



École Pierre Elliott Trudeau School
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 3rd, 2020 @ 7:00PM
Virtually on Microsoft TEAMS

Attendees:

Parents: Sandra Gabriele, Dino Santelli, Talia Dorsey, Jonathan Stein, Daniel Tatone, Georges Mitchell

Teachers: Mary Carone, Laura Annie Bouffard, Jennifer Lacroix, Lidia Loren Niro, Nadia Di Mattia

Also present: Tanya Alvares (Principal), Mara Filippone (Daycare Tech), Mary Nitti (Support staff), Angelo Lofreddi (community rep)

Regrets: Patty Foschi

1. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM

2. Adoption of Agenda

- Motion to adopt agenda as-is was proposed by N. Di Mattia and seconded by M. Nitti. All approved.

3. Approval of Minutes (June 2019 & October 2020)

- Motion to approve October 2020 minutes with minor modifications regarding spelling of names and clarifications on the beautification project was proposed by M. Carone and seconded by T. Dorsey
- The June 2019 minutes had been approved in October meeting and do not need to be approved again.

4. Business Arising from the Last Meeting

4.1 Beautification Project

- T. Alvares informed that the request was made to the school board that the project go ahead in 2 phases: Phase 1- start in March 2021 to August 2021. Phase 2 –start in March 2022 to August 2022.
- This is to minimize disruption during the school year
- **Kathy Magi-Loffredi Heritage Foundation**
 - A follow-up discussion between A. Lofreddi, T. Alvares and D. Santelli will be planned to discuss options, given that naming the experience room is not possible.

5. Question Period

- No parents were present to ask questions.
- It was discussed that we should make it possible for parents to ask questions.
- It was decided that 2 weeks before the next governing board an e-mail will be sent out to solicit questions, in order to have time to prepare answers.
- The e-mail should offer to provide information on how to join the meeting upon request.

6. New Business

6.1 Water Testing Results

- T. Alvares informed that the water testing results were good, there are no concerns.
- There is still a recommendation to drink only from water fountains as other faucets have not been tested.

7. Reports

7.1 CPC Parent's Committee Report (D. Tatone)

- EMSB Parents' Committee held 2 meetings in October. Special meeting on 20th, AGM on the 22nd. There were by-laws that parents were consulted on.
- Changes were adopted to the code of ethics and professional conduct
- Changes were adopted to bylaws regarding complaints process
- EMSB is currently under trusteeship and council of commissioner comes in on November 5th
- Daniel was elected as commissioner for parents at large for the EMSB. Can help with escalation process.
- Issues discussed closures at east end schools. Attendance at schools is concern. Anxiety of being the next one to close. Question with regards to PET. This is not an issue for us, we have increased compared to previous years.
- For information, EMSB participated in challenge to Bill 21 on religious symbols.
- Next meeting is this week.
- Question: Are there initiatives to help kids socialize out of bubbles? T. Alvares will bring it up with teachers to see what can be done.

7.2 Treasurer Report (G. Mitchell)

- No expenditures were incurred since the last meeting

7.3 Principal Report (T. Alvares)

- Overall things are going well. No more COVID cases. Kids are in good spirits.
- Ministry has changed the reporting scheme. There will only be 2 report cards. First end of January, then end of June. End of cycle exams are worth only 10%. Progress reports were delivered on October 22nd, ahead of the ministry ask. There are learning gaps because of the pandemic, which is not unique to the school, but is being observed worldwide. When there were concern with students, teachers gave detailed information

- Parent-teacher interviews are still planned for November. We are hoping for progress in the interim. Interviews will be virtual, and sessions will be booked online.
- Intercom is being installed. Wiring is almost done. Phones will come later. Funding is coming from the school board. This had been identified as a top priority by the governing board.
- Physical ed teachers have ordered many items for the kids to play in the schoolyard. Every home room will get a bag with balls, skipping ropes.

7.4 Teacher Report

- **J. Lacroix:** Teachers are doing everything they can to make school normal. Things are going well. There was a pumpkin decorating contest for Halloween. Teachers are aware that kids missed school in the spring, there are efforts made to catch them up.
- **L. Bouffard:** Jamais vu l'école aussi propre. Les enfants ont réintégré les casiers. On peut circuler mieux dans les locaux. Ça va bien compte tenu des circonstances.

7.5 PPO Report (Dino Santelli)

- **PPO Committee:** Kathleen De Melo (Chairperson), Gina Thomas (Vice-Chairperson), Secretary: Colleen Labelle, Treasurer: Dino Santelli
- **BoSapin:** Fundraising activity selling natural trees. A percentage of proceeds go to the school. Forms have already been filled out. We simply need to confirm a promo code and circulate on social media. Question was asked about a fundraising activity that could incorporate other religious traditions? Answer: PPO will brainstorm and how we are doing other activities and events. Try to add-on other activities recognizing other traditions. J. Lacroix motioned to approve BoSapin and look for other options. L. Bouffard seconded. One opposed, the rest are in favor. Motion passed.
- **COVID key chain:** T. Alvares presented the project to buy touchless key chains that have a hook to help to open doors and a stylus tip. The keychains will be engraved with the name of the school. These would be given to all the teachers as a gift on behalf of PPO. The remaining would be sold to PET Community as a fundraiser for \$10. Question: Can we make it as a STEAM project with 3D printing? Answer: No, this would take too long. Just printing is not really a project, it's too easy. Vote: 3 abstentions. All others in favour. Motion passed.
- **Holiday ornaments:** A request was made to use \$750 of budget to purchase holiday ornaments for all the students. This is a long-standing tradition. Vote: One opposed. Rest in favor. Motion passed.
- **Virtual book fair:** Usually have 2 book fairs (1 English + 1 French). Scholastic has developed virtual bookfair. This is also fundraising for the school. 20% is given to the school in the form of books. Libraries are saturated but can put some in the classrooms. Questions were asked on other options for the book fair, with neighbourhood bookshops (e.g. Drawn and Quarterly and Raffin). S. Gabriele and T. Dorsey will investigate these options and report back. The decision was pushed to next meeting.

7.6 Daycare/Lunch Report (M. Filippone)

- There are 70 kids planning to attend daycare on November 6th (ped day). This is out of 140 kids in regular daycare. Regulars are 3 days and more.
- Motion to keep PED days exclusive to regular daycare participants, in order to simplify planning and in alignment with school board directive. No attendees would be impacted on November 6th as all the planned attendees are regular daycare participants. When the decision is communicated we will need to give proper context on the reasons why and state it is aligned with school board directive.
- Motion to approve by S. Gabriele, seconded by J. Lacroix. One abstention, rest in favor. Motion passed.

8. Varia

- The new school board commissioner will try to attend the next meeting

9. Date of next meeting: Tues. Dec. 1, 2020 at 7pm on Microsoft Teams

10. Adjournment

- T. Dorsey motioned to adjourn, seconded by M. Carone. All approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM