



Leonardo da Vinci Academy
Governing Board Meeting
Monday, November 6, 2023

Members in attendance

Nadia Sammarco, Laetitia Kachmar, Stellana Romeo, Francesca Muro, Rosamaria Carlomusto, , Maria Pensato, Antonella D'Angelo, Sabrina Gavita, Anna-Maria Parente, Tina Spiridigliozzi, Felicia Biondi, Filomena Barbieri, Karen Polletta, Fatima Marandola, Jennifer Brisebois, Rosemary Greco (alternate), Franco Marateo,

Members not in attendance

Renata Nespeca, Angie Tarantini, Vanessa Giancioppi, Marco Di Manno, Pietro Mercuri

1) Welcome and opening remarks

Stellana Romeo welcomed the members and the meeting began at 6:32pm.

2) Additions to the agenda

No changes to the agenda.

3) Adoption of the agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Francesca Muro. All in favor.

Motion approved.

4) Approval of minutes of the October 16, 2023 meeting

Motion to approve the minutes with corrections by Francesca Muro, seconded by Sabrina Gavita. All in favor.

Motion approved.

5) Business issues:

a) Approval of the Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Plan

Ms. Sammarco reviewed the Nine Elements of the new Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Plan and provided clarification where necessary.

Motion to approve the Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Plan by Maria Pensato, seconded by Felicia Bondi. All in favor.

Motion approved.

b) **Daycare**

Due to Open House taking place on November 14, 2023 and the involvement of the daycare team, students and parents, Ms. Francesca Muro asked that the daycare close at 5:30pm exceptionally on this day.

Motion to close the daycare at 5:30pm on November 14, 2023 by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Filomena Barbieri. All in favor.

Motion approved.

c) **Educational Project Feedback and Discussion**

Ms. Sammarco explained that surveys were sent to the stakeholders. All surveys contained four questions. Ms. Sammarco reviewed the responses, including positive and constructive feedback. A discussion was had by the members and some suggestions were made as to how communication and involvement of parents can be improved.

d) **Open House**

Open House is scheduled to take place on November 14. There will be two teams of tour guides starting at different locations to help with the flow of traffic. Visiting families will be given pamphlets and little trinkets to help them take notes during their tours. Posters have been distributed in the neighborhood to help advertise the event.

Pre-registration for new students within the will be possible in the gymnasium via a google form. The school will then contact them to schedule an appointment in the new year.

Volunteers and students will be fed by Le Doral. LDVA donuts, nut-free snacks and beverages will be included as well for all in attendance.

6) **Reports:**

a) **Principal's Report**

- Strike update: Strike measures took place on November 6 until 10:30am. It was very respectful and peaceful. Students were back in class at 11am. There were more absences than usual on this day. A regular afternoon schedule took place. More strike dates to come that may interfere with Parent Teacher Interviews. Clear directives will be sent in near future.
- Bus Strike: Transco voted to have an unlimited strike. The school will keep parents posted with developments as they occur.
- Benchmarking Reading Levels: Student starting in grade 1 are being benchmarked in reading for both English and French. Grade 2-6 students will be receiving their reading levels later in November. Students in grade 1 will receive their reading levels in January.
- Term 1 Report cards will be available on the Mozaik portal as of November 20, 2023.
- A parent workshop will take place on Teams on November 27, 2023 at 7pm. The topic is Routines and Healthy Habits. The workshop is geared to parents of Pre-K to Grade 2.
- Missing Children's workshop taking place to address Stanger Danger will take place on November 28, 2023
- Shine workshop taking place on November 21, 2023 (possibly affected by strike days).
- November 29, 2023 is scheduled to be Wear your favorite Jersey Day.
- On December 1, 2023, grade 6 will participate in a workshop given by Paul Karwatsky and Annie Demelt on the topic of social media and how to find reliable sources of information.
- Remembrance Day ceremonies will take place on November 7, 2023 by the Spiritual and Community Animator.
- Holiday Music concert will take place on December 7, 2023. In order to manage the capacity in the gym, there will be two concerts, one for Pre-k to grade 2 and another for

grade 3-6. Parents are asked to make a gift card donation for St. Brendan's Parish as an entry fee.

Motion to collect gift cards for St. Brendan's Parish by Antonella D'Angelo and seconded by Francesca Muro. All in favor.

Motion Approved.

b) Vice Principal's Report

Ms. Kachmar reiterated that parent teacher interviews are still pending due to strikes. More information to come.

c) Commissioner's Report

No Report.

d) Teacher's Report

Students participated in the Peace Poster Contest. The winner and runner ups will be announced shortly, and prizes will be given by a representative from the Lion's Club.

e) Regional Delegate Report

- Many schools are struggling to reach their communities. LDVA seems to be doing well in this regard.
- The new complaint procedure was discussed at length.
- The certificates of eligibility for CEGEP was a big topic of conversation. The grandfather clause is no longer in effect. The government assumes that students forfeit the right to English schooling if they go into the French system even if they have completed more than 50% of their schooling in English.
- There will be a focus on increased marketing and updating of websites.

f) Daycare Report

Ms. Francesca Muro asked for approval for January and February ped days.

- January 26, 2024: Winter Wonderland, in-house activity and treat at a cost of \$12 daycare fee and \$10 activity fee.
- February 12, 2024: Club Fy will be coming to LDVA,. This is an in-house activity with neon paint and light show at a cost of \$12 daycare fee and \$21 activity fee.

Motion to approve these ped day activities by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Karen Polletta. All in favor.

Motion approved.

g) Home and School Report

- Halloween activities were entertaining and extensive. Special thank you to the daycare and school for providing treats for the children. The teachers gave positive feedback. The pumpkin competition was a great success.
- Approximately \$1200 was given to teachers for the purchase of educational material at the QPAT Teacher's Convention.
- The chocolate drive has come to an end. The final tally hasn't been calculated yet. More information to come at next meeting.

7) Question Period

No public.

8) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. by Gavita, seconded by Francesca Muro. All in favor.

Motion approved.

Chairperson
Signature:

Stellana Romeo

Principal
Signature:

Nadia Sammarco