



École Westmount Park School

North Campus: 5100 Côte Saint Luc, Montreal H3W 2G9

South Campus: 6255 Hamilton Street, Montreal H4E 3C5

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Westmount Park School | Governing Board agenda

13th April 2021

1. Welcome

1.1- Public Question Period

1.2- Additions to the Agenda

None

1.3- Approval of the Agenda

Deborah moved, Christine seconded. All in favour, approved.

1.4 Approval of the March minutes

Christine moved, Shalani seconded. All in favour, approved.

2. Business arising from the minutes

South campus rescheduled the cabane a sucre from Wed. April 14th to Fri. April 16th due to the teacher strike.

3. Business requiring approval

3.1 GB member composition

In April meeting, need to approve composition of Governing Board. Have to keep proportionate ratio of parents:teachers:staff.

Motion to keep GB composition the same.

Marcel moved, Christine seconded. All in favour, approved.

4. Items requiring discussion

4.1 Covid update

All students from grades 1-6 must wear their masks at all time.

All cases now being treated as variant b/c they are 50% cases.

4.2 Masks update

Re masks reported as being toxic, EMSB did not use these masks for students and staff.

Re use of masks during gym, it is required but staff try to accommodate individual student needs when a student is out of breath etc. Students have adjusted well. Awaiting public health directives re whether masks are still needed if gym is outside.

4.3 Renovation update and site visit

72% completion at the end of March. Expect 10%/month ongoing to be complete July 15th.

W



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Marco seen much progress since the site visit including tiling of 2nd floor classrooms. Currently staffing for one building, and busing planned for one building. May 14th is cutoff date for this final decision. Teachers who are declared 'excess' (needed for the two campuses) need to know their placement by the end of May. Library furniture has been taken from current campuses, but library services continue.

Marco is working on another communication to parents. Will circulate to GB before sending to EMSB communications department. Suggestion to address parents' concerns that their registration is reserved and will have busing if needed to original location.

Have had 3 banners made for registration (for each campus and the original building) and requested permission to display it. Expect official press release announcing reopening before the end of this school year.

4.2. Enrolment numbers

493 students registered for next school year; 498 students currently registered. Expect registration to increase through summer with significant bump in August (historically get 20-80 in this month alone). Many WPS students are international or temporary stay so ongoing travel restrictions could affect this. Also lose student in the summer for this reason. Even at 550, there's more than enough room on the 2nd and 3rd floors to accommodate all students. Basement only has 5 classes max 20 students each.

5. Reports

5.1 Regional Parent Committee Report

March meeting delayed due to Spring Break.

Several passionate complaints during the public question periods re the now mandatory use of masks for all students starting in grade 1, even during gym which goes against WHO recommendations. Sector Director Pela said that most parents are happy about the mask mandate and offered to meet individually with concerned parents whose children do not qualify for a medical exemption but are still having trouble. She also explained that most gyms at elementary school level are not big enough to accommodate the distance rules and so the masks are needed. When weather permits, gym will move outside. Some parents also asked for a chemical breakdown in the masks to ensure that they are not toxic.

Formation of anti-racism subcommittee that Shalani is serving on. Discussion re worries with cancellation of exams, implicit bias.

Discussion around government mandate to bring all HS students back full time; decision ultimately reversed.



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April meeting notes from Marcel?

5.2 Teacher's Report

Special Events:

(Most of these events were announced by Mr. Gagliardi during the March meeting, and have now taken place.)

- Mad Science presented at both campuses
- Preschool classes participated in a Build-a-Bear workshop. Teachers had very positive things to say.
- We received two author visits, from Pat Nicholson and Akilah Newton. Pat Nicholson writes books for early readers with positive social messages. Akilah Newton wrote a book spotlighting figures from Canadian Black history. Each campus created a collective book about multiculturalism; a dedication from each of the guest authors is included in the front pages.
- Reptizoo visited all the classes at both campuses. The presentation was excellent and students were very engaged.
- Let's Talk Science has given students at North Campus the opportunity to send postcards to space. Students decorated postcards and put on a postage stamp. Their postcards will travel on the Blue Origin New Shepard rocket into space. Upon return, each postcard will get stamped with the Club's official "Flown to Space" stamp. The postcards will then be returned individually to the address printed on the postcard during the summer.

Parent/Teacher Interviews:

- Parent/teacher interviews, once again, went very well.
- The teachers would like to consider maintaining the online format in the future.

Upcoming Events:

- Several classes participated in the McGill Junior Peacemakers program. It teaches about human rights and promotes youth activism. In that spirit, the south campus is preparing a fundraiser for a local charity.
- The EMSB Storytelling competition will be taking place April 13th. Two students from each campus will be participating.
- The Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers (QPAT) has called a legal strike from midnight to 9:30am on Wednesday April 14. As of 10:00 am, classes will be held online. For more information about the teachers' positions and demands visit: <https://qpat-apeq.qc.ca/mobilization-negotiations-2020/>

5.3 Daycare Report

- Ped Day March 26- Educazoo at both campuses was a success
- Upcoming Ped Say April 30- Luau Party at both campuses
- On line daycare registrations will be begin in end of April for all WPS parents 2021-2022
- After school, students are enjoying outdoor play activities, new games, new toys.



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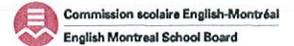
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5.4 PPO Report

None

5.5 Principal's Report

- Westmount Park North Campus was part of the pilot vaccination program open to parents and staff of Westmount Park North. All staff were eligible with the exception of administration and caretakers.
- School staff became part of the list of essential workers eligible for vaccination. This is available for all staff who work in our schools.
- Reptizoo presented to every group at both campuses
- We planned Cabane a sucre lunch during the month of April for both campuses

6. Varia

7. Date of next meeting: May 11th, 4-6pm

Adjournment

Nicholas moved, Christine seconded. All in favour, approved.

(Marcel had to leave meeting early so he did not participate in this vote.)

V. Lescaut (GB Chair)

M. Gagliardi (Principal)