

**Subject:** Minutes of Governing Board Meeting No. 5 for 2018-19 School Year

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**Location:** PET Conference room      **Date:** February 20, 2019

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**Present:**      **Parents:** Justin Turner, Marie-Hélène Bédard, Sandra Greco, Alex Nemeroff, Dino Santelli, Rino Mancini, Frederic Lalonde

**Teachers:** Joseph Glicakis, Jennifer Lacroix, Juliet Oppong-Nuako

**Also present:** Anna Sanalidro (Principal), Mary Nitti (Community Representative), Mara Filippone (Daycare Tech)

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**Absent / Regrets:** Anita Sacco, Patty Foschi, Angelo Loffredi (Community Representative), Agostino Cannavino (EMSB Commissioner)

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

Two items were added to Varia:

- Library shelving
- Sound system

Agenda was motioned for acceptance by Marie-Hélène, seconded by Jennifer, and all voted in favour.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Motion for approval by Dino, seconded by Sandra, and all voted in favour.

**4. Question Period**

There were no questions.

## **5. Business Arising from the Last Meeting**

### **5.1 Budget approval**

A video-conference call took place among Governing Board members on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, wherein board members approved the school budget. Resolution was passed, all voted in favour.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Trips**

Anna presented the following:

1. Grade 1 will be attending a play called "Beanstalk" on May 29th. Total cost for 50 tickets (46 students with 4 adults) would be \$603.75. We would cover all costs including bussing.

Jennifer presented the following:

2. Grade 3 will be attending an outing to an archeological site and museum in St-Anicet on May 1, leaving PET at 7:20am and return around 3pm. Cost would be \$624 for the outing and \$1571.48 for bussing. We would cover the entire cost.

Juliet presented the following:

3. The Seeds class will do 8-10 sessions of swimming during May and June. Cost of the activity is free, but taxis would cost about \$400.

Motion to approve all trips by Dino, seconded by Marie-Hélène, approved by all.

### **6.2 Pre-K and Kindergarten Moving-on ceremony**

Anna is asking that the GB provide \$500 to cover miscellaneous costs associated with the ceremony.

Motion to approve by Frederic, seconded by Joseph and approved by all.

### **6.3 Budget Building Process**

Justin sent around the Budget Building Process to the governing board. The Guiding Principles, Criteria and related Orientations were read aloud point by point and responses were as follows:

- i) Yes
- ii) Yes
- iii) Yes
- iv) Yes
- v) Yes
- vi) Yes; though we would like *all* unspent money to be rolled over.
- vii) Yes
- viii) Yes
- ix) Yes
- x) Yes
- xi) Yes

Additional feedback on the Guiding principles, criteria and relation orientations:

- Ratios for psychologists, speech and language pathologist etc. are grossly insufficient.
- The school's operating budget as allocated is suboptimal.
- School secretaries, daycare technicians and educators should be allocated according to the weighted enrolment of students.
- Extra funding for students with special needs to support their physical and emotional needs.

Motion to approve by Jen, seconded by Marie-Hélène and approved by all.

In addition, the governing board provided the following feedback to the EMSB board to prioritize budget allocation as follows:

1. Increase professional support to students (psychologists, speech therapists, etc.).
2. Enable access to all areas within the school building for students and staff with special needs and/or limited mobility.
3. Increase funding for personnel and specialized equipment to support special needs students.
4. Budget allocations should be determined according to weighted index, taking into account students' special needs. Higher numbers of special needs students should lead to higher staffing levels in terms of both professional staff and administrative support staff.
5. Building maintenance and repairs including yard work (beautification and greening), as well as working with the municipality to facilitate the process.
6. Increased budget for STEAM-related supplies and activities, as well as more technical support.

Motion to approve by Dino, seconded by Marie-Hélène and approved by all.

## **7. Reports**

### **7.1 Commissioner's Report**

No commissioner present; no report.

### **7.2 Chairperson's report**

Nothing to report.

### **7.3 Principal's Report**

Anna reported the following:

- Enrolment currently stands at 329 students.
- 36 students in Grade 6 will be leaving at the end of the year.
- 34 Pre-K students are coming in next year.
- 8 Students will be moving out of our area.
- The June 10<sup>th</sup> PED day will be removed because of the recent Snow Day.
- Parent/teacher interviews are coming up next week.
- Staff were grateful for the luncheon provided during Staff Appreciation Week.

### **7.4 Teachers' Report**

Joseph reported the following:

- Grade 5 class went to a winter camp; the experience for both students and staff was extremely positive. Kids were very well-behaved and had a wonderful time. Because of bad weather it was reduced from two nights to one.
- There will be a "Winter Carnival" day scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup>, where students will be doing outdoor activities as well as skating and sledding at different venues (depending on grade-level). As a backup plan (if the weather is not optimal), some outdoor activities will be replaced with board game activities.

Jennifer reported the following:

- The school had a really successful open house.
- February has been "I love to read" month. There have been various successful activities.

- Staff was really appreciative of the love shown by parents during Staff Appreciation Week.
- The 100<sup>th</sup> day of school celebration went well. Pictures are on the school's Facebook page.
- Staff is getting ready for parent-teacher interviews next week.

Juliet reported the following:

- On Feb 21<sup>st</sup> the Seeds class will be hosting a board game night, currently with more than 50 registered attendees.

### **7.5 PPO Report**

Dino reported the following:

- Valentine's day dance event went very well, generating more than \$3500 and costing about \$300 to stage.
- Bake sale went well, generating \$949.10.
- Next week there will be the English book fair; we're targeting \$3000 of sales — if we meet this target, the school would receive 60% back in books from Scholastic.
- The PPO's budget sits at \$19,385.05.
- Teacher appreciation week went well.
- PPO is asking for \$200 for St Patrick's Day festivities.
  - Motion to approve by Juliet, seconded by Joseph, approved by all.

### **7.6 Daycare/Lunch Report**

Mara reported the following:

- Staff would like to say thank you for the staff appreciation luncheon.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> of March is a Ped day; a group will be coming in to run activities at no cost.
- On the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, we would like to take the kids to go rock climbing. The cost is \$20 per child as well as bussing.
  - Motion to approve by Marie-Hélène, seconded by Dino, approved by all.

### **7.7 Regional Parents Committee Report**

Marie-Hélène reported the following:

- The big issue discussed at the last meeting had to do with accommodations for overcrowded schools in the West End. It was

decided that one of the schools will make use of an annex building, while another would employ modular classrooms on-site.

- Also discussed were potential solutions to handle registration woes (parents camping out the night before registration opens) at these overcrowded schools; no actions were taken by the EMSB.
- Also discussed was the issue of budget rollovers; some of the funds *may* be able to be rolled over from one year to the next. A determination from the board will be upcoming.
- Last, the school board's position on the government's recently proposed 'religious symbols ban' is that it will not cooperate if the law comes into effect. It is still to be seen how this will practically come to pass.

## **8. Dates of next GB Meeting**

The next GB meeting will be held on Monday, March 25th at 7pm.

## **9. Varia**

### **9.1. Library shelves**

Anna asked that the GB approve budget for new shelving in the library at a cost of \$2,577.33

Motion to approve by Dino, seconded by Fred, approved by all.

### **9.2 Sound system**

Frederic has garnered five quotes to equip the school with a sound system for various events such as concerts, bingo nights and various others. The lowest quote obtained is for \$8,951.00 which covers four speakers, microphones, microphone stands, cabling, and a sound desk. Anna suggested we use PPO funds to cover the cost.

Motion to approve by Jennifer, seconded by Dino, approved with one abstention.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.