



Westmount Park School | Governing Board agenda

12th April 2022

Attendees: (Meeting began at 4:19 pm)

- Giovanni lammarrone (P)
- Holly Kusiewicz (VP)
- Shalani Bel (Parent Member)
- Rony Wahed
 - Nicholas Lalli (Parent Member, joined at 4:18pm)

(Parent Member)

- Marie Alexiou
 (Teacher Member)
- Kathleen Rooney (Teacher Member, left at 5:01pm)
- Deborah Mete (Daycare Member)
- Jennifer Maxwell (Community Rep.)
- Julien Rolf Feldman (Commissioner)
- Sophie Antippa
 (Alternate Parent Member, joined at 4:45pm)
- Erik Agulnik
 (Alternate Parent Member)

1. Welcome (10 minutes)

1.1 Additions to the Agenda None

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

Added Mr. Feldman's point to section 4.4 of the agenda, Ms. Marie Moved, Ms. Deborah seconded, no abstention, no questions, all in favour - Unanimous approval

1.3 Approval of the March minutes

Added name Annie Braunstein to attendees, Ms. Deborah moved and seconded by Ms. Marie, Ms. Bel abstained, no questions, all in favour - Unanimous approval

1.4 Public Question Period None

2. Business arising from the minutes (10 minutes)

2.1 Selection criteria for scholarships

A lot of possible scholarship options were discussed including the past years scholarships by the board members e.g. graduation scholarship and Kindergarten parties.

Ms. Bel suggested the allocation of two \$50 scholarships that was moved by Mr. Lalli and seconded by Ms. Rooney, no abstention and no questions, all in favour- Unanimous approval





3. Business requiring approval (10 minutes)

3.1 Final decision of GB funds allocated to scholarships and Kindergarten weekly parties

Mr. lammarrone submitted that he did not want to add to parents' costs due to the financial hardships that many parents are facing. Mr. lammarrone also added that funds are allocated for every cycle.

Ms. Marie informed the board that they could not fundraise due to Covid restrictions and Mr. Lalli submitted if the board that we must consider that the funds are equitable based on our budget. Mr. Rony motioned for \$350 allocation towards kindergarten budget as they were unable to fundraise this year and this was seconded by Mr. Lalli, no abstention, no questions, all in favour - Unanimous approval.

3.2 Adjusted Student Schedule for the 2022-2023 school year

• Different time for Morning Recess. Entry, Lunch, and Dismissal times remain the same. Mr. lammarrone presented the new schedule and the new am recess time to the members that was moved by Mr. Lalli and seconded by Ms. Bel no abstention, no questions, all in favour - Unanimous approval.

4. Items requiring discussion (15 minutes)

- 4.1 Communication upcoming webinars and EMBS parent conference
- Impact of Bill 96 on Student Success (QCGN April 12th, 5-6pm)
 Ms. Bel mentioned about the webinar being held on April 12th, 5-6pm to the board members and provided her views on the webinar.
- What does the English-speaking Educational Community in Quebec envisage beyond the pandemic (LCEEQ <u>https://lceeq.ca</u>, April 26th, 7-9pm)
 <u>https://lceeq.zoom.us/j/83917109749?pwd=dlN6NVpjOWgrWU9hOEorWms3SIFvQT09</u>
 Meeting ID: 839 1710 9749 Passcode: 459973
 Ms. Bel also informed the board members of the above webinar being held by the LCEEQ with brief meeting information.
- EMSB Parent conference (May 29th)
 Ms. Bel further addressed the board members of another conference being held by the EMSB
 Parent Committee on the 29th of May 2022.

4.2 Covid update

New isolation guidelines
 Mr. lammarrone informed the board that Covid isolation guidelines have been sent to parents
 and that parents are aware and further information in available by contacting the school and
 the EMSB at any time. Ms. Holly submitted her appreciation for the great help that staff,
 support staff and parents are to mitigate this objective continually.





4.3 Enrolment

Comparison chart

Ms. Bel submitted her findings and views on the enrolment chart and statistics of WPS and surrounding schools.

Mr. Feldman expressed his concern around enrolment at WPS due to lack of French teaching and exposure. He urged to consider this matter very seriously as he thinks that WPS would benefit from more French education at the school. He suggested that anything that can be done to make the students bilingual should be taken into serious consideration.

Ms. Antippa also expressed her views in favor of Mr. Feldman's concerns and urged for doing all that is possible for ensuring our kids become bilingual.

4.4 Mr. Feldman on Ethics Committee and Students' Code of Conduct

Mr. Feldman presented his views on the Students' Code of Conduct and emphasized that this has lasting impact and consequences on students in general and that Students Code of Conduct is not always followed by administration. Work is underway on a By-Law on how Students Code of Conduct is to be applied which sets out standards to be applied. The general theme of the document is focusing on student success its measures should be standardised. He also added that this will be further discussed at the parents committee. Ms. Bel supports this the Students' Code of Conduct and upholds the ideas of further communication at the parents committee in this relevance.

5. Reports (25 minutes)

5.1 Principal's Report

- March 16th: Paul Davis, Cybersecurity Expert, gave an Online Safety Workshop to our Grade 5/6 students in the day. He then gave a Parent Workshop on the same topic later that evening.
- March 17^{th &}24th: SPVM Officers Aldabert Pimentel and Patricia Drouin spoke to our Grade 5 and Grade 6 students about Social Media Safety.
- April 4th: Successful Lockdown Drill took place.
- April 11: Cabane a Sucre meal was offered to all students from Chalet du Ruisseau.
- 2nd Progress Reports will be sent home with students on April 22.

5.2 Teacher's Report

Cycle 2 participated in a Caribbean dance workshop, hosted by West-Can Folk Dance Company, where students learned dances and a bit of Caribbean history through Soca music. Students and teachers alike enjoyed the opportunity for movement based learning as well as a continued exploration of Black history.

On Thursday, March 31st, students took part in a walk for Autism Awareness and Acceptance around the school grounds. This walk was accompanied by learning materials shared with the teachers on what autism is, and how to be a friend to someone with autism, created by WPS teachers as well as EMSB consultants. Students created posters for their walk, and took part in a puzzle-making project to celebrate our collective neurodiversity at WPS, with the message being that we 'all fit together'. Cycle 2 and 3 students also welcomed Steven Atme, an autism advocate who spoke to them about his own experience growing up with autism, and how he found his passion for music.





During the month of March, Kindergarten enjoyed many St. Patrick's day festivities that included a magical breakfast, mini-leprechauns costumes, a parade, and a search for Tipperery's gold which the children traded in for a chocolate gold coin. The Kind Kids social emotional learning workshops have also begun and take place every week in the classroom.

On Monday, April 11th the school took part in a sugar shack event, where a hot lunch and maple taffy were provided. The students enjoyed this cultural activity and learned about Quebec culture.

Grade 6 classrooms will be beginning their transition to high school program with Ms. Sharon. This program begins at the end of April and into May.

Grade 6 enjoyed their outdoor field trip to Bois de Liesse in Ville St Laurent as part of the Take Me Outside Initiative. K4 will also be experiencing this field trip April 19th.

Digital Citizenship workshops, as part of Cycle 3 educational program, have begun with the support of the spiritual animator Jessica Wilson.

Grade 3 will take part in a literacy workshop on the topic of fairy tales, under the guidance of local Montreal author Lydia Lukidis. They look forward to this in-house field trip. The Grade 6 Dolls For Hope project is almost complete, with a total of 20 teddy bears made. There is still work to be done, and so any additional parent volunteers with sewing experience are welcomed at this time to help complete the last steps of this project. Ms. Sabrina can be contacted at <u>Spianese@emsb.gc.ca</u>

5.3 Daycare Report

Ped day March 21, Base daycare students went to the sugar shack and was a very successful fieldtrip.

Daycare registration for 2022-23 on Mosaik has begun. In order to have access to daycare registration, students must be enrolled with the school. Parents experiencing difficulty, may make an appointment with Deborah Mete to register manually. The deadline on Mosaik is April 29, 2022. Should any parent want to register after the deadline, parents would have to call Ms. Deborah Mete to book an appointment.

5.4 Parent Committee Report

Mr. Rony presented:

Budget Building Process for 2022 - 2023 - guiding principles:

1- The budget building guiding principles and budget priorities were discussed, and some priorities discussed during the PC meeting were as follows: Significantly increase the current staffing ratios and weighted staffing ratios, for professionals (Psychologists, Speech & Language Pathologists, and Guidance Counselors) resource teachers, A&T and behavioral technicians taking into consideration services to all students from advanced learners (gifted students) to special need students and tailoring services according to individual school needs. Also taking into consideration vice-principals and all school support staff.





- 2- Invest and improve in the development of programs, professional services and resources:
 - to improve mental health in children by Reinstatement of social workers in school and or Investment in group or single service Therapists to help students with stress and anxiety;
 - to promote daily physical activity;
 - programs for anti-bullying.
- 3- Increase the funding for literacy and numeracy in all cycles prioritizing on early intervention and creating equitable outcomes for all students.
- 4- Invest and improve in new technologies in all schools and complement this with:
 - · an increase in technicians to maintain and support those new technologies;
 - Prioritizing technologies and support for technology when dealing with virtual school, interschool collaboration and assistive technology for students with learning difficulties;
 - Improving coverage of Wi-Fi network.
- 5- Improve the physical learning environment for students by increasing funding for:
 - security, health and safety, including snow and ice removal in common areas
 - building maintenance, capability improvements and upgrading projects
 - necessary space to accommodate for overcrowding
 - Accelerate the pace for building adaptations in order to ensure accessibility to all levels and facilities for students, staff, parents and the public with mobility impairments.
- 6- Increase the budget for programs in schools such as, but not limited to: STEAM, IB, Sport Etudes, Advanced Placement, Success for All, PELO
- 7- Ensure food programs are maintained throughout the year without compromise to nutritional guidelines regardless of the socio-economic decile ranking adjustments to the school and create those programs where needed.

8-Create a specific budget for the ongoing marketing;

- All EMSB elementary and high schools, especially those with low enrolment.
- Allocating at the local school level in order to allow each school to better market itself.
- Access to in house applications and resources, such as RTC at cost prices.
- Market research for students exiting the EMSB.
- 9-Increase the Caretaking budget to account for cost increases supplies, materials, cleaning supplies and various products.
- 10-Allow rollovers in Fund 6, activities, especially with constraints and during the pandemic
- 11-Request additional funds to reimburse public transportation fares for high school students and increase the number of school bus transit routes to required schools.
- 12-Increase the per capita allocation on an equitable basis and find more suitable distribution methods.





Commission scolairs English-Montréal English Montreal School Board

Ms. Bel presented:

Presentation by Allo-prof which is homework help recently made available in English; different from Learn Quebec which is tutoring. <u>https://www.alloprof.qc.ca/en/students</u>

Presentation from sector director regarding how the selection criteria for principal are used. Some skepticism on whether actually implement GB requests; questions about what to do if principal is not working well in a school.

New subcommittee on prevention of sexual misconduct has prepared a list of questions to be answered by administration in next PC meeting. Could not easily find the policies and programs to train teachers and students on their own. *questions copied below

How to apply for beautification grants – suggestion to share information across network. Delegate from Pierre Elliot Trudeau elementary promoted successful beekeeping project.

Questions from sexual misconduct prevention subcommittee: Request to have a member of admin to address PC

• What is the board already doing or addressing on the topic?

A communication sent to parents with resources and where/when to call/get info?

General Questions and Request for Documentation

1. Acknowledgment about what is already being covered in class, informally, about the exploitation and grooming of minors. What information is documented about the current practice of addressing these issues on a regular basis?

 With the hope of a standardisation of the supplements to the MEQ Sexual Health course topics being covered across the board

2. Would it be possible to amend the Safe School Action Plan: incorporating notions of grooming and sexual misconduct (youth to youth & adult to youth).

3. What kind of training or workshops are there for administration, educators, staff at the elementary and HS levels.

o The curriculum and how-to

o Incidents, red flags, reporting, resources

4. What is the reporting procedure for (alleged) sexual misconduct? What is the reporting procedure for other risk factors, such as bullying?

Where is this information shared and easily accessible? For students and for concerned parents and staff.

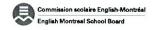
o Would it be possible to create a safe reporting platform for parents, students, etc?

5. What is the complaint investigation procedure? o For youth-youth and adult-youth incidents

6. What are the response procedures to (alleged) incidents?o What type of services or help would be available to the student/minor, or the concerned parents, etc?

7. Is there a tracking done on the number of incidents/reports on sexual misconduct? o For youth-youth and adult-youth incidents





8. What awareness campaigns / posters / pamphlets on local resources are readily available in schools?

o With the hopes of "standardising" the practice of sharing and showing campaigns and resources for parents and HS students

5.5 PPO Report No report.

6. Varia

7. Date of next meeting May 10th, 4:15pm

Adjournment at 6:04 PM - Ms. Marie Moved, Ms. Deborah seconded.

Ahalani Bel SHALANI BEL GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR.

Georgini Jammer Giorami Jammerrone Interim Principal