



# ÉCOLE NESBITT SCHOOL

6108 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, H1Y 2M2  
Tel: 514-721-2850 – Fax: 514-721-2060



## GOVERNING BOARD - MEETING #4

**Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

6:30 pm (via Microsoft Teams)

### MINUTES

Name of member	Role	P/A	Name of member	Role	P/A
Alexis, Melissa	Parent	P	Newin, Emilee	Teacher	P
Balntas, Maria	Daycare Staff	P	Rodrigue, Jonathan	Parent	P
Bucci, Samantha	Teacher	P	Romano, Nicholas	Principal	P
Cascino, Jessie	Parent		Ruelland, Isabelle	Parent	
Currie, Sophie	Parent	P	Santino, Maria	Parent	P
Di Martino, Maria Lisa	Parent	P	Silvestrin, Silvana	Teacher	
Garcia, Carolyn	Parent		Sirianni, Angela	Teacher	
Lanni, Sandra	Teacher	P	Stillitano, Alessia	Teacher	P
Marcil, Martin	Teacher	P	Zarnegar, Pardis	Parent	P
McLaughlin, Laurie	Community Rep		VACANT	Community Rep	
Minicucci, Laura	Support Staff		TOTAL: <u>13</u> Present ( <u>12</u> votes)		

Replacements in the event there are not enough parents for quorum: Alice Huang

### Opening Time: 6:35 pm

#### 1. Adoption of the Agenda:

- In Varia, request by Maria Lisa D. to discuss cafeteria services during the renovations was added.

Moved by: Sophie C.

Second: Sandra L.

Vote: 12:0:0

#### 2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

##### 2.1. Minutes from Tuesday March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Moved by: Emilee N.

Second: Sophie C.

Vote: 12:0:0

#### 3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- Jonathan R. sent the email for principal criteria to Miss Stillitano.
- No other follow ups to report on



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## 4. New Business

### 4.1. Approval of lunch time activities

- Was voted by internet and was passed unanimously for all who participated in the vote. To be officialized in this meeting: Di Bella Karate on Wednesdays.

Moved by: Sandra L.  
Second: Pardis Z.  
Vote: 12:0:0

### 4.2 Approval of Home and School Fundraising Activities

- A pizza day event is planned for May or June.
- Price: \$6.00 for a slice of pizza, ice-cream, and a drink. Additional slice \$1.50

Moved by: Maria S.  
Second: Maria Lisa D.  
Vote: 12:0:0

## 5. Reports

### 5.1. Principal Report

- Enrollment (Current):
  - 310 students
- Enrollment (for Next Year):
  - 281 confirmed, 9 pending
- School Renovations Meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>:
  - Was attended by approximately 35 people
  - Meeting was about 1 hour
  - Families toured the items for sale afterwards and donations were collected from some sales
  - The meeting was recorded as was recommended by the governing board. This recording with a copy of the presentation was sent by email to the school community. No follow up has been received from this email to-date.
- School Renovation Progress:
  - Minor preparatory work underway:
    - Continuation of replacing of flooring on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and some painting
    - Sink installation in current library area where kindergarten kids will be located
    - Installation of shelving in areas that are repurposed for storage
  - Bidding process underway for preparatory work that will take place between June and August 2023. Bidding period continues until the end of April and approval is expected in the month of May.
- School Activities:
  - On March 28<sup>th</sup>, M. Dimitri Ilias, musical Tenor and Director, came to speak to grade 3 to 6 students regarding participating in an EBSB-wide musical project. Details were sent to the parents. Auditions for Nesbitt will take place this week on Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Story telling on March 31<sup>st</sup>, to be covered in Teachers Report.
  - A dental hygienist was at the school for grade 2 students for preliminary screening. It was the first time since 2019.



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- Questions:

- Ms. Santino asked what will happen to cafeteria after the renovations?  
M. Romano: Cafeteria service will be available during the renovations. However, the school will not have a kitchen. Instead, a multipurpose space is reserved that is currently intended as eating area. This means that there will be no hot meals prepared on-site. The service model that will be adopted for Nesbitt will be like what is currently in place for other elementary schools: A caterer that either will come from an outsourced catering company or a nearby high school with cafeteria.

## 5.2. Teachers Report

- PreK-K: Ms. Lanni for Ms. Silvestrin
  - Rooms 8, 9 and 10 (2 kindergarten and WINGS junior classes) are preparing for Mother's Day
  - Working on spring activities and planting
- Cycle 1: no teacher on GB for cycle 1
  - No reports were sent
- Cycle 2 – Ms. Bucci
  - Skating activity in a nearby arena
  - Grade 4 ELA started this week (this is end of cycle 2 exams)
  - An Earth Day activity planned for Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>
- Cycle 3 – M. Marcil
  - Focus on finishing current project before Cycle 3 exams that are starting at the beginning of May
  - Planning to end the year with a court métrage audio/video project
- Cycle 3 – Ms. Newin
  - Ms. Newin and M. Romano attended the storytelling festival at Gerald McShane Elementary
  - Was held in person for the first time in 3 years
  - Stories were told in French and in English
  - From Nesbitt a storyteller from grade 5 presented in English and a storyteller from grade 6 presented in French

## 5.3. Daycare Report

- Ms. Balntas
  - Nesbitt daycare (among all other daycares in EMSB) was invited by the schoolboard to take part in the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of OSEntreprendre Challenge. This is a Quebec movement that acknowledges the entrepreneurial initiatives of participants in different levels, elementary to university.
    - Nesbitt participated in the scholastic level
    - Nesbitt had to come up with an idea for an event, a product or service which would satisfy a need or want in the community
    - The idea for Nesbitt was to do a fundraiser for the local SPCA-Montreal through a bake sale and through a toy making activity for the animals in the shelter.
    - École Nesbitt was chosen as a local prizewinner, *Fundraiser for Shelter Animals at the SPCA*  
<https://www.osentreprendre.quebec/en/mission-and-organization/news-and-current-events/2023/laureats-locaux/>
    - Project is now running in the regional level, and if successful will go to the next level at the provincial level.



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## 5.4. Treasurer Report (Sophie Currie)

- 162\$. No change from last time

## 5.5 Parents' Committee Report (Melissa Alexis)

- Last meeting was on March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Some parents are in talks with STM to facilitate commute from RDP to Rosemont
- A letter was sent to Quebec Minister regarding Bill96 regarding concerns for the students
- Next meeting is this coming Thursday on Zoom
- Meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> is at the JFK High School library
- Melissa would like to showcase Nesbitt and will be presenting the success of Nesbitt Daycare at the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of OSEntreprendre Challenge

## 5.6 Chairperson's Report (Jonathan Rodrigue)

- Nothing to report

## 5.7 Home & School Committee Report

- Nothing to report since there was no recent meeting

## 6. Question Period

- Pardis Zarnegar: This year March break week was not aligned with the French sector. The end of week coincided with daytime savings time change, could this break planned for after time change like in Ontario? The dates for the March break are set at which level?
  - M. Romano: This was discussed at the principals meeting before March. Not aligning affected staff with children at the French sector and vice versa.
  - All local schoolboards set their own March break. Typically, the English school boards in Montreal are aligned.
  - At the EMSB it is preferred to have the break in the beginning of the month to allow better budgeting for low-income families that receive government support at the beginning of the month. Especially for budgeting for nutritional needs.
  - For next year is aligned with the French side. No considerations for time change.
- Maria Lisa Di Martino: Who decided for no cafeteria post renovations and why was this decision made?
  - M. Romano: This decision was made at the upper management level of the schoolboard. There were a few parameters that were considered.
  - Usage of the cafeteria is approximately 10-15% of student population. 30-40 daily meals except for pizza Fridays about 75-90 meals.
  - Even though a non-profit, the cafeteria is currently not financially viable.
  - School has had challenges in finding and retaining required staff the cafeteria in recent years
- Pardis Zarnegar: Are the installations inside the kids' bathrooms, sinks/soap dispenser etc. planned to be installed at the appropriate height and ergonomics?
  - M. Romano: School bathrooms will not have urinals. All stalls are regular seats at stand size and height. Smaller toilets installed recently at other EMBS schools were not well received by the kids due to unfamiliarity. Bathrooms in the areas of younger students will have movable steps to provide better access.
  - Installing the sinks at different levels has not been discussed, however this is expected like other installations provisioned in the classrooms, for example the smartboards.
- Maria Santino: Are there any updates or feedback from m Bus?
  - M. Romano: Due to high turn around of employees at transport, EMSB has put a pause on this program for the moment. Otherwise, all is ready to go.



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7. Varia

8. Adjournment

**Adjournment time: 7:14PM**

Moved by: Maria S.

Second: Sophie C.

Vote: 12:0:0

**Next meeting: Tuesday May 16th, 2023**

X

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Jonathan Rodrigue  
Chairperson

X

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Nicholas Romano  
Principal