

École Secondaire LAURIER MACDONALD High School

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Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting #4

February 21, 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	A	Fortugno, Francesco	Parent	P
Castonguay, Micheline	Teacher	P	Labelle, Kitty	Parent	A
Caya, Annie	Teacher	P	Pescolla, Laura	Parent	P
D'Alessandro, Andy	Teacher	A	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	P	Pietrangelo, Mario	Commissioner	A
De Young, Linda	Staff	P	Paoella, Vincenzo	Student	P
Tullio, Gerry	Community Rep	A	Simancas Loffreda, Gianna	Student	A
Required for Quorum: 12 Present, 4 Parents			Actual: 16 Present		

Guest:

Regrets:

Late attendance: n/a

1. Call to order: 7:04 PM

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the December 14, 2022 Governing Board Meeting

Motion to adopt by Francesco Fortugno; seconded by Annie Caya; all in favour, motion passed.

4. Business arising from the previous meeting

4.1 Sock Fundraiser - Ms. Celzi provided an update as follows:

- Company (Hype Socks) has not previously worked with other EMSB schools
- Company will reach out to schools they have worked with to gather feedback
- As it is too late to implement this campaign in the current school year, Ms. Celzi will follow up with the company at the end of the school year or early next school year, and make an assessment at that time.

5. New Business

5.1 Budget Building Process

- Ms. Celzi walked the GB through the Budget Building process, with last year's process serving as base for this year.
- Updates to the current intercom and camera systems have begun.
- Mr. Ursino asked about snow removal/salting of the school entrances, asking that this be performed earlier in the day. Ms. Celzi indicated that the school has a budget for snow removal.
- Ms. Celzi indicated that the school has access to an IT Technician one full day per week (shared with Vocational Centre) and that it is working out very well.
- Mr. Spilak mentioned that there is a need to improve the Wi-Fi, specifically to enable the use of the eHall Pass; Ms. Celzi added that improvements to network infrastructure quality are required.
- Mr. Petrecca asked about funding for sports. Ms. Celzi replied that there is a good amount of funding dedicated to sports, equipment, clubs, and other extra-curricular activities.
- Mr. Paolella suggested that there should be more mental health workshops and broader discussions on the topic, as well more initiatives to further educate students about inclusivity of the broader community, including the LGBTQ+ students. Ms. Celzi indicated that the school could handle these workshops with their budget, but suggested that the School Board prioritize workshops for all stakeholders, including parents, so they could be exposed to what students are learning at school and continue discussions at home.
- Mr. Petrecca suggested that workshops should address broader topics involving racial minorities and other marginalized groups, focusing on social, emotional learning.
- In regards to staffing, the budget should take into consideration the needs of different programs (IB, Core, Resource).
- Ms. Pescolla mentioned that with the ongoing decline in enrollment in the EMSB, there needs to be a continued push for services/resources to ensure the success of the students, particularly within schools in the East End where the enrollment decline is more prevalent. Ms. Celzi agreed that it is especially important for East End schools to voice their specific needs despite declining enrollment.
- Mr. Ursino voiced his concern about elementary schools having a hard time finding French teachers and how this is having an adverse impact on the students. He asked if there is something that can be done to assist the students entering LMAC to supplement their French (ex. Tutoring). Laura mentioned that elementary schools offer after-school tutoring through a program called Soutien Linguistique offered by the provincial government. Ms. Celzi mentioned that LMAC students have access to extra help in the form of after school tutoring, peer tutoring, alumni tutoring, etc.). The budget for tutoring is available, however, the issue comes with finding tutors.

Motion to approve the Budget Building Process with proposed changes.

Motion to approve by Vincenzo Paolella; seconded by Francesco Fortugno; all in favour, motion passed.

5.2 Safe School Action Plan

- Ms. Celzi provided the GB with an overview of the SSAP, highlighting the key priorities. This year, measures to protect confidentiality were added.
- Mr. Fortugno asked if this plan was shared with the students to ensure that they know what to do if they need help. Ms. Celzi responded that this document is shared on the LMAC website and the content of the plan is shared with the students in person via workshops, assemblies, etc.

Motion to approve the Safe School Action Plan.

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

5.3 Course Selection Forms

- Ms. Celzi provided an overview of the Course Selection forms
- A course on Digital Citizenship was initially proposed but there is a lack of teachers to teach the course. However, computer coding has been added as an extra-curricular activity.
- A decision was made to continue offering a choice of Visual Arts or Dance in Secondary 2, similar to Secondary 1. A choice of Visual Arts or Drama will be offered in Secondary 3.

Motion to approve the Course Selection Forms.

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

Vote to extend meeting by 15 minutes. All in favour, motion passed.

6. IB Report

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

7. CLC Report

- Not available.

8. Parent Committee Report

- Mr. Petrecca provided an update from the January 12th meeting which included a presentation on Bill 96 by the English-speaking community. The presentation can be found on qcgn.ca.
- At the same meeting, new guidelines were issued by the EMSB regarding class trips. It was recommended that schools not organize any overseas trips this year. However, if they do, they should limit the trip to one country being visited.

9. Public Question Period

- No questions asked.

10. Varia

- Dates for the next GB meetings were proposed as follows: March 21, May 2, June 6.

Motion to approve the next GB meeting dates.

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

11. Adjournment: 9:09 PM, motioned by Vincenzo Paoella; seconded by Linda De Young.

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ADDENDUM to Meeting Minutes

1. IB report

Food drive (in December)

We donated baskets and 200\$ gift cards (food) to 7 families. The gift cards were donated graciously by Remax. The food left over went to our LMAC pantry and Name of organization.

Dress down day:

On December 20th, there was a dress down day. Money collected was donated to St-Brendan's parish. Amount is 987,60\$

Olympes de la Parole

Laurier Macdonald team was chosen to present their project on March 13th. We just learned that we are Team #2 to present at the United Nations. The girls are working hard on their project. Go LMAC team!

Compost project:

On January 20th, the Enuf team came to do our 2nd waste audit. We received an amazing feedback as our compost was almost contamination free! (Thank you Madame Castonguay!)

We started using 'washable' utensils. No more waste! And it is going well as we did not have too many in the garbage.

Sec. 5 Personal Project

February 20th was the Personal Project submission day. The students and the coordinator are happy this is over. Now, it is correction time and then it will be sent to the IB to get moderated. The Sec. 5 students are going to present their project at the IB Personal Project fair on April 25th.

Vow of Silence

On Tuesday, February 21st, 2023, nearly 100 students from Laurier Macdonald High School engaged in an important initiative organized by Joseph Monachino (SCA) and Valerie Barnabé (IB Coordinator), in order to raise awareness about the silencing effect of bullying. The students had the opportunity to become "silent" for 1 full school day in solidarity with children who are experiencing the mental, physical, and emotionally silencing effects of bullying. By exercising their power to advocate for children's voices, the students from LMAC helped spread awareness and understanding of the silencing effect that bullying can have physically, emotionally, and mentally. Congratulations to all the students that participated and took part in this worthy cause. The LMAC community is proud of each and every

one of you and of your commitment to creating awareness and to beginning the process to end bullying in all its forms.