



ÉCOLE NESBITT SCHOOL

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



GOVERNING BOARD - MEETING #3

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

6:30 pm (via Microsoft Teams)

MINUTES

Name of member	Role	P/A	Name of member	Role	P/A
Alexis, Melissa	Parent		Marcil, Martin	Teacher	P
Amara, Farida	Teacher		McLaughlin, Laurie	Community Rep	P
Bastide, Jerome	Parent	P	Popa, Elena	Parent	
Béguet, Marie Caroline	Parent		Rodrigue, Jonathan	Parent	P
Campisi, Elisa	Daycare	P	Romano, Nicholas	Principal	P
Cascino, Jessie	Parent		Ruelland, Isabelle	Parent	
Currie, Sophie	Parent	P	Serrecchia, Miranda	Vice-Principal	P
Di Martino, Maria Lisa	Parent	P	Silvestrin, Silvana	Teacher	
Jeanty, Dieulène	Support Staff		Stillitano, Alessia	Teacher	P
Lanni, Sandra	Teacher	P	Vaillancourt, Sonia	Teacher	
Macri, Carmela	Teacher	P	VACANT	Community Rep	

TOTAL: 14 Present (10 votes)

Replacements in the event there are not enough parents for quorum: Pardis Zarnegar and Hamdi Ali

Hamdi Ali was present and was a voting member as quorum was not achieved.

Guest: Agostino Cannavino

Opening Time: 630 pm

1. Adoption of the Agenda

- Moved by: Sophie Currie
Second: Hamdi Ali
Vote: 10:0:0

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2.1 Minutes from Tuesday, November 14th, 2023

- Moved by: Carmela Macri
Second: Hamdi Ali
Vote: 10:0:0

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

4. New Business

4.1 Approval of Sexuality Education Plan 2023-2024

- Moved by: Hamdi Ali
Second: Sophie Currie
Vote: 10:0:0



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4.2. Approval of Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan 2023-2024 (previously referred to as Safe Schools Action Plan)

- Moved by: Sandra Lanni
Second: Carmela Macri
Vote: 10:0:0

4.3. Approval of 2023-2024 School Budget

- The allocation per capita is the same as last year as our enrolment is the same.
- Fund 6 Special Mesures: Support for FSL (ECQ) is reduced because it's based on the number of students coming from out of the country or province.
- Fund 6 Special Mesures (page 5); Books in the homeroom: new fund coming from the board, allocated 7,332\$.
- Budgets condensed into 1: page 4, Fund 6 (27310) used to be 3 funds, now condensed into 1.
- Resolution:

**RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE SCHOOL BUDGET
BY
THE SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD**

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 95 of the Education Act, the governing board is responsible for adopting the school's annual budget as proposed by the principal;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 96.24 of the Education Act, the school budget must maintain a balance between expenditures, on the one hand, and the financial resources allocated to the school by the school board and the school's own revenues, on the other;

WHEREAS this budget is based on the 2023-2024 MEQ budgetary parameters;

_____ MOVED THAT, the governing board of Nesbitt School (026) adopt the school budget for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented by the school Principal, which forecasts revenues of \$341,206 and expenditures of \$341,206;

AND THAT the budget be submitted to the English Montreal School Board for final approval.

SCHOOL NAME : Nesbitt School

Signature : _____ Date: _____
Principal

Signature : _____ Date: _____
Governing Board Chair

- Moved by: Sophie Currie
Second: Elisa Campisi
Vote: 10:0:0



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4.4. Approval of Lunchtime Activities

4.4.1. Enfant & Compagnie Activities

- 3 options will be provided:
 1. Kid Chef Italia
 2. Kid Science (chemistry & robotics)
 3. DIY Crafting and beading studio
- 120\$/ 8 week session
- Moved by: Hamdi Ali
Second: Sandra Lanni
Vote: 10:0:0

4.5 Approval of Fundraisers for Graduation Committee

4.5.1. Movie Night

- Open to all Nesbitt students and families
- \$6/entry includes chance to win door prize
- Choice of movie TMC
- Snacks and drinks sold separately
- Door prize: Family pack movie passes from Cinema Guzzo
- Date: Friday February 16, 2024
- Children must be accompanied by a parent

4.5.2. Pizza-In-A-Box

- Open only to grade 6 students
- \$20/box for the kit, includes 2 dough balls, sauce, and toppings (makes 2 pizzas)
- Distribute forms week of March 11, & 2 weeks to collect orders
- Will be distributed early April
- Moved by: Maria Lisa Di Martino
Second: Martin Marcil
Vote: 10:0:0

4.6 Educational Project

- Deadline was postponed to the end of February-beginning March, so will be approved at GB in the February meeting.
- Draft was sent to consultation committee, which consists of 3 parents, 4 teachers,
- Draft was sent with all the raw data and reading materials required by the MEQ
- Heavily focused on Grade 6 academics but also based on school climate, etc.
- The consultation with the committee will allow us to look into certain strategies and issues.
- The document will not specify specific issues, it will only allow us to specify the strategies that are immersing based on the consultation- to determine where we need to put effort and what we need to continue to support.
- Will share the draft with GB before the February meeting
- Meeting with the consultation committee will take place on Teams or in-person
- The project would be in effect until 2027.

Hamdi Ali left the meeting at 707 pm.



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5. Reports

5.1. Principal Report

- Enrolment: 302, since the Christmas break there has been 1 departure and 3 new students have been enrolled.
- Information was sent out to parents regarding re-registration for the next school year. Done on Mozaik portal. The dates to register are from Jan 15 until next Friday. If parents miss the deadline, they can re-register by paper.
- The annual open house was held on Tuesday January 23rd 630p-830p.
- K registration reservations: Jan 29-Feb 2. This year will be held online in order to allow us to keep track of first come first served.
- All other grades that request registration: they can call the office and we will call them back to schedule an appointment. Feb 5 – June.
- Youth football starts next week, cycles 2 & 3. Wednesdays in the gym, and free of charge.

School Renovations:

- Renovations will begin end of February.
- Voted in January to select contractor.
- Meeting at school with the contractor, administration and project managers: TBC
- We are on schedule to end phase 1 by August 2025.
- Renovation project is only for inside the school. Regarding the exterior portion- the grant proposal for outdoor grant was approved however principal did not hear back from them, will give more details at next GB.

Laurie McLaughlin left the meeting at 715 pm

5.2. Teachers Report

PreK/K: Carmela Macri (PreK- Eng. Core)

- Friday they will visit the Verdun Circus School
- End of month visual screening test in library, they watched a clip on YouTube to prepare for the test.

Cycle 1: Sonia Vaillancourt (Grade 1- Immersion)

- Was unable to attend tonight's meeting

Cycle 2: Alessia Stillitano (Grade 4- Immersion)

- Will be going skating, ice time at local arena, cycle 2 starts tomorrow.

Cycle 3: Martin Marcil (Garde 5 – Immersion)

- Will be going skating in the next few weeks
- February: Mont-Avila tubing field trip
- Cycle 3 immersion: preparing for Raconte Moi storytelling festival (in French).

5.3. Daycare Report: (Elisa Campisi)

- Working on taxation slips
- Registrations for next year will take place March-May
- Current Enrolment: 100 students
- Winter session Feb 1, will have Mad Science every Thursday
- Spring activities begin in April- Latin Groove
- Daycare handbook: will be sent to GB to be voted on. If it is urgent before the next GB meeting, GB will do online vote and will be ratified at February meeting.



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5.4. Treasurer Report: Sophie Currie

- N/A

5.5. Parents' Committee Report: (Sophie Currie & Jessie Cascino)

- Wants to discuss the Animal Assisted Therapy program at the next PPC meeting. After discussing with Ms. Lanni, we noticed that at other schools dogs were allowed. Wants to know what are the regulations.
- Mike Cohen spoke about how to promote the school for next year: suggested that we heavily promote the French program at our school, and to showcase the PreK and K students on our social media (even if it's just a video). He suggested we try to post 3 times a week on our social media platforms.
- He had 8 points- will send email with the points.
- He also suggested the administration send an email to the parents to ask them to follow our social media.
- If we need help with our social media, the EMSB has resources available.

5.6. Chairperson's Report: (Jonathan Rodrigue)

- N/A

5.7. Home & School Committee Report: (Miranda Serrecchia)

- No meeting has taken place since the last one
- Holiday activity day: had 9-10 parents who volunteered on December 20th, 2023.

6. Question Period

Use of Gym Space for School Activities:

- Q: There were concerns raised by a gym teacher because they had to cancel gym classes due to many activities like photo day, special activities, etc. and wants to know if for next year we can do it differently. They are concerned that many gym classes were missed.
- A: The gym teacher had spoken to the principal regarding this concern. The reality is that our gym is the only space available that can house large groups for big activities like the Holiday sing-along. The issue is about the space in use rather than the time slots. The intended renovations will include an outside class room. Gym classes can also take place outdoors. The frustration is about losing the space for activities that are for more than 40 students. The gym can not be used only for gym classes or we will lose out on valuable activities like anti-bullying and the Holiday sing-along.
- Q: After renovations, will we have any other space aside from the gym that can accommodate these activities.
- A: There will be a multi-purpose room, about 2-class size. Would be a secondary Phys-Ed space for smaller groups. However, for very large school-wide activities we would still need to use the gym.
- A: It's not just the gym teachers that need to share their class time. Other teachers must also sacrifice class time for school wide activities.

Animal Assisted Therapy Program: Actions to take

- Q: To Mr. Cannavino: Who do we need to address the Animal Assisted Therapy letter to?
- A:
 - Mr. Cannavino thanked GB for being invited to tonight's meeting and is happy to see that many parents and admin participate.
 - For any issues or concerns that pertain to the school board, Mr. Cannavino can follow-up, and can introduce a resolution at the council, he can then rally other commissioners to support it. If any issues pertain to security, hygiene or legal matters, they must first get clearance before adopting a resolution.



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- Some schools have animals and some don't. At present there are no set policies so we need to set board-wide policies.
- He suggested we send him a letter of our concerns or issues. He also suggested that if we can pass a resolution and mandate Mr. Cannavino to follow-up with the board, that the resolution will carry more weight.
- A: The principal said that the board is in the process of drafting rules and regulations for allowing dogs in the schools. They only want MIRA & ASSISTA dogs. He received confirmation that they are working on it. The departments that are involved are HR, student services and Legal.
- Q: it was suggested that GB do an online vote as opposed to waiting for the next GB meeting. We can send a draft of the letter and resolution and ask GB to do online vote.
- A: The principal was in agreement with this suggestion
- Q: Are there volunteers who would want to help in drafting the letter and resolution?
- A: Aside from Maria Lisa Di Martino, Sophie Currie has also volunteered. Martin Marcil can get testimonials to include in the appendix. Sandra Lanni can ask the staff members for testimonials as well.
- A: It was agreed that we will write a letter and send it to Mr. Cannavino, and copy PPC and all departments involved. The volunteers will send drafts of letter and resolution to principal for online GB vote. Deadline to send: end of January. Volunteers to meet via Teams: Maria Lisa Di Martino, Sophie Currie and Sandra Lanni.

7. Varia :

- Any news on the bus strike? How is this affecting the teachers?
 - By 815am-820am all of the students have arrived. By 802am the teachers need to get to class so must stop the outdoor supervision.
 - Some students unable to come to school. Putting additional strain on the school as some students are only able to get to school by 815a-825a because they live far.
 - No news on the negotiations with Transco
 - Not easy to change bus companies as there are a limited number of companies that have permits and there is a shortage of drivers.
 - A bus driver mentioned to a staff member that he felt that the negotiations were not going anywhere and that the strike would not end any time soon.
 - The government gave the company money and Transco used it to give to the admin and purchase electric buses and did not give raises to the drivers.

8. Adjournment:

Adjournment time: 8:08 pm

Moved by: Sandra Lanni

Second: Maria Lisa Di Martino

Vote: 10:0:0

Next meeting: Tuesday February 13, 2024



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X

Jonathan Rodrigue
Chairperson

X

Nicholas Romano
Principal