



# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

## ***Members in attendance via Teams Platform:***

Nadia Sammarco, Laetitia Kachmar, Angie Tarantini, Francesca Muro, Rosemaria Carlomusto, Renata Nespeca, Maria Pensato, Dominic Gaetano, Stellana Romeo, Antonella D'Angelo, Fatima Marandola, Sabrina Gavita, Marco Di Manno, Anna-Maria Parente, Vanessa Giancioppi, Felicia Biondi, Filomena Barbieri, France Paquin, Pietro Mercuri, Fatima Marandola, Daniela Mancuso, Franco Marateo

## ***Members not in attendance via Teams Platform:***

Tina Spiridigliozzi

## ***Welcome and opening remarks***

Nadia Sammarco and Dominic Gaetano started the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

## ***Additions to the agenda***

Adding discussion regarding the parent-congestion at Gate Entrance Joliot-Curie

## ***Adoption of the agenda***

Motion to adopt the agenda with additions by Francesca Muro, seconded by Vanessa Giancioppi.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

## ***Approval of minutes September 26, 2022 & General Assembly meetings minutes held the same day***

Approval of September 26 minutes with corrections. The minutes will be corrected before being posted online.

Approval of the General Assembly meeting minutes

Motion to adopt the meeting minutes with correction by Renata Nespeca, seconded by Felicia Biondi.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

## ***Business issues***

### **1. Approval of annual report of Educational Project**

- Laetitia Kachmar shared the annual report on-screen as Ms. Sammarco outlined the report.
- Since the pandemic began, this is the first time we have a comparison to see the development and education success of the students.
- Ministry exams for Math and English Language Arts were held in June 2022 for grade 6 students.



# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

- Despite the pandemic, we increased our mathematical reasoning success rate.
- Reading and writing success rate also increased
- Excellent results! Includes students with learning disabilities
- FLE exam was formative not cumulative, hence there are no results for French
- The *OurSchool* student survey results are compared with Canadian norms
- One area we are working on is the anxiety students feel. Many students have a lot going on personally. We are continuing to use the RULER Program to help teach students how to self-regulate their emotions and define what they are feeling.

Dominic Gaetano read the Governing Board Resolution aloud.

Motion for approval of the Educational Project Annual Report resolution by Sabrina Gavita, seconded by Anna-Maria Parente.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

Pietro Mercuri wanted to offer his congratulations to the LDVA staff and community for the results.

Nadia Sammarco thanked the staff as well for their hard work and dedication.

## 2. Increase in daycare fees as per the government:

- Francesca Muro shared the increased fees from the MEESR.
- NEW: Daycare Status added. As of now, regular status is 1 to 5 days (1-2 days must be consistent) no longer 3 to 5 days.
- NEW Sporadic Status added. There is a different fee if student comes in the morning or afternoon. Parent will still have to pay the lunch fees separately.
- Francesca sent to all daycare parents the information of daycare fees and letter explaining what parents will receive on the tax receipt.

No approval is required as this was simply an item of information.

## 3. Approval of daycare handbook for the 2022-23 school year

- Francesca Muro presented the daycare handbook and reviewed the changes which were highlighted:
  - A requested minimum of 5 day notice if there is a change in the registration.
  - Added the new rates and fee structures
  - Telephone calls will not be accepted to release the child. Daycare offers the HopHop app as an option for parents to notify the school of who will be there to pick up their child/ren.



# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

## Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

- Updated the Emergencies Procedure, parents will be notified if a child has a head injury.
- If a child has head lice, he/she will be sent home and can return once the first treatment has been administered.
- All daycare staff is trained in first aid in the event of a medical emergency. The parents will be called after first aid measures have been administered.
- The daycare handbook is on the school website and was also emailed to parents – Parents must return the form signed to ensure that they are aware and read the handbook.

Motion for approval of the 2022-23 daycare handbook by Stellana Romeo, seconded by Anna-Maria Parente.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

#### 4. Approval of daycare ped days

- a) Jan 30, 2023 Winter carnival – Mega Animation \$12 & \$18 = \$30 IN HOUSE
- b) Feb 17, 2023 Ceramic Café – heart shaped bowl (5-7 business days to cure and return) \$12 & \$17 = \$29 IN HOUSE
- c) March 3, 2023 Cabane à sucre – set up the gym very festive - \$12 & \$20 = \$32 IN HOUSE
- d) April 28, 2023 – first school to have this – glow in the dark Mini-Putt in the gym. Also – playing board games \$12 & \$18 = \$30 IN HOUSE

Motion for approval of the 2023 daycare ped days by Antonella D'Angelo, seconded by Angie Tarantini.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

#### 5. Approval of Quebec and Ottawa field trips for grades 5 and 6

- Fifth grade students will be going to Québec City on May 12, 2023. They will visit the aquarium Plains of Abraham (Plaines d'Abraham), Montmorency Falls (Chutes Montmorency), Vieux-Québec and supper at McDonald's.
- Sixth grade students will be going to Ottawa on June 13, 2023. They will go on a cruise on the Ottawa river, visit the Supreme Court of Canada, Tour of Parliament, Science Museum and supper at Boston Pizza

Motion for approval of the field trips by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Antonella D'Angelo.

All in favor. Motion accepted.





# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

## Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

- This year every grade will be going on a field trip. As soon as trips are confirmed an approval will be requested. Nadia Sammarco will be requesting an email vote for the winter trip for grade 6 which will happen at the end of January as we will need approval before next meeting.
- Holiday Concert of Hope, Peace and Love and donation to St. Brendan's Parish

Our holiday concert is December 8 (morning) each grade level will sing 1 song. There will be a limit of two tickets per family. The entrance fee to attend this concert is to donate to St. Brendan's Parish who services all the east end community from PAT to St. Michel. We will be requesting gift cards for food (Super C, IGA, Maxi, Super C, Walmart) or cash donations. An invitation will be sent next week to all parents. Approval is required to collect for charity.

Motion for approval of the collection by France Paquin, seconded by Filomena Barbieri.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

### 6. Spirit of Giving: Maison de la Famille Cœur à Rivière

The daycare would like to get involved in the "Spirit of Giving" and this year the donations will go to the Maison Famille Coeur Rivière. Daycare will be sending email to parents asking for children's clothes, children's toys, maternity clothes, etc.... This project hits close to home as it is an organization in our community and the daycare staff is very excited to help. The deadline to collect all items is: December 2, 2022.

Motion for approval of the Spirit of Giving collection by France Paquin, seconded by Stellana Romeo.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

### 7. End of Cycle Exams in grades 4 and 6

- Parents were informed of the dates.
- End of cycle exams will be formative for grade 4 and summative for grade 6.
- The teachers will ensure that the students are prepared and have the tools needed.
- The child should not be absent and if sick a medical note is required.



# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

## 8. Adjustment to Merit Board criteria for term 2

- Four years ago, LDVA implemented a Merit Board to highlight the merits of 85% or higher in the core subjects of English, French and Math.
- There are two other categories: Citizenship and Outstanding Improvement for the Merit Board.
- Staff council has asked for a change from outstanding improvement to consistent effort. This will give the child's self-confidence a much needed boost. If approved, the change would come into effect as of term 2 since all the selections have been made for term 1. A student who has an outstanding improvement may also be equally recognized as a merit recipient in a core subject.
- There were many suggestions and discussions that took place about this topic and proposed change.
- The final proposal was: **Consistent Effort** all three terms and in addition, Outstanding Improvement in term 3.

Motion for approval of the revised criteria for the Merit Board by France Paquin, seconded by Vanessa Giancioppi.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

## 9. Discussion regarding the gate entrance on Joliot-Curie

- Parents gather in front of the gate and students cannot enter or leave safely.
- Teachers do advise parents to move but are blatantly ignored by parents. It is a safety issue.
- What can be done? A reminder letter can be sent to all parents advising that it is a safety issue for the children.
- There were many suggestions and discussions that took place about this topic. EMSB has a respect campaign, and this can be incorporated in to that campaign.
- The recommendation was to prepare a letter on behalf of the governing board and send to parents in January. A draft of the letter will be prepared by next meeting to review.

Motion for drafting a letter to parents by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Felicia Biondi.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

Before moving on the reports, Mr. Gaetano announce that on November 1, 2022 all Governing Board chairs were invited to the board. Our chairman of the board Mr. Joe Ortona was present. Representing LDVA were Dominic Gaetano, Antonella D'Angelo and Vanessa Giancioppi LDVA was well received. Joe Ortona mentioned the lawsuits against the new law that affect the English Schools and taking it all the way to ensure the rights of English speakers.





# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

## Reports:

### 1. Principal's Report: Nadia Sammarco

- Today we launched our extracurricular activity: Next Level Learn to Skate for all students from Pre-K to Grade 6. There are 5 sessions that take place during ped days and one on the weekend.
- SPVM program Unité sans violence - grade 6 students are being trained about being leaders in the schoolyard. Highlight good behaviour and learning to de-escalate situations. They will present themselves to each class and explain their role in the school yard.
- Parents of students in grades 2-6 will receive the benchmark and GB+ letters stating their child's reading level which include decoding and reading level.
- Grade 1 will receive their benchmark and GB+ level in January because they are only now learning how to read.
- First term report card will be available on Mozaik November 18, 2022
- Launched phonics program in English and French.
- Launched an early phonics pilot program in Pre-K. Working with speech and language pathologist to help prepare the children.
- We completed the *OurSchool* survey which is an anonymous survey completed by students in grades 4-6. We know how they are feeling and get feedback on how the kids are doing. This will allow us to set goals and make adjustments.
- Robotics started in October and getting ready to sign up for various competitions. Very excited.
- We completed a 2000\$ grant for phys-ed equipment and received the grant.
- Applied for entrepreneurship grant for grade 6 students.
- There is an EMSB respect campaign for all shareholders of the EMSB to sensitise all about mutual respect.
- The Santa Bus will be coming to LDVA on December 19, and they have a new show. The children will meet the elves and of course Santa Claus.
- Breakfast with Santa will be on December 20. The event will be in the gym and the children will be served food by parent volunteers. The gym will be transformed into a winter wonderland.
- Nadia Sammarco asked for feedback from open house. We had 67 people registered in attendance and had 150 people circulating the halls. There were 47 people signed up for pre-registration. These numbers are higher than previous years.



# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

## Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

### 2. Vice Principal's Report: Laetitia Kachmar

- Next week is parent teacher interviews. Scheduling was done through Booking.com and will be in person.
- During the teacher interviews, there will be the Babar book fair, H&S will be selling candy, socks, and jewelry.

### 3. Commissioner's Report given by: Pietro Mercuri

- Last meeting was November 8, 2022 to swear in the 4 new parent commissioners.
- Student of the month for October from Rosemount High.
- Transport contracts were signed.
- Approved the audited financial statement – it was a positive report.
- Consultation for MIND to expand to Sec 1 & 2
- Request to authorize for professional pastry chef and pharmacy assistant's programs – it was approved.
- There is land in Pointe-aux-Trembles that belongs to EMSB that was rented to the borough to be used as a dog park. This is generating additional revenue.

### 4. Teacher's report given by: Sabrina Gavita

The grade 6 class made peace posters in affiliation with the Lion's Club contest. The theme was Leading with Compassion. The students had to demonstrate / paint how to show compassion towards students and other people in our surroundings. One grade 6 student will represent LDVA amongst the 6000 participants. The winner will receive \$5000 and a trip to NY. We discovered "hidden" talents of the students. It was a great project and initiative.

### 5. Regional Delegate Report given by: Vanessa Giancioppi

- We attended 3 meetings
- October 20, 2022 was the first PC meeting to elect the executive members.
- November 3, 2022, there was a virtual meeting with a guest speaker on commitment to success plan.
- Discussed the next parent conference – last year's model online and in-person – some of it worked.
- Bill 96 is affecting enrollment. Looked into what works (marketing) realized that radio and social media is the best way to reach students and parents.
- There is a pilot program for school buses (7 schools); the students will be given a bus pass and the parents will have access to the GPS and know where the child is. If successful, it will be deployed to other schools.





# Leonardo da Vinci Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

- Parents are feeling like there is not easy access to information about how and what to do if someone suspects sexual misconduct. There is no information on EMSB website. Suggested to send a survey to parents to know what is known about what they think is sexual misconduct and how to report it.

Motion to approve the extension of the meeting to 9:15 pm by Vanessa Giancioppi, seconded by Marco Di Manno.

All in favor. Motion accepted.

6. Daycare Report given by: Francesca Muro

A notable mention is that we have the highest number of students attending the next two ped days, there are 97 students that have registered to the November 24 and 93 children for November 25, 2022.

7. Home and School Report given by: Antonella D'Angelo

- Showed most updated budget report
- We had to vote in increase certain amounts for the events due to increase in costs.
- Halloween was a success!
- The next fundraiser is The Big Box Fundraiser and looking for other fundraisers including a possible Movie Night.
- Looking forward to Breakfast with Santa!

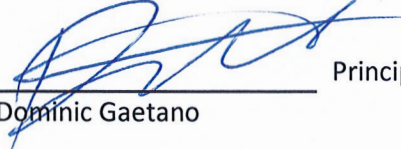
### Question Period

No questions were asked

### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:11 pm. Motioned by Anna-Marie Parente, and seconded by Stellana Romeo. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Chairperson's Signature:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dominic Gaetano

Principal's Signature:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nadia Sammarco