

École Secondaire LAURIER MACDONALD High School

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Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting #5

February 21, 2024 at 7:00PM (Microsoft Teams)

Name of member	Role	P/A	Name of member	Role	P/A
Celzi, Cristina	Principal	A	Civitarese, Marco	Parent	P
Spilak, Ivan	Vice-Principal	P	De Ciccio, Angela	Parent	P
Barnabé, Valérie	IB Coordinator	P	Irrera, Angelo	Parent	P
Castonguay, Micheline	Teacher	P	Passucci, Stephanie	Parent	P
Caya, Annie	Teacher	P	Petrecca, Giovanni	Parent	P
D'Alessandro, Andy	Teacher	P	Ursino, Silvio	Parent	A
De Ciccio, Veronica	Teacher	P	Vasile, Mary	Parent	P
Di Viccaro, Alex	Teacher	A	Zaruso, Antonio	Parent	P
Pinto, Marcel	Teacher	P	Paoella, Vincenzo	Student	A
Potesta, Ramona	CLC Rep	P	Huard, Danica	Student	A
Tullio, Gerry	Community Rep	A			
Pietrangelo, Mario	Commissioner	A			

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of the Agenda

Changes to the agenda: Add Mr. Civitarese's name to list of Parent members.

Motion to adopt changes to agenda by Mr. Civitarese; seconded by Ms. Barnabé; motion passed.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the January 17, 2024 Governing Board Meeting

Changes to the minutes: Add Mr. Civitarese's name to list of Parent attendees and change Ms. Potesta's presence to "P"; correction made to minutes related to IB Report and CLC Report, as they were carried over from the previous minutes.

Motion to adopt changes to minutes by Mr. Civitarese; seconded by Ms. Barnabé; motion passed.

4. Business Arising from the minutes of the January 17, 2024 GB meeting

Mr. Spilak confirmed School Yard Improvement Plan >>> School Board

5. New Business

5.1 Educational Project

- Mr. Spilak began his presentation of the LMAC Educational Project (EP) by acknowledging the thorough work that Ms. Celzi put into building the report, including all of the research performed.
- Mr. Spilak indicated that 10% of parents and 80% of students responded to the survey sent out earlier in the school year; this information was used as an input to the EP.
- Mr. Civitarese asked how LMAC determines their targeted Success Rate and Average Grade. Mr. Spilak replied that the school's target is to be within 5% of the School Board's average results.
- Mr. Spilak informed the GB of the recent creation and early success of the Homework Club.

Motion to approve LMAC Educational Project by Mr. Zaruso; seconded by Mr. Pinto; motion passed.

5.2 Course Selection Forms

- Mr. Spilak indicated that the forms are the same as last year expect for Ethics being replaced by "Culture and Citizenship Quebec", with some subject matter changing.
- Ms. Barnabé asked that "Community Service" be changed to "Service as Action".

Motion to approve Course Section Forms by Mr. Zaruso; seconded by Mr. D'Alessandro; motion passed.

5.3 Budget Building Process

- Ms. Passucci recommended that this be tabled at the next GB meeting, as the budget has already been sent to the School Board

5.4 Europe Trip 2025

- Ms. Barnabé presented details of the Europe Trip in 2025. She indicated that Ms. Dussault received two quotes (EF Tours, Educatours).
- Trip will include 9 days / 7 nights, with stops in Milan, Cinque Terre, the French Riviera and Barcelona.
- Price includes flight, accommodations, breakfast, supper, insurance.
- An optional soccer game in Barcelona will be available at a cost of \$200.
- Educatours pricing is as follows:
 - 25-29 students: \$4,755
 - 20-24 students: \$4,825
 - 15-19 students: \$5,000
- EF Tours is \$50-100 more expensive but Ms. Dussault recommends them due to the quality of service provided; Mr. Spilak concurred that EF Tours have done a phenomenal job in the past, adding that EF Tours was used 8 times, Educatours 3 times over the last 11 years. They also accommodated LMAC this year when attendance was low.

Motion to select (1) EF Tours right away versus (2) delaying vote until participants on current trip come back with feedback: (1) EF Tours: 11 votes, (2) delay vote: 6 votes; motion to move forward with EF Tours passed.

5.5 Costa Rica Trip 2025

- Ms. Caya presented the Costa Rica Trip in 2025 entitled “Travail et Decouverte”.
- The trip will consist of 11 days / 10 nights, featuring adventure, nature, culture.
- Key activities will include visiting an indigenous town, a coffee tour, kayaking, hiking (overnight stay), visiting crocodiles.
- In addition, students will take part in a re-forestation program, work with biologists to study turtles, etc.
- Pricing for 20 Sec. 4-5 students is \$3,987 (credit card) or \$3,872 (Interac).
- Included are flight (Air Transat), all meals, private tour guide and exit tax.
- Special vaccines not required, but malaria pill is recommended.

Motion to approve Costra Rica Trip 2025 by Mr. Zaruso, seconded by Mr. Pinto; motion passed.

6. Student Report

Not presented.

7. IB Report

See **IB Report** presented by Ms. Barnabé in **Section 1** of the **Addendum to Meeting Minutes**.

8. CLC Report

See **CLC Report** presented by Ms. Potesta in **Section 2** of the **Addendum to Meeting Minutes**.

9. EMSBPC Report

Ms. Passucci indicated that there was nothing new to report other than talks about bus strikes and screentime, technology misuse and addiction.

10. Question Period

Mr. Petrecca asked about the possibility of forming a student baseball team. Mr. Spilak replied that the school is open to this but the challenge is finding a coach. Mr. D’Alessandro mentioned that he could put up a sign-up sheet.

11. Varia

Mr. Spilak recognized the school staff for their contribution to Carnival activities such as tubing and cabane a sucre.

He also acknowledged the Midget Boys and Juvenile Boys basketball teams who both won gold in their respective championship games.

12. Date of Next Meeting: March 27, 2024

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Governing Board

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ADDENDUM to Meeting Minutes

1. IB report

Black History Month activity

On February 14th, Joseph Monachino (Spiritual and Community Animator) organized an event for LMAC. The school was privileged to host Malik Shaheed to give a presentation on the topic of Canadian Black History to the entire student body. Malik's energy and charisma captured the student's attention while he shared key points in Canadian history but focused on Montreal's Black history. Through his captivating presentation, Black culture was presented in a positive light while at the same time breaking down stereotypes perpetuated by media and pop culture. Students left with a deeper understanding of key issues and, through this understanding, an ability to be a positive force for racial equality.

Sec. 5 IB students

Personal projects were submitted on February 19th. The students have a little break before they are going to start on the IB personal project fair happening on April 30th.

Vow of Silence

On February 28th, we will have the "Vow of Silence". Students will have the opportunity to become "silent" for 1 full school day in solidarity with children who are being silenced through different aspects and forms of bullying.

This is also a good service as action activity because students are raising awareness about the situation by being silent. Students participating will be awarded 6 hours of service as action.

Les Olympes de la Parole.

The LMAC VOOC team is presenting to the UN on March 11th. The team is getting ready. They are working hard on their visual and oral presentation as well as a short video they need to submit and present. Their topic is: 'Women's Economic and social disadvantages that affect the upbringing of young women and girls, increasing the risk of perpetuating the cycle of poverty.'

2. CLC Report

Update on CHSLD Dante

We are approaching our last week of volunteering at CHSLD Dante. The students got to spend some time doing different activities with the seniors on all the floors of the center. One of my favorite moments I

thought I would share was when the kids sang “Sara perche ti amo” to the Alzheimer's patients. At first, the patients did not really understand what was going on, but when they recognized the song that was being played, their faces immediately lit up with smiles and they started singing along. The kids also got to sit down with the seniors and engage in conversations with them which was pleasant to witness.

Horizon Carrière

A few days ago, we had a meeting with the director of Horizon Carriere. For those who do not know who they are, they are an organization that offers a variety of services, but primarily works with youth and young adults to help them integrate into the workforce. This year we are working towards having their psychosocial counselor come to the school one day a week to help students with resume writing and mock interviews. The counselor will also assist any students who are looking for internships/stages or volunteer opportunities. They are also offering our school \$1,000.00 for their entrepreneurship program which helps students 16 years old search for employment and how to use the right strategies in their job research, and how to develop and maintain social and professional skills. This partnership is set to begin in March.

Herzl Clinic Presentation

Yesterday, secondary 2 and 4 students received a presentation from the Herzl Family Clinic, organized by Mr. Gerry Tullio. Doctors and medical students talked about “sex, drugs and rock n’ roll.” The rock n’ roll was the mental health aspect. The presentation covered things like consent, addiction, and a minor’s medical rights. The students also received a pamphlet about the clinic with the different services and contact information.