



École secondaire LESTER B. PEARSON High School
11575 rue P.M. Favier, Montréal (Québec) H1G 6E5
TEL: (514) 328-4442 FAX: (514) 328-4443

Governing Board Minutes – March 22nd, 2023

PRESENT:

Administration : Joseph Vitantonio

Parents : Tony Aversano (replacing Franco Mazzariello as president) Joe Biunno, Sandra Greco, Marisa Papillo, Tina Rubino (secretary), Daniela Marino, Patricia Suriano (replacing Liliana Zarlenga)

Parent Alternates : Giovanni Ficara, Gabriel Latino

Teachers : Paul Karpontinis, Tania Liciursi, Clorinda Antonacci

Non-Teaching Staff: Charles Préfontaine

Professionals : Casey Gagné

Guests : N/A

Students : Dante Zonin, Ariana Faucini

Regrets : Catherine Clarabut, Grace Fanelli, Assunta Caruso, Angela Antonacci, Franco Mazzariello, Liliana Zarlenga, Alessandro Conciatori

1 Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

- Mr. Mazzariello was not able to attend the meeting and asked that Mr. Tony Aversano replace him to lead meeting as the vice -chair.
- Mr. Tony Aversano welcomes everyone in person at the start of the meeting at 7:00 pm.
- All in favor to have the meeting recorded to assist in the minutes.
- Dante Zonin and Ariana Faucini read the Land Acknowledgment

2 Adoption of the Agenda

- Motion was moved to adopt the agenda by Marisa Papillo, seconded by Patricia Suriano. All in favor

3 Adoption of the minutes from Dec 19, 2022, GB meeting

- Mr. Tony Aversano asked if anyone had any comments or corrections to make to the minutes and supporting documents.
- Motion was moved to adopt the minutes by Tony Rubino, seconded by Patricia Suriano. All in favor with no abstentions.

4 New Business

4.1. Budget building Process (Approval Required):

- a. Mr. Vitantonio explained briefly the budget building process.
- b. This is a process we undergo every year, to help share our budget wish list with priorities for consideration by the Finance department when they plan their annual budget.
- c. The wish-list is feedback we provide for consideration purposes only.
- d. The wish list usually comes from adjusting the previous school year's priorities to the latest reality and new school year needs.
- e. Last years budget priorities included;

1. Staffing: Vice Principal for large schools over 1200 should reflect the weighted average of students; staffing should reflect a weighted enrollment.
2. Staffing: Respect staffing ratio by increase Guidance Counselors allocation, allocation must address our students' , academic and emotional needs with a minimum of 1 to 343 students in all schools; staffing should reflect a weighted enrollment.
3. Special Needs Allocations: Increase allocation of CCWs and Resource Teachers required to deliver direct services to special needs students.
4. Technology: Increase technicians to maintain equipment and support teacher innovation.
5. Increase funding of building improvements/upgrades and maintenance.

- f. The governing board was asked if they had any changes to bring to the list.
- g. Mr. Vitantonio recommended that a comment be added to item 4 (technology) to request to set aside funds for the WIFI Infrastructure of the board. The network needs to be rebuilt, so it would be important to make reference to this in our priorities.
- h. Motion to adopt the same wish list and priorities as last year with the addition of a comment to set aside some funds for the wifi system for 2023-2024 was moved by Marisa Papillo and seconded by Sandra Greco. All in favor and motion is to be carried.

4.2. Top Marks Annual price increase review (Approval Required):

- a. Mr. Vitantonio explained that the contract with Top Mark had a freeze on price increase for last year pricing.
- b. The governing board agreed last year to a maximum of a 5% price increase for this year.
- c. Top Mark proposed pricing list effective May 1, 2023 was shared to the governing board and it reflects an Overall average increase of 4.78%

- d. TOP Marks also recommends discontinuing (not to restock upon depletion of stock) certain less popular items for which sales have significantly dropped.
- e. The items to discontinue are highlighted in yellow on the attached price list and include;
 - i. WHITE LONG SLEEVE POLO SHIRT -emb
 - ii. WHITE GIRLS FITTED LONG SLEEVE POLO SHIRT emb
 - iii. WHITE TURTLENECK – emb
 - iv. UNISEX WICKING T-SHIRT emb
 - v. GIRLS WICKING T-SHIRT emb
- f. Motion to accept Top Mark price increase effective May 1, 2023, and to discontinue selected items, was moved by Marisa Papillo and seconded by Patricia Suriano. All in favor and motion to be carried.

5 Reports

5.1. Principal

5.1.1. Transportation Cheques & School Fee Payments (Approval Required):

- a) In the month of April, we receive the transportation allocation cheques for students who live a certain distance from the school who require public transportation to get to school.
- b) Every year, we request GB's permission to allow the school administration to withhold these cheques for families who have not yet paid their school fees.
- c) It was moved by Patricia Suriano and seconded by Marisa Papillo. All in favor and motion to be carried.

5.1.2. Academic and Career Planning Content (ACGC) (Approval Required):

- a) There is a program in the QEP called Academic and Career Planning Content.
- b) This begins in grade 5 and continues into secondary 5.
- c) The purpose of this is to help educate and guide student into the career they would like to choose for themselves.
- d) This year, the Finance teachers were invited to a training on incorporating one aspect of the program into the Finance curriculum before June 2023.
- e) Next year, each school will be required to prepare a plan for this material to be covered in different subject areas, similarly to the sex ed plan we have.
- f) The board has prepared a resolution for the introduction of this content for the Finance curriculum this year.
- g) It was moved by Daniela Marino and seconded by Tina Rubino. All in favor and motion to be carried in support of the resolution.

5.1.3. Final Exam Period (Approval Required):

- a) Last day of class is June 9, 2023.
- b) Some exams for secondary 4 and 5 are scheduled during regular class days.
- c) Secondary 2 ELA end of cycle exam (part 1) will run during the month of May during class time.
- d) Secondary 4 FSL/FLM exam take place on May 11 & June 6
- e) Secondary 5 ELA exam taking place on May 23-24-25
- f) Secondary 5 FSL/FLM exam taking place on May 11 & June 6

- g) Letters will be sent to parent Thursday to give them advanced notice about these upcoming mandatory exams.
- h) In order to alleviate the exam week of June 12-16, we were hoping to use a couple of days the previous week to run these exams, especially for the secondary 4 students who have a full week of provincial exams taking place.
- i) We will work backwards from July 9 to schedule additional exams for the levels.
- j) At the GB meeting of March 22, 2023, it was agreed that Mr. Vitantonio discuss first with staff council before bringing the motion to the GB for vote approval prior to our next GB meeting in April thus requiring the use of the e-Vote.
- k) On March 29, 2023, Mr. Vitantonio confirmed that the discussion was held with staff council and the motion was passed.
- l) Franco Mazzariello emails GB members with request for members to e-vote on the following motion.
- m) The motion is to allow students to write local exams prior to the current designated exam time. (For example ending the year earlier beginning with June 9 and possibly earlier. To ease pressure on students writing as well as on teachers correcting. This will come at a cost in terms of losing teaching time prior to the exam period.)
- n) On April 2, 2023, Franco Mazzariello confirmed that voting was closed and that the motion passed. It was moved by Tony Aversano, seconded by Catherine Clarabut and resolved by the LBP GB who accepted the motion for using June 9th, 2023 as an exam day.
- o) The results of the e-Vote were;
 - YES= 12, NO=0, ABSTAIN=1
 - 5 members did not respond.
 - MOTION CARRIED

5.1.4. Population Update for 2023-2024 (Information Item):

- a) 930 students
- b) A slight drop from last year (about 50 students)
- c) More registrations coming in slowly.
- d) Hope not to have to declare excess at the end of the process.

5.1.5. Futsal Tournament (Information Item):

- a) Mr. Latino spoke about the futsal tournament.
- b) Great group of Sec 3 and 4 boys that beat VMC in the regional finals.
- c) This win allows them to qualify for the Provincials organized by the RSVQ.
- d) Provincials Tournament will be taking place in Trois-Rivieres from Friday afternoon to Sunday PM
- e) Cost of inscription is funded by the school. It includes the cost of team registration, lodging and food.

5.1.6. Battle of the Books (Information Item):

- a) Charles spoke about the library's preparation for the battle of the book's activity.
- b) Kids from various schools read upto 12 preselected novels and then compete in local regional trivia competitions.

- c) Lester B Pearson is sending 5 students to compete to this activity that is planned on the 11th of April.

5.1.7. **Plan for Online Payment 2023-2024 (Information Item):**

- a) Mozaik Online payment option
- b) Parents will be sent a letter with a reference number for each child attending LBP. This is their account access.
- c) When the fees are charged, parents receive a statement of account, and will be able to pay the fees through their own online banking site like you would a hydro Quebec bill.

5.1.8. **Things to do in the coming months (Information Item):**

- a) Approval of school calendar
- b) Approval of school fees
- c) Approval of Agenda pages- Code of Conduct and Policies

5.2. Commissioner

- Nothing new to report

5.3. Chair/Regional Delegate

- Nothing new was reported (Frank absent)

5.4. Secretary/Treasurer

- Nothing new to report

5.5. Student Council

The following items were reported for the march report:

EMSB Leadership Camp

Planning for leadership camp, currently 5 organizers, 4 animators and we are hoping for 20 delegates. Students will be going to Westmount high to organize the leadership camp in April.

Wednesday lunch activities

For the past few months, every Wednesday, student council has held activities for students in the plaza like spot-it and catch the light relay to enjoy over their lunch period.

Restocking vending machine

Student council members have continuously refilled the vending machine in the plaza, so there's a secure supply of things kids might need whenever they wish. The restocking is usually done daily depending on demands.

J'identifie j'agis

In the second two meetings council members mapped out the problems and potential solutions, we have a 5th meeting on April 11th.

Giving away candy canes and hot cocoa

As part of the winter fest activities, council members gave away free hot cocoa to the students from the serving window in the cafeteria. The students were generally appreciative of this free sweet treat at lunch.

Guest speaker

Adam Atkas, former student council member came to speak to a full auditorium of students to kick off our perseverance week, he spoke about the importance of overcoming life's hurdles.

Photo Booth

Student council ran and set up a photo booth in the plaza, where students may have come and dressed up and had their picture taken. This was a fun activity and a memorable experience for those who are graduating. This was part of the winter fest activities.

Planning a school dance

The members of student council worked together to plan and advertise a dance for the students of LBP to be held on February 23rd.

We had approximately 160 students who had committed including our council members, unfortunately we were below the cut-off and had to cancel.

Decorating for Valentines Day

Student council has set up decorations to bring a joyful atmosphere for the valentine's day festivities. We set up stickers and inflatables for the event.

Selling and distributing Valentines Day candy grams

Student council members sold candy grams and crushes for a crush. We then sorted and distributed the purchases to the intended recipients on Valentine's Day. The distribution was done on period one of valentine day and the sorting was done the day prior. The sales proceeded this day by two weeks. We were able to donate 200\$ of proceeds to Logifem

Money collection for Turkey and Syria

In February we held a non-uniform day. We collected over \$1765 which we donated to the relief efforts in Turkey and Syria. The idea was presented by a student council student who came up with the idea when they saw the events unfold in Turkey after the earthquakes.

Cooking baking for Valentines and St-Patricks

We have baked cookies for our at school lunch cookie decorating on two occasions since the break, valentines and St-Patricks. On both occasions we have baked approximately 200 cookies that were enjoyed by the students the next day.

Cookie decorating the week of valentines at lunch.

During the valentines and St-Patrick weeks, student council members have run cooking baking activities at lunch for the students. These activities were held in the plaza during the lunch hour and students were permitted to decorate and eat the cookies. These cookies came from the baking we did.

Perseverance lunch activity for grads

During lunch, secondary 5 students had the chance to write positive messages on paper graduation caps and take a picture with it.

Pink shirt day craft activity

Students got to write positive messages on cut outs of pink t-shirts and we placed them around the school.

Staff appreciation

Student council worked really hard to ensure that each teacher received their own personalized mug with chocolate, tea and coffee.

Keeping staff members refreshed and feed on parent teacher conferences.

Throughout the night several student council members circulated the building to offer staff coffee and refreshments.

Putting up St-Patrick's decorations

Right before St-Patrick's day students put up St-Patrick's day decorations throughout the plaza and at the office.

St-Patrick's day lunch activities

During the St-Patrick's week council has been running St-Patrick day themed events such as cookie decorating from those we made, we also had some coloring for students during the week. All activities were held at lunch to all students so they can have some fun.

Planning for empathy day

Members of the student council's social justice committee have been planning out the day's events for tomorrow's empathy day. This is a day wide event where sec 4s come during period 2 and 3 to be given a sense of what it is to be empathetic and why to be kind to one another.

Planting seedlings and watering

Members of the green committee have begun to plant and tend to vegetables we have planted. We are currently planting and growing them in our green room and are intending to sell them to the people and surrounding community later in the year.

Making and sticking positive post-its to lockers

Members of the student council have made post-its with positive messages for all the students and staff, in preparation for tomorrow's empathy day. In addition to making them we have also stuck them to all of the lockers as well as all the teacher and staff doors.

5.6. Teachers

- Nothing pressing to report for this month. Any new items will be reported at the next meeting in April.

5.7. Sport Études Program

- Sec 5 Student Alexandro Biello was captain of the team that competed in Guatemala and was acknowledged for the teams results in finishing 4th overall.
- With these results the team will next be heading to Peru for the FIFA world cup U17 team.

5.8. Guidance Initiatives

- Nothing new to report

6 Varia

- Nothing more was added

7 Public Question Period

- No questions

8 Next Meeting:

- The next meeting is planned for April 17th 2023.
- Document resolution is to be signed by Mr. Mazzariello. Mr. Vitantonio will follow up with him to do so.

9 Adjournment

- Joe Biunno moved the motion to adjourn the meeting. Marisa Papillo seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.



Principal

Franco Mazzariello



Chairperson