



École secondaire LESTER B. PEARSON High School
11575 rue P.M. Favier, Montréal (Québec) H1G 6E5
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Governing Board Minutes – December 16, 2024
7:00pm (In-Person)

PRESENT:

Administration: Joseph Vitantonio, Assunta Caruso, Grace Fanelli, Patrizia Tummillio

Parents: Sandra Greco (Chairperson), Daniela Marino, Jocelyne Cacciatore, Jack Algieri, Annelisa Rende, Sabrina Ficca, Angela Antonacci (secretary)

Parent Alternates: Isabel Deganutto

Teachers: Paul Karpontinis, Gabriel Latino, Catherine Clarabut, Antoinette Licursi, Sara Di Maulo, Sabrina Pisaturo

Non-Teaching Staff: Charles Préfontaine

Students: Luca Di Fiore, Brianna Morello

Commissioner: Susan Perera

Absent: Dario Falso, Casey Gagné, Francesca Pitruzzello (parent alternate)

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

- Mr. Vitantonio welcomed everyone at the start of the meeting at 7:15 pm.
- Ms. Greco welcomed everyone and introduced our district Commissioner Susan Perera
- Luca Di Fiore and Bianca Morello read the Land Acknowledgement.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- **Motion** was moved to adopt the agenda by Gabriel Latino, seconded by Daniela Marino. All in favour.

3. Adoption of the minutes from the November 18, 2024, Governing Board meeting

- **Motion** was moved to approve the minutes by Paul Karpontinis, seconded by Antoinette Licursi. All in favour.

4. New Business:

4.1 ABAV Plan Approval

- i) This is slightly revised from last year.
- ii) Added a few new initiatives such as MEQ Bullying training and Sexting presentation to staff.
- iii) It highlights the strategies in place to target bullying and help students feel safe at school.
- iv) A team of staff worked with Ms. Tummillo to take our plan and make the revisions to reflect this year.

- **Motion** to approve was moved by Sabrina Ficca, seconded by Sara Di Maulo. All in favour.

4.2 Subject Selection Forms

- i) The subjects being offered are the status quo to this year.
- ii) Some of the optional classes in secondary 4 and 5 may not be programmed if there is not enough student interest for a full class.
- iii) The dates for return will be adjusted accordingly before going out. Currently looking at doing the subject selection through Mozaik, reducing the shuffling of papers back and forth.

- **Motion** to adopt and move by Gabriel Latino, seconded by Sabrina Ficca.

5. Reports

5.1 Principal

1. Boston Trip

- a) We are organizing a 3-day, 2-night trip to Boston for the secondary 3 and 4 students.
- b) Mr. Gagliano and Mr. Giancola are the trip organizers.
- c) The trip takes place April 28- April 30, 2025.
- d) Sites include the Boston Common, Massachusetts State House, Park Street Church, Granary Burying Ground, King's Chapel, King's Chapel Burial Ground, Statue of Benjamin Franklin and site of Boston's first public school, Quincy Market, and a stop in Salem- visit the museum and do a walking tour of the town.
- e) Cost of the trip is \$704 for 37 - 40 students and \$619 for 49 students.

- **Motion** to move the trip Antoinette Licursi, seconded by Annalisa Rende

2. Staff Appreciation Week

- a) Staff appreciation week will be celebrated the week of February 24, 2025.
 - b) We normally ask GB to help us fund the supper on PT night and some treats during the week.
 - c) We are requesting \$40 per staff member to pay for the dinner and coffee break.
- **Motion** to move the staff appreciation week activities and cost, Daniela Marino, seconded by Annalisa Rende

3. NYC Trip Update

- a) Exceptionally, we are going to NYC with 2 full busses.
- b) We surprised the students today when they thought they were coming for the draw we normally do.
- c) With 84 students interested in the trip, we explored the option of going with 2 busses and it seems to have worked out with an additional cost to parents of \$30.
- d) Students will need to leave their deposits and if number remain the same, the two busses will be a go.
- e) This is not something that will take place every year, but with a number of students interested in attending in 80s it was something we were willing to explore.

4. Japan Trip Update

- a) We had to cancel the trip to Japan.
- b) With the small number of participants, we weren't able to continue with the trip.
- c) We attempted to open the trip to sec. 1 students, tried pairing up with other EMSB schools, and extended the deadline numerous times trying to get enough students to make the trip viable.
- d) We were left with having to consider doing a generic trip to try to keep costs at what we advertised, but not enough parents committed to the new plan and costs.
- e) We were left with 4 students.
- f) I will be going to staff to propose another trip for next year, as Mr. Chan and Ms. Di Cesare were not interested.
- g) A huge thank you to them for all their work and efforts on the planning of the Japan trip.

5.2 Commissioner

- a) Susan Perera introduced herself
- b) Spoke about a meeting which was held on November 18, 2024 at the EMSB regarding the AVES program of carpentry at RTC
- c) She mentioned that the first board meeting was taking place tomorrow.

5.3 Chairperson

- Nothing to report.

5.4 Regional Delegate

- Nothing to report

5.5 Treasurer

- Nothing to report

5.6 Student Council

Parent's Night

We had our parents' night on November 28, many parents showed up, we offered teachers snacks and coffee. We sold many books and chocolate bars.

Spirit of Giving

We started our spirit of giving food drive, around weeks ago. We collected 1384 food and hygiene items and \$1199.45. This is the highest money and food and hygiene items that's been collected in recent years!

It was a battle of epic proportions between secondary 5 students who brought in the most food donations but suffered the most negative points from donations, mostly from our secondary 1 students. This competition of generosity resulted in our secondary 4 students claiming the most points therefore winning bragging rights and a free non-uniform day on Friday.

\$500 went to Moisson Montreal, a quarter of the total went as gift cards to our family baskets. We also purchased additional food for the food baskets and the balance was used to provide some more generous donations to our traditional charities. We donated \$700 to St-Brendan's, \$350 to SPCA, \$350 to the salvation army and \$350 Centre D'Amitié Autochtone de Montréal.

PJ day

Our PJ day was a success and we raised around \$1534! The best it's been in 3 years!

Grad Hoodies

We distributed the Grad on December 4th, we gave them all out within the lunch hour and we were allowed to wear them from now on

Teambuilder

We had our first teambuilder on December 12th, last Thursday, we had a council kahoot, we did activities as well as doing the hot ones challenge and ended the night with watching a Christmas movie!

Modified uniform spirit week

Our modified uniform spirit week begun today with all students encouraged to participate at no charge! Today was ugly holiday sweater day, tomorrow will be holiday socks, ties and accessories, the 18th will be holiday hats, ears and antlers, Thursday will be dressing up as your favorite Christmas movie character and Friday will be the non-uniform day for the winner of our Spirit of Giving food drive.

Secondary 5 Breakfast with Santa

Our Secondary 5 Breakfast with Santa happened yesterday and was a huge success! More than half the grade was in attendance, to play games, enjoy food with their friends and participate in our raffle, all at no charge!

Honour Roll Breakfast

Admin has organized the Breakfast of Excellence to honor students for their academic achievements. Today was the first day for the Sec 1s and the following days will hold a breakfast for each grade. We would like to thank admin for organizing this breakfast for our students!

Sec 5- 4.5 Years Movie and Pasta night

We have begun planning for our 4.5 years pasta night exclusively for Sec 5 students, we are still looking for a date sometime in January or February.

EMSB Camp

We have started choosing people to go to EMSB camp, we've confirmed 2 organizers, 2 animators, and 9 delegates.

Sports

Our basketball team started up last week. We have track twice a week as well as futsal and running.

Games room

Recent improvement to games room include a new game and a foosball table that requires assembly.

Lunch Activities

Our week of Christmas themed lunch activities started today with Ornament decorating! Tomorrow will also be ornament decorating, the next two days will be Christmas cookie decorating, and on Friday we will be having a Holliday Kahoot in the cafeteria and we'll be selling candy canes and hot cocoa from our co-op on that day too.

5.7 Sports Études (absent Casey Gagné)

- Joseph Vitantonio reported that for the 2025-2026 there are 3 groups of secondary 1 Sports Études registered

6. Varia

- Nothing to report

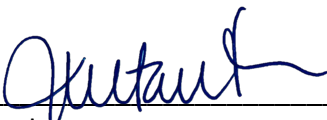
7. Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be in-person and will take place virtually on Monday, January 20, 2025.

8. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Sabrina Ficca and seconded by Daniela Marino. All in favour.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.



Principal



Chairperson