A : We are confident/optimistic that an agreement will be reached. Both boards are keen to make it work. But the 2 new DG's are busy and finding the time to meet is challenging, as they have no time...

Q : What will be the consequences if no agreement is reached ? A : FACE will continue functioning with the old agreement or they will the old one again.

Following NLM's departure JV assures us that the entente will not change our day to day operations so we should not be overly concerned about the timing of the signing.

TS points out that, in fact, there are issues that we need this entente and points to the 9 –day schedule as an example that falls under the jurisdiction of « organization scolaire ». As such, even if 100% of EMSB staff voted against this change, we are forced to follow it. The addition of the dance is another example of recent changes to the school over which EMSB had little input. This latter is one of the reasons for recent cuts in frequency in some of the music classes. She notes that no entente is needed when all things are going well. It is only when faced with differences that a common legal document needs to bring parties to a fair resolution and not necessarily always in favour of the large majority of CSSDM.

JV reiterates that the GB will be given the opportunity to respond in detail to the finished document and they, in turn, will have an obligation to address and respond to our concerns.

### **3. Public question period**

There was no public during this time. It was noted, however, that GD was unable to attend

due to TEAMS and the fact that it takes more bandwidth than Zoom. AG and EF offered to create zoom links through their McGill accounts for future meetings.  
All in favour.

#### **4. Adoption of Minutes from the GB meeting on September 16th 2021.**

Moved: EF Seconded : JL

Adopted as presented unanimously

#### **5. Introduction of Members**

Everyone gave a short introduction about themselves during this period.

#### **6. Adoption of Rules of Conduct**

TS advises that members be given a bit more time to scrutinize this document as the GB will have to live with the rules for the entire year. JV agrees that there is no rush to adopt now.

We can adopt at the next meeting to be sure everyone is comfortable with the rules.

#### **7. Explanation of the judicial record form**

JV explains that this is a policy to ensure there is a criminal background check done on parents holding office in consultative or decision - making roles.

#### **8. Establishment of roles for GB members:**

TS proposes to keep status quo with regards to representation on CE/GB and nominates FWB and GD. FWB accepts but is willing to share if anyone wishes to attend in his place.

GD has accepted but wishes some flexibility to welcome another CE rep occasionally as she may have conflicts this year.

Vice-Chair: EF, Treasurer: MP, Parent committee alternate : AG, Representative for CSSDM CE : FWB

Omnibus motion: TS move to accept the GB members named above to hold titles of office

Seconded: JL

Passed unanimously

b) Discussion groups: EF would like to see some discussion groups formed or task forces to form on subjects such as e.g. the arts

JL wonders how these groups would be able to interact with the CE? It is a discussion to be continued.

#### **9. Reports**

- Principal's Report

JV explains that his reports will cover items for approval and /or items for information

##### **a) Approval**

- (i) Scholastic orders. This requires approval from both Staff Council and GB as it involves collection of money. This item has already been approved at the Staff Council level.

Moved: TS to approve teachers using scholastic orders for this year

Seconded: MP  
Passed unanimously

(ii) Educational Day Trips

To allow the principal to approve small, local trips by teachers that do not involve the collection of money (eg viewing urban art along Sherbrooke street).

Moved: EP

Seconded: EF

Passed unanimously

No permission required to go to McGill campus.

Moved: AG

Seconded: FWB

Passed Unanimously

**b) Information**

(i) Note of thanks:

JV Wishes to express his appreciation to the parent who came to the AGM.

He also wishes to thank all present for accepting to serve on the GB.

He is delighted that we have such a deeply committed body of caring parents and wishes all to know that their dedication does not go unnoticed.

(ii) Orange Shirt Day:

EP gave a detailed report about the information that was discussed in all classes about this day. JH purchased books. PPO donated shirts.

(iii) COVID Contact Tracing

The principal makes a report and santé publique identifies between 3 levels of risk: low, medium and high. We are bound by the protocol and the letters will be sent according to risk.

Q: Who determines the risk? A: Sante Publique. JV will send link to the particular protocole

FWB reminds us that last year the FACE community received a letter for every case in the school.

JV reminds us that it is now 8:30 pm and will need to extend the meeting.

Moved: AG moves to extend the meeting by ½ an hour Seconded: TS

Passed

(iv) Rapid Testing for COVID

Four EMSB Elementary schools have been involved in rapid testing. Consent form is required to administer a nasal sample from students displaying symptoms

Q: What is the follow up to the testing? A: No protocol has been provided yet.

(v) Open House: October 12, 2021

The format will be changed re times of presentation to give more parents access to the presentations. It will be a virtual presentation and teachers have been asked to submit material. It will be put together by the administration.

(vi) ECA Fair went very well. For each activity there is one teacher from each board to ensure

safety protocols. Every student who attended was given a spot.

- (vii) Budgets will be presented at the next meeting as they only arrive in October
- (viii) Class visits: Admin visited many secondary classes. Elementary visits will begin once secondary visits have finished.
  - Teachers' Report N/A
  - Students' Report N/A
  - Professional Staff Report N/A
  - Representative to EMSB Parents' Committee (EMSBPC) Report N/A
  - Parent Participation Organisation (PPO) Report N/A
  - Representative on CÉ FACE Report N/A

## 10. Varia

AG wishes to propose a fundraising activity for the Milton Park community through the "Meals on Wheels for Parc" program. EP notes that it is an ongoing process and should revisit. AG wishes to connect with PPO to find ways to materialize the project.

Students informs us that the Student Council will be collecting cans of food to donate. Perhaps they can collaborate on AG's idea.


## 11. Closing Remarks

JL thanks everyone for attending.

EF moves to adjourn

Adjournment: 9:09 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, October 18th 6:30PM

  
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Chairperson's Signature  
Ms. Jessica Lipès

  
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Principal's Signature  
Mr. Vitantonio