

# ÉCOLE FACE SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, EMSB Monday, October 24th, 2022 MINUTES



Present: Jessica Lipes, Allison Gonsalves, Carissa Springer, Marie-Eve Arseneau, Jennifer Harriet,
Claire Lambert, Neils Christensen, Fabien Welp-Barr, Jess Conn-Potegal, Anne Krag (CSSDM rep), Kodee deClet, Jennifer Furtado, Safa Bahget, Dagmar Hifpner, Theodora Stathopoulos

Regrets:

## 6:30 pm Welcome

- 1.Adoption of Agenda (JCP, CS)
- 2. Public question period
  - No gallery, no questions
- **3.**Adoption of Minutes from the GB meeting held September 2022.
  - 1. Minutes of meeting in September 15 (EF, NC)
  - 2. Minutes of meeting on June 15 (TS, JCP)
- 4. Follow up from last meeting: email vote re: outings (JL moved, JCP seconded)
  - 1. Apple picking
  - **2.**Visit to the photo exhibition
  - Both trips required schedule changes
  - No abstentions or votes against

# **5.**Presentation & Adoption of Rules of Conduct

- **1.**TS suggests that our rules of conduct document is exceptional given our GB relationship to the CE, and that there should be roles and responsibilities described in the rules of conduct document for participation across both the GB and CE (e.g., for the representatives to be aware of roles and responsibilities, and for substitutions etc).
- 2. Documents are all on the google drive
- **3.** JH suggests that we define the role of "community representative" as per the entente. So the community rep is not necessarily the rep that works across the GB and CE (we might have the community rep but also the CE rep, and we have done this in the past). Sharing of minutes is crucial. Our GB is unique but the composition requirement wherein the daycare member sits on the board is not met because she sits on the CE, so this is something for us to work on to get the daycare rep on the GB.
- **4.** MEA queries about sharing the minutes question about the minutes being shared in 24 hours. Should these be translated? JH clarifies that each GB/CE should adopt their minutes before sharing. They are not "real" until they are approved, and then can be shared.
- **5.**EF queries whether JH is suggesting that we create a new/distinct position on the GB exclusively for the CE rep, rather than use one of the existing 2 community rep positions

as a CE rep; clarifies that as we have 2 community rep positions available so one can still be filled by a community member even if we leave the structure as is.

- 6. Clarification that community representatives are non-voting members across CE/GB
- **7.**CL points out that the rules of conduct indicate that votes cannot be cast on emails (this needs to be updated in the document, so we need to carve that out).
  - CL moves to allow email votes when necessary, EF seconds.
- 6. Explanation of the judicial record form
  - 1. New members need to complete this
  - 2. Every member needs to complete the COI form
- 7. Establishment of roles for GB members:
  - a. Secretary (AG)
  - b. Vice-Chair (JCP)
  - c. Treasurer (EF)
  - d. EMSB Parent committee rep (NC)
  - e. Parent committee alternate (JCP)
  - f. Representative for CSSDM CE (MEA, FWB)

# 8. Protocole d'entente

- a. JH received entente information in September.
  - i. JH and Mr. Abran are satisfied with document
  - ii. Clarifies questions about calendar, transportation, building, etc
  - iii. Clarifies aspects about sharing resources
  - iv. JL asks if the document will be translated into English, JH clarifes that request has been submitted
  - v. FWB suggests that meetings about entente need to require representatives from both sides
  - vi. EF asks if there is an option for amending the entente (re: that members from GB and CE need to be present for discussions about entente). EF states for the record that it is disappointing that there is a loss of faith when decisions are made without consultation (e.g., air purifiers).
  - vii. NC asks if this should be brought to EMSB PC, EF suggests it is not the right place, but that the GB can write a letter expressing disappointment about absence of consultation.
  - viii.JL suggests that we can invite regional director Mme. Lacroix-Maillet to attend the GB meeting to discuss
  - ix. JH wishes to reiterate that the entente is helpful to navigate difficult situations, but she understands that there are concerns about consultation, and will forward that to Mme. L-M.
  - x. TS asks what is in place to replace administrators if that situation arises? TS also asks about section 6.2.2 is against the use of the word « levers » (which implies that the arts are not taught but are used as a lever to get to a different ends, e.g., math skills etc). TS also wishes to note that in section 8.2 the relocation is written

in a way that does not reflect that we are already going through the relocation process (e.g., consultations, committees), nor does it reflect the impact that the relocation will have on the working conditions of teaching staff and administration. TS also notes that the reason why the whole relocation discussion started was for health reasons (e.g., building could cause health problems), but this is not noted in the document, and should be reflected in there.

- xi. EF points out that the section about the timetable does not actually discuss consulting the EMSB, just the CSSDM. Contradicts the preamble which is all about collaboration. JL clarifies that there is a note that that parties are to collaborate on all decisions that affect both schools.
- xii. MEA states that the word "permanent" in 8.2 is disconcerting, and the choice to include this in a legal document is frustrating.
- xiii.JCP wishes to reorient towards action document is signed and will not be revised. Letter was mentioned, inviting Mme. L-M to our meeting, etc. Worth registering our discontent as a board that consultation was not adequate. JCP also suggests that we might develop our own document about how we interpret the entente and this can be a live document passed along to future GBs.
- xiv.MEA asks what she should report to the CE JL suggests that we could float the proposal of writing a joint letter. Will say that the GB would like to write a letter about the lack of consultation.
- xv. TS suggests we first offer Mme. L-M an opportunity to speak to the GB to answer questions about consultations.
- xvi.Decision to invite regional director to meeting first, MEA to report this to CE. After which, MEA should invite CE to write the letter in cooperation with the GB. "GB is disappointed by lack of consultation, first step will be to invite regional director to come to GB and explain document, next step will be to write a letter, maybe a joint letter with CE if they agree." This gives CE opportunity to also invite their regional director.
- 9. Face Admission Criteria 23-24 (see document attached)
  - a. Document circulated as a point of information.
  - b. No questions.

# 10.Reports

- o Principal's Report
  - Students are back to normal routine, extra curriculars are happening. Computer lab is back. In person curriculum night was a success. X-country. Orange shirt day was a success. Still looking for a librarian and dealing with shortages. Halloween is coming up – planning with student council (lots of fun stuff happening). Both school boards are working together on many of these activities.
  - o Allocation for GB is \$265 this year. Last year this was put towards the FACEtival.

- EMSB has launched the "respect" campaign.
- o 337 students registered this year. One of EMSB schools that is increasing this year.
- Open house was a big success over 1300 visitors. Over 200 parents for EMSB received registration packages. 40 for kindergarten. Deadline in package said Oct 28, but deadline will be extended because of the time to get English eligibility. Will need a volunteer for the draw (AG volunteers to do the draw).
- o Items for approval:
  - Field trip to science centre November 15<sup>th</sup> (grades 1-6). TS moves and MEA seconds. Approved
  - Teachers to use the scholastic book club reading program. Needs approval at GB bc it is a fundraiser for the school (teachers can decide what to do with the money they gain from the program). TS proposes, MEA seconds. Approved.

# Teacher's Report

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o TS states that there has not been a staff council meeting yet so no items have arisen to bring to GB. Also explains that many of the items that used to be presented are now covered in the biweekly parent newsletter that the administration sends out, so highlights are often covered. TS also wanted to take this opportunity to congratulate our new student representatives as they are the first student reps chosen via our new system for electing/choosing student reps to GB.

## Students' Report

oCL & KdC introduce themselves, both in Sec IV and happy to be part of GB. Mention student participation in the Halloween festivities (incl. creation of "haunted house" for elementary students, and working on upcoming Fashion Show which is a fundraiser for grad activities.

#### Professional Staff Report

 No professional staff present; JH mentions she is actively seeking staff to participate in GB.

## Representative to EMSB Parents' Committee (EMSBPC) Report

oNC attended the meeting, noted that a point was made when people were running for election to certain roles and responsibilities that several candidates promised to strike a more respectful and polite attitude; NC tried to get on transportation committee but was not successful; however he made some connections with other representatives that may prove helpful moving forward.

## Parent Participation Organisation (PPO) Report

 JF presented activities that the PPO is currently involved in, including organizing opportunities for parents to peruse the Lost & Found tables; Halloween decorations; reported on PPO involvement and support during Orange Shirt Day activities

## Representative on CÉ FACE Report

oMEA presented that Elisabeth Pelletier was elected as President of the new CE, and Olyia Girard named as VP. AK was nominated as the representative to attend GB meetings, spoke about nominating a substitute as well. Big project this year for the CE will be working on the document for their Educational Project (timing in CSSDM different than EMSB, which submitted their Educational Project previously). At the CE, MEA suggested that there be some joint discussion with the EMSB GB as relates to the Beaux-Arts

- programming, despite some structural differences between EMSB/CSSDM Educational Project requirements and structure.
- oMEA proposes we approve a representative from the CE as one of the allocated community representatives on the GB; TS seconds. Approved unanimously. MEA will recommend at the next CE meeting that they approach this similarly (i.e. not approving a specific individual but rather whomever the GB/CE chooses from its respective board to represent them on any given meeting, thereby allowing for substitutes.

# Face Foundation Report

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- oFoundation held its AGM, where Mary Jeanne Phelan was elected President of the FACE Foundation and Catherine Vidal was elected Vice-President. MEA & TS will represent teachers on the Foundation board. Projects discussed include support of a project by Grade 9/Sec III teacher for drama production on CSSDM side, request to fund special equipment needed for this project; HS drama teacher on EMSB also invited to participate/make use of the equipment but not clear yet whether teacher is able to do so. Foundation will support grad hoodie fundraising campaign (by making online purchases possible) and decided to offer tuques as the Foundation's own fundraising project (no conflicts with other fundraisers in school), other fundraisers organic veggie baskets & Bo Sapin Christmas tree sales.
- oTS presented that the Foundation is involved in supporting the Suzuki method for string students at FACE younger than grade 4 (when FACE's own instrumental music program starts); had been offered previously but stopped during COVID. Acts as a feeder program for the FACE strings department; especially relevant with the recent closing of the McGill Conservatory of Music. Preference is given to children at FACE and their siblings, however could be open to other children, space permitting.

## 11. Varia (clarification information on cell phone usage in school)

o FWB raised issue that was brought to him by parent at school regarding use in classroom of cell phones by students (referring to incident of inappropriate material being shared/ shown from one student to another during class). FWB mentioned that his goal was to bring attention to the issue and ask that the administration clarify if there is a clear policy - e.g. what exactly counts as "educational purposes" and if teachers are expecting students to have cell phones in the classroom is this a different problem re: equity - but also is this policy being implemented consistently and how can we increase/improve consistent & effective application of the policy. TS mentioned that she for one is very strict with the no cell phone policy in her classroom and even so it is very difficult to enforce. JH states that this is something she will inquire with teachers/staff re: consistency of application of policy, but also notes that often parents are the ones complaining about phones being confiscated and not being able to reach their kids during school, or questioning safety if kids will be travelling home. EF suggested we do some research re: practical solutions that take into account maximizing effectiveness we can't be the first school to face this issue, no need to reinvent the wheel - but that confiscation policies may not be the best idea as it only creates a conflictual mindset in the students where we want their collaboration. KdC states that one problem with asking students to leave their phones in lockers is an issue of locker security, both

students agree that there have been locker break-ins and many students report not feeling safe leaving valuables in lockers. JH promises to investigate this and agrees safety & security of students' valuables is critical for many reasons. DH explained that often she allows cell usage in math class as a calculator for students who have forgotten their materials elsewhere (internet connection was poor, hard to get full details as DH's audio was breaking up). Discussion re: possibility to use school owned devices (e.g. tablets etc.) as an alternative, however supplies are limited NC mentions that for some students it is an accessibility/mobility issue so they need phones in ways other students do not – all agreed that any policy would include an exception for such special needs. JF notes that a lot of teachers have inquired about how to use phones or other devices to improve educational purposes (e.g. keep students engaged) so it is a complex issue. Will be brought to staff council. TS notes that any policy should be coordinated with CSSDM to obtain consistency across music classes

At 8:45p.m., JCP motion to extend meeting by another 15 minutes max, EF seconds.

# 12. Closing Remarks

8:54p.m. EF moves to end meeting, TS seconds.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 14th, 2022 at 6:30PM

Chairperson's Signature

Ms. Jessica Lipes

Principal's Signature
Ms. Jennifer Harriet