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**Subject:** Minutes of Governing Board Meeting No. 3 for 2020-21 School Year

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**Location:** Virtually on Microsoft TEAMS                      **Date:** December 1, 2020

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**Present: Parents:** Sandra Gabriele, Dino Santelli, Talia Ricci, Jonathan Stein, Daniel Tatone, Patty Foschi, George Mitchell

**Teachers:** Mary Cerone, Laura Anne Bouffard, Jennifer Lacroix, Lidia Loren Niro, Nadia Di Mattia,

**Also present:** Tanya Alvares (Principal), Mara Filippone (Daycare Tech), Mary Nitti (Support Staff), Cannavino Augustino (Commissioner)

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**Absent / Regrets:** Angelo Loffredi (Community Rep)

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:11pm by Dino Santelli

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Nothing to add to the agenda. Daniel motioned to approve the agenda. Sandra seconded. All in favor.

**3. Approval of Minutes from November 3, 2020**

- Correction of names Gina Thomas and Kathleen Melo as co-chairs of PPO
- Question: Attachment of findings re-virtual book fair to minutes → to be captured as part of minutes of this meeting
- Clarification re Daycare: decision to approve acceptance of only daycare students, and to provide detail to parents of students, who are not registered.

Sandra motioned to approve the agenda. Daniel seconded. All in favor.

**4. Business Arising from last meeting**

**4.1 Kathy Magi-Loffredi Heritage Foundation**

- A meeting did not occur. Waiting to hear back on when a meeting can happen
- Dino to assist by sending follow up.

**4.2. Virtual book fair**

Email received from Drawn & Quarterly (bookstore), November 5:

*Hello Sandra,*

*Thanks so much for reaching out. I appreciate so much that the parents care about supporting their local community.*

*We love our schools and community and would love to do something for you. That being said, we are limited. It's a bit delicate but basically by law we (and Scholastic!) are not allowed to offer rebates, gifts, returns on orders etc. either directly or indirectly. We are a SODEC accredited bookstore, which means we have a license from the Quebec government to sell to schools and libraries. If we were to offer those types of advantages we could lose our accreditation.*

*Here are some quotes from the laws we're subject to:*

*« Les institutions ne peuvent se soustraire à l'obligation d'acheter au prix régulier par des avantages déguisés, par exemple des dons de livres, des escomptes, etc. »*

*« Les achats effectués pour le compte d'une institution assujettie à la Loi par des particuliers ou des organismes non soumis à la Loi, par exemple des bénévoles, des enseignants, des parents, etc., sont des acquisitions indirectement effectuées par l'institution et de ce fait, également assujetties au Règlement. »*

*This is a very important law as it supports independent businesses, and what makes Quebec a province that has such a lively bookstore culture. We do too much in sales to schools to jeopardize our accreditation, and that 's unfortunate that Scholastic does it, and drops in like the amazon of kids publishing :)*

*Again, I would love to offer the school something, but our hands are tied when it comes to offering a return on the purchases.*

*Here are some things we could do for a virtual book fair:*

- virtual story time with a bookseller/author*
- zoom suggestions with a bookseller/author*
- curated lists by theme/requests*
- virtual drawing/comics workshop*

*Please let me know if any of those things interest you and we would be happy to collaborate.*

*Warm regards,  
Rebecca*

Summary of information received by D&Q:

- D&Q is unable to provide same incentives as Scholastic because it contravenes legal status and obligations.
- D&Q offered a range of other offers to engage students and stimulate reading in students.

- No selling of books; more about stimulating interest and new activities.
- Suggestion to explore activities and offer further;
- to validate how it would work logistically;
- Dino to provide information to PPO to discuss ideas further
- Doesn't replace, but could complement virtual bookfair
- → Dino to follow up with Rebecca (D&Q) (ideally before PPO meeting next week)
- → Sandra happy to collaborate on this as well.
- How could this be integrated into classroom and curriculum - logistics?
  - There are possibilities: could be opened to teachers for ideas
- → More information to be solicited, and then can be packaged for teachers to be integrated...

## 5. Question Period

### 5.1 Schoolyard project (Mistaya Hemingway)

- Engaged in project over the last many years (child in Grade 6)
- Very disappointed in lack of transparency around schoolyard project
- Many initiatives over the last few years to engage students and parents in project
- Missed opportunity to engage with community (and over the last 7 years)
- What is going on and are there ways that students can re-engage in the process and support its realization?
- Dino: updates last meeting, start now planned for March 2021
- Dino to follow up with Fred and Mistaya to put together a summary of the work from the past.
- Plans of the new school yards will be shared with parents in the new year

### 5.2 Air circulation in school (Ankei Yau)

- Parent not present.
- PET is naturally ventilated, the only mechanical ventilation in building is in gym
- Guidelines/Recommendations from school board transmitted to teachers (eg. leaving doors open, etc)
- Concern shared about what will happen in the winter. For now, we are ok. Staff is advising students and parents to dress appropriately as required.

## 6. New Business

### 6.1 GB Online Voting

Voting Item 1: Dress down days:

13 (of 15) responded; all in favor) - motion approved (see below)

Voting Item 2: Breakfast with Santa;  
 13 (of 15) responded; 11 in favor; 1 abstained, 1 no reply - motion approved (see below)

|                | Vote 1 | Vote 2 |
|----------------|--------|--------|
| Dino           | Y      | Y      |
| Mara F.        | Y      | Y      |
| Lidia L.N.     | Y      | Y      |
| Georges M.     | Y      | Y      |
| Mary C.        | Y      | Y      |
| Laura Annie B. | Y      | Y      |
| Sandra G.      | Y      | Y      |
| Jennifer L.    | Y      | Y      |
| Mary N.        | Y      | Y      |
| Patty F.       | Y      | Y      |
| Talia D.       | Y      | A      |
| Daniel T.      | Y      | n/a    |
| Nadia D.       | Y      | Y      |

**6.2 Updated School Calendar**

- 3 added Ped days (as dictated by ministry)
  - Jan 22
  - Feb 12
  - Apr 23 (decided by School Council) - in consideration of daycare staff (no other Ped day in April)
- Discussion about having many PED Days on Friday. School Council considered other days, other suggestions were entertained, staff Decided on this date by majority
- For next year, to look at the schedule so that PED Days aren't scheduled too often on the same day of the week

**VOTE**

- Motion: Georges
- Second: Patty
- Vote: 12 in favor; 1 opposed (Sandra); 2 abstain (Talia; Laura Annie)
- Motion passed

**6.3 Breakfast with Santa (Wed. Dec. 9th)**

- Catered by le Doral (\$1000 dollar approved - \$2.75/package)
- Pancakes & syrup
- Individual Breakfast delivered to classrooms

- Pajama day
- Name change to 'Holiday breakfast' - Santa to visit the week later
- Metro sponsoring through donation
  - Yogurt
  - Fruit
  - Juices
  - etc

6.4 **PET Sexuality Education Plan 2020-2021**

- Compulsory from elementary to secondary school
- Pre-cycle is optional – PET to implement something new
- Ministry produces the curriculum plan (5-15 hours/level) and guidelines
- Principal and staff are involved in the planning and implementation of the plan
- Curriculum plan identifies who will offer the education and that it is comprehensive and aligned with Ministry Guidelines
- GB must approve the approach on a yearly basis
- Teachers are trained on teaching subject matter
- Tanya explained the additions to the curriculum plan from last year
- The Seeds teacher will be looking at how to integrate depending on child's maturity level, etc - will be adapted accordingly.
- Jennifer: divergent subjects get covered through other subject areas as well (open questions fostered)
- Ministry provides recommendations for cognitive / developmental stages and what is appropriate

VOTE:

- Patty: Motions
- Laura Annie: Seconds
- All approve;
- Motion passed. Resolution passed.

6.5. **PET Daycare Handbook 2020-2021**

The Handbook is written by the School Board (B.A.S.E.)

Motion to approve handbook, with addendum to add suggestions (about start time of daycare on PED Days, uniform, etc) in agenda next year with daycare information

- Daniel – motions
- Patty – seconds
- Vote: All in favor
- Passed.

## 7.1 Principal's report

Tanya provided the following update:

- PT interviews conducted virtually
- Google classroom used (same as Feb)
- Allowed for individual meetings
- Success from staff point of view
- Success from parents' perspective

If parents would like more time to discuss their child, it is always possible to schedule meetings and follow ups to allow more opportunity to discuss with the teachers.

- Nov 16 – an individual packaged pasta lunch for the staff was donated from le Doral in recognition of their work and efforts
- Centre communautaire d'Hochelaga - operation sous-zero - donating snowsuits for kids in need → we received 15 snowsuits to families in our community
- Tanya informed the GB that there are 22 homeroom classes:
  - 1 x Seeds
  - 3 x Pre-K
  - 3 x K
  - 2 x Grade 1
  - 3 x Grade 2
  - 2 x Grade 3
  - 1 x Grade 3/4 combined
  - 2 x Grade 4
  - 3 x Grade 5
  - 2 x Grade 6
- Out of the 326 registered students, there are 10 students attending virtual school.
- As everyone knows, the school has to adapt greatly to the situation around Covid. This affects all aspects of the school from lunch, recess times to classroom instruction.
- If an entire classroom needs to self isolate, teachers can move to online learning.

- The school board announced a virtual workshop for parent related to online learning. I.T. google support will be available to parents and teachers alike.
- The nurse's office is the designated isolation room.
- Moxo Media approached the school and offer free masks with the PET logo to all students. 143 masks were ordered. The school received a return of \$54.99 as profit. Ms. Alvares asked the GB for \$105.93 to purchase additional masks of which \$54.99 would be applied as a credit with a balance owing of \$50.94. Daniel motioned to approve. Dino seconded. All in favor.
- Tutors are being added based on resource needs, availabilities and budgets. School is waiting for approval to top off teachers with 80% work loads.

## **7.2 Teachers Report**

Laura Annie: STEAM projects are being launched

Mary: Discussion with teachers regarding holiday projects

Each student will make an ornament to place on the school holiday tree

Each student will be given a strip of paper to ask a question to Santa →

Santa will answer questions (Dec 15)

Dec 19 - holiday breakfast

Dec 14 - students and staff will wear xmas head gear

Dec 15 - students and staff will wear xmas sweater

Dec 15 – A video of Santa's messages answering some of the students' questions

Dec 16 - individual festivities in the class, students can wear holiday outfits

Vote to approve dress code for specific days during the holidays.

- Patty: Motions
- Mary: Seconds
- VOTE - 1 against (Talia); 1 abstain (Sandra); all others in favor

## **7.3 Treasurer Report**

No expenses this month.

## **7.4 PPO Report**

- Dress down days
- Holiday breakfast
- Discussion of Valentine event

- Cooking / baking event for parents to do at home with kids
- Virtual zumba events
- Next meeting - Dec 9

### **7.5 Daycare Report**

- Very pleased with educators
- Very much missing being able to take the kids out for field trips and outings! Missed by children as well
- Gym is used a lot, arts & crafts, educators working hard to develop activities and keep it interesting

### **7.6 EMSB Parent's Committee Report**

- Formation of sub-committees to discuss:  
Virtual enrolment  
School enrolment  
Has virtual enrolment been discussed/approached? → to transmit to EMSB

Some other EMSB schools are part of a pilot project to develop insights that can be shared to other schools regarding registration and completing forms online.

- Consultation on Ped Days
- Survey sent out to parents regarding distanced learning
- Air purification was tabled
- EMSB - new interim DG (in newsletter)

### **7.7 Commissioner's Report**

- Welcome to Mr. Augustino Cannavino - school commissioner
- Recovery post-trusteeship period is area of active work
- New interim DG - Russell Copeman
- Allows time to find permanent DG
- Discussion of air purification measures, solutions, and next steps
- Review of financial statements to evaluate revenues for the board
- Students from abroad (lack thereof) risk having significant impact on finances
- Working committees with commissioners
- COVID
- HR
- Finance
- Etc
- Attendance at GB meetings will now resume as the board is out of trusteehip



**8. Varia**

- Bo Sapin - sold out of trees within 2 days
- A parent connected PET with Jean Talon vendor who will honor deal with Bo Sapin, and send proceeds back to PET - so trees available through this supplier
- Accounting of the trees can be done with electronic vouchers that would be prepared.

Motion: Georges

Second: Talia

Vote: all in favor

Passed.

**9. Next Meeting: Tuesday January 12, 2021 at 7PM through MS Teams.**

**10. Adjournment – 9PM**

- Sandra – motions
- Laura Annie – seconds
- All in favor.

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Chairperson's signature

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Principal's signature