

St Monica Elementary School  
Governing Board Minutes — Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, 21 March 2023, 7:00pm

**Attendance:** Peter Mckelvie, Deema Qaswari, Leighton Jacobs, Nadine Collins, Gelsira Venuta, Jesse Corbeil, Joanne Hall, Alejandra Perez

**Regrets:** Sadar Jahan Mian, Angela Zambito, Joseph Lalla, Ellen Yambouranis

1. Opening remarks/welcome

Meeting called to order at 7:11pm. Jesse Corbeil welcomed everyone.

2. Adoption of Agenda.

- Moved by Leighton Jacobs
- Seconded by Gelsira Venuta
- Unanimously approved

3. Approval of Minutes from last meeting — regular meeting, February 8, 2023

- Deema Qasrawi asked for her name to be corrected in the motion to approve the PPO report.
- Nadine Collins asked that the title of the 'Power of our Vice' reading be corrected to 'Power of Our Stories.'

Motion to approve the minutes as amended.

- Moved by Deema Qasrawi
- Seconded by Gelsira Venuta.
- Unanimously approved

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- None.

5. Public Question Period

- None.

6. Reports

**6.1 Principal's Report**

February was a short but busy and successful month with Black History Month activities have taken place almost daily. There was a larger event every week which culminated with a dance party on the last day of February. The student carnival day was another highlight, which took place during a snow storm. Outdoor games, activities, a petting zoo and a special treat of maple toffee was served to all the students and staff. Thank you to the organising staff, volunteers, cycle III students who animated the events and to Peter and Margaret Ford from Jeunesse NDG.

During the March break the stairwells and a couple of classrooms were plastered and painted.

#### 6.1.1 ACGC

Peter Mckelvie presented the Academic and Career Guidance Content (ACGC) plan and resolution for approval but the Governing Board.

- Moved by Gelsira Venuta
- Seconded by Deema Qaswari
- Unanimously approved

#### 6.1.2 Sugaring off

E-voted on previously. Sugaring off is at no cost to parents.

#### 6.1.3 Ecomuseum trip

E-voted on previously.

Ecomuseum kids will be bussed to the museum for 4 hours of discovering animals.

#### 6.1.4 Budget building process.

Our list last year was good; Peter Mckelvie suggested just a few small changes.

#### **Budget Priorities (page 1)**

**Item 1** is good as-is. We have 1.4 resource teachers. In a perfect world, we would have one in English and one in French.

**Item 2** is good as-is.

**For item 3**, Peter Mckelvie suggests removing C and D (Replacement of certain doors and Paint job for the school, respectively), from the capital investment areas list and creating a new C: Junior bathroom renovation.

**Item 4** is good as-is.

**Item 5** is good as-is.

#### **Guiding principles, criteria, and related orientations (page 2)**

Item 1 is good as-is.

Time 2: Peter Mckelvie suggests changing our request for a 50% staff-assistant release to a 100% release because Gelsira Venuta has been called away from staff assistant duties for substitute teacher duties.

Motion: to approve the appendices with the suggested changes

- Moved by Joanne Hall
- Seconded by Leighton Jacobs
- Unanimously approved

#### 6.1.5 Gratitude to parent community

Peter Mckelvie said thanks to the community for Staff Appreciation Week. It was a wonderful event, and it was nice to see everyone come out to support the staff.

### 6.2 Commissioner's Report

- None

### 6.3 Regional Delegates Report

- None

### 6.4 Teacher's Reports

#### 6.4.1 Gelsira Venuta

Lots of fun last Thursday for St Patrick's Day. Lots of social posts. Thanks to ms Val for all she did to help out.

#### 6.4.2 Leighton Jacobs

Grade 3 finished Swim to Survive at Benny pool (water safety programme) and received certificates from the lifeguards.

30 March, cycle three students will be participating in an indoor soccer tournament at Laurier Macdonald High School.

### 6.5 Daycare Report

For last Friday's ped day, Dynamix came to school. The kids had lots of fun in the gym throughout the day.

### 6.6 PPO Report

- None

### 6.7 Community Representatives Reports

#### 6.7.1 Alejandra Perez, Ca Pousse

[to come]

#### 6.7.2 Nadine Collins, Women on the Rise

16 MARCH: VISIT TO ATELIER NATIVE IMMIGRANT  
21 MARCH: FEMINIST RESISTANCE COLLAGE HOSTED BY ALEXANDRA  
23 MARCH: LET'S CHAT ABOUT H.E.R. EVENT  
25 MARCH: BRUNCH AND CONVERSATION WITH WOMEN ON THE RISE  
To celebrate Women's Month, we will be hosting a Brunch and Conversation event at the Loyola Chapel.  
28 MARCH: DANCE MOVEMENT ACTIVITY  
30 MARCH: PATCHWORK SEWING ACTIVITY  
31 MARCH : MOVIE SCREENING (HIDDEN FIGURES)

**RECURRING PROGRAMS:**

**POST-PARTUM MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP**

Fridays 9:30 – 11:30 am at the Walkley Centre, 6650 Ch. de la Cote Saint Luc

**DISTRO ROOM**

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 am – 1 pm at Women on the Rise, 6897 Av Somerled  
Free clothing for women, children, and babies!. Other gear including toys, boots, and baby supplies depending on quantities. Volunteers welcome.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Tuesdays 12 pm – 3 pm, Thursdays 10 am – 3 pm at Women on the Rise, 6897 Av Somerled

**ART EXPLORATION**

Wednesdays 8 pm – 9:00 pm, online

Shoutout to St Monica for hosting story time. It gets better and better every year.

Thanks to the EMSB and partners for helping the power of our stories be a success.

**8. New Business**

- No new business.

**9. Adjournment**

- Moved by Joanne Hall
- Seconded by Gelsira Venuta
- Unanimously approved

Adjourned 8:08pm

  
Peter Mckelvie  
Principal

  
Jesse Corbeil  
Chairperson