

## École Secondaire LAURIER MACDONALD High School

7355 Viau,  
St. Leonard, Quebec, H1S 3C2  
Tel.: (514) 374.6000 Fax: (514) 374-7220  
www.lauriermacdonald.ca/lmac

### Governing Board Meeting Minutes Meeting #5 May 2, 2023, at 7:00PM (Microsoft Teams)

Name of member	Role	P/A	Name of member	Role	P/A
Celzi, Cristina	Principal	P	Civitarese, Marco	Parent	P
Spilak, Ivan	Vice-Principal	P	De Ciccio, Angela	Parent	P
Barnabé, Valérie	IB Coordinator	P	Fortugno, Francesco	Parent	A
Castonguay, Micheline	Teacher	P	Labelle, Kitty	Parent	A
Caya, Annie	Teacher	P	Pescolla, Laura	Parent	P
D'Alessandro, Andy	Teacher	P	Petrecca, Giovanni	Parent	P
De Ciccio, Veronica	Teacher	P	Vasile, Mary	Parent	P
Di Viccaro, Alex	Teacher	P	Ursino, Silvio	Parent	P
Pinto, Marcel	Teacher	A	Pietrangelo, Mario	Commissioner	A
De Young, Linda	Staff	P	Paoella, Vincenzo	Student	P
Tullio, Gerry	Community Rep	P	Simancas Loffreda, Gianna	Student	A
Required for Quorum: 12 Present, 4 Parents			Actual: 17 Present		

Guest:

Regrets:

Late attendance: n/a

#### 1. Call to order: 7:11 PM

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

- Students' Report added to agenda By Vincenzo Paoella.

Motion to approve agenda, including addition, by Vincenzo Paoella; seconded by Annie Caya; all in favour, motion passed.

#### 3. Adoption of the Minutes of the February 21, 2023 Governing Board Meeting

Motion to adopt by Annie Caya seconded by Vincenzo Paoella; all in favour, motion passed.

#### 4. Business arising from the previous meeting

- No business arising from the previous meeting.

#### 5. New Business

##### 5.1 School and Workbook Fees

- Ms. Celzi presented a detailed schedule of 2023-2024 School and Workbook fees, with a comparison to 2022-2023.
- An application has been made to the Ministry for a grant to cover IB Fees. If the grant is received, IB fees will be reimbursed to parents.

**Motion to accept School and Workbook Fees for the 2023-2024 school year.**

Motion to accept by Vincenzo Paolella; seconded by Mary Vasile; all in favour, motion passed.

## **5.2 School Calendar**

- Ms. Celzi presented the 2023-2024 School Calendar. School pedagogical days selected to facilitate IB project work.

**Motion to approve the School Calendar.**

Motion to approve by Vincenzo Paolella; seconded by Linda De Young; all in favour, motion passed.

## **5.3 Student Handbook/Code of Conduct**

- Ms. Celzi presented the 2023-2024 Code of Conduct, which was kept similar to the 2022-2023 version, with minor changes – wording changes on policies/procedures.
- Information pertaining to the IB program still needs to be updated.
- Mr. Spilak noted that late arrivals will now be recorded for every period vs. the current approach (periods 1 and 3 only).

**Motion to approve the Student Handbook/Code of Conduct.**

Motion to approve by Alessandra Di Viccaro; seconded by Vincenzo Paolella; all in favour, motion passed.

## **5.4 Costa Rica Trip 2023**

- Ms. Caya updated the GB on the proposed student trip to Costa Rica scheduled for Fall 2023.
- Costa Rica has not been approved as a travel destination by the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'Île de Montréal (CGTSIM), thus preventing the organization of the student trip.
- Insurance liability has been stated as the reason for denying travel to this location, even though the trip would be fully funded by parents.
- Royal West Academy and Vincent Massey Collegiate have also made a request.
- Ms. Caya requested that the LMAC GB make a request to the Director of the CGTSIM to approve Costa Rica as a travel destination.
- Mr. Petrecca indicated that this topic could be added to the next EMSB Parents Committee meeting agenda. Mr. Petrecca will provide feedback from the next Parents Committee meeting.

**Motion to approve the LMAC GB sending a letter to the Director of the CGTSIM, on behalf of the LMAC Staff Council, to approve Costa Rica as a travel destination.**

Motion to approve by Micheline Castonguay; seconded by Vincenzo Paolella; all in favour, motion passed.

## **5.5 Classe Rouge September 18-20, 2023**

- Mme Desjardins is organizing this class trip for Secondary 5 students
- Fee is \$250/student; includes lodging, food and activities

**Motion to approve to move forward with the reservation with Classe Rouge and present to students in the Fall.**

Motion to approve by Linda De Young; seconded by Vincenzo Paoella; all in favour, motion passed.

**5.6 Europe Trip 2024**

- Information provided on upcoming Europe trip in 2024
- Requirement to limit visiting of one country on trip
- Pricing has gone up from years past – approx. \$3,500/student for 8 days
- Looking to finalize pricing/itinerary in time for next GB meeting, approval will be requested then.

**5.7 Building Blocks Tutorials**

- Ms. Celzi provided an updating on pricing proposed by Building Blocks tutorial services in anticipation of Final Exams.
- December session did not result in a high student participation rate
- Ms. V. De Ciccio indicated that pricing for End of Year session has increased when compared to December; minimum/maximum number of students required
- Ms. De Ciccio will revisit the pricing model with the Building Blocks owner; proposal to cap pricing at a certain amount per class, with a maximum total cost.
- Ms. Pescolla suggested building a long-term plan to find tutors; Mr. Ursino suggested approaching former students; Ms Celzi confirmed that interest was gauged in the past with little success.

**Motion to approve proposal to cap pricing at a certain amount per class, with a maximum total cost.**

Motion to approve by Silvio Ursino; seconded by Vincenzo Paoella; 5-approved, 4-abstained, 3-against; motion passed.

**5.8 IB Fees from the Ministry**

- Ms. Celzi indicated that a request for a government grant is still be processed; news to come in the fall.

**5.9 Potential Baseball Team**

- Mr. D'Alessandro and Mr. Spilak provided an update
- Sign-up sheets will be posted to gauge student interest; looking at forming mixed (boys/girls) teams; Spring season
- Other schools have shown interest in starting teams; league is part of the GMAA
- Ms. Celzi confirmed that ECA money is available to cover equipment needs; Mr. D'Alessandro indicated that uniforms will only be purchased if the addition of the sport is deemed viable for the long-term
- Mr. D'Alessandro mentioned that current teacher resources do not have the expertise in baseball; may have to lean on parent volunteers
- Will need to work with the city of Saint-Leonard to reserve the baseball fields

**5.10 Volunteer (Years of Service)**

- Ms. Celzi mentioned that parent volunteers will be honored in an EMSB communication at the end of the school year; asked each Governing Board/Parents Committee member to provide her with their years of volunteer service.

**6. IB Report**

- Mme. Barnabé provided an update, as found in Section 1 of the **ADDENDUM to Meeting Minutes**.

**7. CLC Report**

- Mr. Tullio provided an update, as found in Section 2 of the **ADDENDUM to Meeting Minutes**.

**8. Students' Report**

- Mr. Paoella provided an update, as found in Section 3 of the **ADDENDUM to Meeting Minutes**.

**9. Parent Committee Report**

- Mr. Petrecca provided an update from the recent Parent Committee meeting where the main topic was moderation and conversion of marks.
- Moderation used for Math, History and Science.
- Conversion used to raise the scores (very rare); convert final marks to reduce failures.
- Moderation compares school marks from other school boards; goal to ensure that teachers apply a consistent level of difficulty throughout the school year.

**10. Public Question Period**

- Ms. Vasile asked whether or not students are allowed to be accompanied by an outside guest at prom.
- Ms. Celzi replied that a +1 is allowed

**11. Varia**

- Next GB meeting is June 6.

**12. Adjournment:** 8:55 PM, motioned by Vincenzo Paoella; seconded by Linda De Young.

**Governing Board**  
Meeting #5  
May 2, 2023, at 7:00PM (Microsoft Teams)

**ADDENDUM to Meeting Minutes**

**1. IB Report**

**Olympe de la Parole Competition**

- On March 13th, The Laurier Macdonald team presented to the United Nation. Step One is completed. Next step is on March 29th when there is a preliminary evaluation where we'll get feedback on what to improve for the final evaluation happening in April.
- And now, the final submission is completed. We are going to know the results at the Awards ceremony on May 11th.

**Terry Fox Presentation**

- On April 18<sup>th</sup>, there will be an assembly for all secondary 1 students to commemorate the Terry Fox's run and to raise awareness about cancer. On that day, the parents of the secondary 1 students are going to be invited to attend the assembly and to walk outside around the track with the students. There will also be a dress down day for the whole school and the Money collected will go to the Terry Fox foundation.
- Follow up: the event was a success! We had some sec. 1 parents attending the presentation and the walk. With the dress down day, we collected over a 1 000\$.

**Personal Project Fair**

- On April 25<sup>th</sup>, there will be the Personal Project fair. The secondary 5 IB students will present their Personal Project and get evaluated on their presentation. Every level of IB students will get a chance to visit the fair as well as the secondary 5 IB parents.
- All the IB students had a chance to visit the fair. They had to ask questions to the sec. 5 students. The number of parents who attended the fair was amazing!

**Corvée de Propreté**

- On April 26th ,10 students from Laurier MacDonald participated in a 'Corvée de propreté' with Écoquartier St-Léonard. There were other groups participating too. The LMAC team won the challenge of picking up the most garbage and recycling! The prize: 1 kilo of cookies.

**MADD presentation**

- There was a presentation for all sec. 5 students. The presentation is to raise awareness on the dangers of drinking, smoking and driving.

**Dress down day May 9th**

- It's for the HOPS program (Jewish hospital) it's to buy toiletries for their patients. It's a student-initiated project. Dara Messina and Bianca Raimondo.

## **2. CLC Report**

### **Art Therapy**

All sessions ended for the year on April 11th.

### **Camp Lift – Inner Warrior (boys' groups)**

The groups ended on April 27th for this year.

### **Pacte de Rue – Girls' group**

The girls group ended on April 26th.

### **Epique**

On March 23rd and on April 21st, our sec 1 groups will receive a presentation on Digital Security. The parent workshop was cancelled but we will look at holding one early next year.

### **Improv/Acting workshops**

With our community partner REISA, we are presently having MSOPA coming in and offering improve/acting workshops for our students. The workshops will begin next Tuesday, March 28th at lunchtime and will continue till April 29th, paid by REISA and LMAC will extend till end of May. This year they will work with all students and especially Mrs. Casella's acting group.

### **CLC CDA**

Pleased to announce that we have hired a new CDA for our CLC. Mrs. Ramona Potesta, who will be joining us soon and we will start planning for the next school year.

## **3. Students' Reports**

### **Leadership Camp**

- Held this past week, first time happening since 2019
- Completely Organized and run by students from across the EMSB (Mentored by C-J Turner from Westmount HS)
- LMAC had 1 organizer, 2 animators and approx. 13 delegates
- Students were divided into groups, led by two or 3 animators,
- This year, teams had to solve a mystery (stolen painting).

Through the three days, students met other individuals from across the EMSB & did activities (such as a scavenger hunt and obstacle course) which built their teamwork and social skills. During discussions with other students, our delegates got ideas from what other schools are doing, some of which can help at LMAC.

There were also two guest speakers,

1. Adam Atkas, a former EMSB student who mentioned how he overcame challenges (both with his home life & being attacked a few years ago).
2. Sarah Wells, A Canadian Olympian who mentioned her struggles/ups and downs (getting to the Olympics, not making it another time, as well as injuries she endured) and how she got through them.

Students had a great time, many of our delegates are eager to return next year, some even want to be animators or organizers.

### **House Council**

So far, this year 2 house days have been held, with various activity periods as well (Carnival week & Lunchtime Activities)

The last house activities of the school year are happening every Thursday, with the winner of this year's house competition to be determined and announced on the final house day.

House Council has also started to recruit leaders for next year, Sign-up booths will be set up during each house day.

### **English Montreal Student Advisory Committee (EMSAC)**

EMSAC is a consultative group of students with 24 members (2 from each EMSB high school), which makes recommendations to the council of commissioners concerning school issues. The next meeting will be held later this month (Date TBD). More details about EMSAC's Discussions will be provided at the next Governing Board meeting.