

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting

April 19th, 2021 -Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendance

Present :

<p>Administrators Tony Pita Patty Tumnillo Mark Della Posta</p> <p>LBP Staff Clorinda Antonacci Charles Préfontaine Angela Antonacci Paul Karpontinis Catherine Clarabut Sergio Greco Joseph Monachino Gennifer Girardello</p> <p>Community Representative Marysia Kasprzak</p>	<p>Parents Anna Tafuto Franco Mazzariello Joe Biunno Liliana Zarlenga Marisa Papillo Pierre Gosselin Tony Aversano Catarina Tamburrino (Alt) replaced Mrs. De Stefano</p> <p>Student Council Elisabetta Tiloni Claudia Staniscia</p> <p>Commisionner Sophie De Vito</p>
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Absent:

Pina De Stefano – Parent Assunta Caruso - Admin	Luigi GaraFolo – alt Parent
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1. Welcome / Guidelines

2. Attendance / Voting Count

- Show of hands for “no” or “abstentions” when voting; not necessary to show a yes vote

3. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Accept Agenda for April 19th, 2021 Governing Board Meeting 1st

Motion – Liliana Zarlenga

2nd Motion – Joe Biunno

All in Favor

Motion carried

Approval of minutes of February 8, 2021

Motion: Accept minutes from February 8, 2021 1st

Motion - Sergio Greco

2nd Motion – Tony Aversano All in

Favor

Motion carried

4. Question Period

Mrs Lida Rinaldi

Activities refunds and Graduation Ceremony. Questions to be answered on Point 7.2 and 7.4

5. Business Arising from Minutes

Mr. Karpontinis asking for the Terry Fox fund raising activity, to add 1 non uniform day in May and June because of December and January non uniform day was canceled.

Reminder that non uniform day is for Student council day (April 30th)

Mr Pita mentioned non uniform day should be alternate for the Sec 3-5

1st Motion – Liliana Zarlenga

2nd Motion – Angela Antonacci

All in Favor

Motion carried

6. New Business

7.1- Code of Conduct 2021-2022 (To review Yellow Highlighted sections)

-Mr Karpontinis ask to add Sexual orientation

-Questions about parking:

-no visitors allowed in school parking except if asking permit at main office. Good for GB meetings, concern is more for after 2200 when snow removal company passes, and local resident cars are parked in the parking lot

-Mrs. Tafuto ask if scooter would be allowed in school parking. Mr Pita answered scooter should park in the street.

- Uniforms: no Winter boots allowed in school

- School calendar for 2021-2022 - No dates have been provided yet.

1st Motion - Angela Antonacci

2nd Motion – Clorinda Antonacci

All in Favor

Motion carried

7.2– Student Activity Fees potential Re-imbusement – 2020-2021

Amount of 49.72\$ will be refunded to Parents with a check that will be added in the year end

package. An email communication will be sent to the parent community advising of the check's being distributed and that they should ask their child.

Refunds will only be provided to all students who have paid all their fees, any outstanding fees they will not receive the refund until they clear up the outstanding amounts owed to the school.

Motion for refund of 49.72\$

1st Motion – Charles Préfontaine

2nd Motion – Paul Karpontinis

All in Favor

7.3– Budget Allocation 2020-2021

Budget presentation from Mr. Pita, No motion needed

7.4– Graduation Ceremony 2021

Mr. Della Posta mentioned that Graduation will occur in the fall of 2021

The Grad committee is looking to do some type of activity for our grads in June with more details to come once they are finalized, all activities will be in accordance to the Sante Public guidelines

7.5– Recoding E-vote held of 2021-03.31 on Hybrid Model Schools - Resolution

The resolution as is as follows:

Lester B Pearson High School Governing Board resolution to support the decision to maintain the Hybrid Model for Secondary 4 and 5 at Lester B. Pearson High School.

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education offered two options to schools for Secondary 4 and 5 students in their *Plan de la rentrée 2020* to either maintain closed groups (bubbles) all day or use a hybrid model and offer some online instruction to a maximum of 50% of the time to allow essential optional courses to be offered;

WHEREAS **Lester B Pearson High School**, after careful consideration, was unable to schedule students, maintain groups in bubbles and offer essential optional courses, therefore opted for the hybrid model;

WHEREAS **Lester B Pearson High School** has been using a hybrid model in Sec. 4 and 5 since September 2020;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education requires that all students be back full-time in school as of March 29th 2021;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education requires schools to follow the Public Health Department measures at all times;

WHEREAS bringing secondary 4 and 5 students back in the current model would not respect the Public Health Department measures recommending bubbles or social distancing to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and thus protect the health of all staff members, students and their families;

WHEREAS restructuring the school at this time of the year and creating new groups is not in line with recommendations made by the Public Health Department;

WHEREAS **Lester B Pearson High School** is unable to restructure the master schedule of the school to allow secondary 4 & 5 students to remain in bubbles without compromising optional courses;

WHEREAS collapsing option classes at this time of the year would deny students gaining credits towards graduation;

IT WAS MOVED BY Marissa Papillo, SECONDED BY Clorinda Antonacci AND RESOLVED THAT the **Lester B Pearson High School** Governing Board maintains the hybrid model for the Secondary 4 and 5 students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent by Laura Cesari, Administration Officer, Office of the Director General, at lcesari@emsc.qc.ca.

18 vote requests
15 – yes
3 – no response

7. Reports

8.1 Principle (Tony Pita)

LBP Governing Board Principal's Report April 19, 2021

Covid Update

LBP continues to get a steady flow of Covid cases. We had experts from Santé Publique come in when the school closed to review our practices. Improvements were made to reduce the risk level in common areas, during lunch, and the am/pm movement.

We appreciate the Board (upper management and the Council of Commissioners) and the parents' support in maintaining the safety of our Sec 4 and 5 students by agreeing to continue the hybrid model that was approved by the MEQ in August of 2020.

Much of the staff has already been vaccinated with the first dose. Despite that, staff has implemented measures to reduce the risks. We hope high school students will be eligible for vaccines in the coming months as well.

June Exams

The school has received many questions about the possibility of having school or board exams in June. That decision has been communicated and we will not have formal exams. As a result, we will be having regular classes until June 23rd.

CO2 Testing

LBP had 4 classes tested in February to determine whether we have safe levels of CO2 in our classrooms. 2 of the 4 classes reported levels below the acceptable standard and 2 were slightly above the 1000 units permitted. As a result, the ventilation has been adjusted centrally at the Board and the classes will be retested at a later date.

Enrollment

The enrollment for the 2021-22 school year presently stands at 1001 students with 180 students in secondary 1. This is a small reduction from the current 1027 students. Most of the upper grade registrations are done later in the year, except for Sport Études.

We've expanded the Sport Études hockey program for next year. We expect Sport Études to expand to 2 groups in Sec 1 and 3 next year.

Meetings are presently underway to discuss incoming students from each of the area elementary schools.

Technology

LBP continues to loan out computers to families for distance education. We have been able to provide technology within a short time delay to all thanks to Ms. Caruso, Ms. Tummillo, and Ms Greco. The school has significantly increased the number of devices available to students this year and we were able to replace the POP lab with new desktop computers.

Learning Commons

LBP received roll over amounts from unspent monies last year allocated to furniture and equipment. As a result, the LBP Library will receive new furniture for students. The Learning Commons project has been a priority in order to transform a traditional library space with its cubicles and shelves into one that fosters learning and communication. The library will become a flexible space with moveable chairs and tables. Small rooms will eventually be opened to allow for group projects. Two of the tables will be writeable with dry-erase markers to encourage the collaboration and sharing that the previous space had discouraged. Special thanks to our library staff for their efforts to make this project evolve in a short period of time.

8.2 Teacher Report (Paul Karpontisis)

Work action April 27th 2021

8.3 Student Council (Elisabetta Tilona, Claudia Staniscia)

Student Council Governing Board Report

- **Breakfast Club:** Breakfast Club was giving free breakfast the week of April 12, due to the donations of Breakfast Club of Canada and Grant from the President's Choice foundation we have decided to offer free breakfasts until the end of the year.
- **Coop:** Coop is taking a break from lunch sales due to the new COVID-19 precautions, students can still buy from council in the mornings, our vending machine or from Mr. K directly.
- **Green Committee:** The green committee has planted seedlings at the beginning of March and they are continuing to water the plants in the seedling room every day. We are also collecting masks in order to properly recycle them on the first day of every week.
- **Empathy Day:**
The purpose of "Empathy Day" is to reach all secondary 4 students through peer-guided hands-on activities and dynamic group discussions that enable the development of compassion, understanding and empathy for each other and their school community. Secondary 4 will be entering secondary 5 next year, and this group will most likely set the tone for next year. Student council wrote positive messages, posted notes and stuck them on over 1000 student desks. On April 15th, student council members organized empathy workshops for Secondary 4 students. The students played kahoot games and icebreakers. We also had a school wide presentation from Live Different. He shared his own stories and taught everyone about empathy.
- **Women's Leadership & environmental workshop:** A group of selected council members were chosen to watch a live interview of Sarika Cullis-Suzuki, a marine biologist and the daughter of David Suzuki informing us about the dangers imposed on our environment and what we can do about it.
- **Pearson Pride:** Pearson Pride day was most recently held on April 16th to encourage students to have school spirit and be proud of their school.
- **St Patrick's Day:** We had decorated for Saint- Patrick's day and we did daily raffles to commemorate the day.
- **Staff Appreciation:** Staff members were given succulents and daily coffee for a week at lunch. It was to show the staff and how appreciative we are to them. All the staff members enjoyed their gift.
- **Grad Hoodie Liquidation:** We have a very limited quantity left of Gradwear that we are selling off at new lower prices. Hoodies (30\$) and Grad Tees (10\$).

8.4 Commissioner (Sophie De Vito)

East End Schools Marketing Initiative

We are pleased to inform that a marketing committee focusing exclusively on our East End schools has been launched. The members are: Commissioners Maria Corsi (Co-Chair), Tony Speranza (Co-Chair), Joe Ortona (EMSB Chair), Agostino Cannavino (EMSB Vice-Chair), Mario Bentrovato, Mario Pietrangelo, Sophie De Vito, Pietro Mercuri, Mike Cohen, Daniel Smajovits and Jordan Stoopler (freelance writer)

In recent weeks some exploratory discussions have taken place.

In order to proceed successfully, we need the full cooperation of school administrators and the respective Governing Boards.

Our initial ask is as follows. Can the subject of marketing be placed on the agenda of your next Governing Board meeting? Your commissioner will address the issue and explain what we are hoping for.

The former Save Our East End Schools Facebook page has been changed to Focus on East End Schools.

It will promote the great things going on at our schools. We need everyone's help to boost our number of likes so please share the address with as many people as possible –present day parents, alumni and of course families with little ones who will be ready for school soon:

<https://www.facebook.com/FocusOnEastEndSchools>

We will also be taking a closer look at each school's social media activities and see how we can help.

Certainly we are wide open for your ideas as well. These can be shared with your commissioner, who will bring them back to the committee level.

Step one would be for the Principal and/or Vice-Principal, Governing Board Chair and some members to be available for a video call. At this time we will ask the following questions:

- 1) How do you market your school?
- 2) How do you market open houses and registration?
- 3) Do you have any kind of promotional budget?
- 4) What do you see as your biggest challenge for enrolment?
- 5) Do most of your Grade 6 graduates remain with the EMSB?
- 6) Which school(s) do you see as your biggest competition?
- 7) Can you please help us find a few families that you know of who chose to send their children to a non-EMSB school (i.e. private or French)? We would very much like to communicate with them (no names will be published) to get their feedback as to why they did not choose the EMSB. This will be invaluable data for us to move forward.

8.5 EMSB PC Delegate

Mask: making sure that we got the right ones. Parents committee requesting from School Board the specs of those mask as they want to ensure that the mask being handed to our students are conforming to the norm and that we were not distributing the non-conforming masks that we not approved.

EMSBPC held their Virtual Parents Conference Sunday April 18th.

8.6 Community Rep (Marysia Kasprzak)

Summer job opportunities as summer camp leader

8. Varia

Mrs Tafuto ask about the Singing and shows at lunch time. Was mentioned solutions are in progress so it can be presented. i.e videos on social media

9. Second Question Period

None

10. *Next Meeting*

May 17, 2021 (Virtual)

11. *Adjournment*

Motion to Adjourn Meeting

1st Motion – Guiseppe Biunno

2nd Motion – Angela Antonacci

All in Favor