



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca

Westmount Park School | Governing Board agenda

21st March 2023

Meeting started at 4: 34pm.

Attendees:

- Holly Kusiewicz(P)
- ~~Chrisoula Pappas~~ (VP) – absent
- David Weiss (Teacher Member)
- Marie Alexiou (Teacher Member)
- Deborah Mete (Daycare Tech)
- Shalani Bel (Parent Member)
- Rony Wahed (Parent Member)
- Nicholas Lalli (Parent Member) – joined at 4:34pm
- ~~Julia Cristina Ionescu~~ (Parent Member) – absent
- Jennifer Maxwell (Community Rep.)
- Sophie Antippa (Alternante Parent Member) – joined at 4 :37pm
- Mr. Tribikram – (Guest Parent)

1. Welcome (15 minutes)

1.1 Additions to the Agenda (1 minute)

None

1.2 Approval of the Agenda (1 minute)

Mr. Nicholas moved, Mr. Rony seconded, no abstainments, all in favour hence unanimously approved.

1.3 Approval of the February minutes (3 minutes)

Ms. Holly requested an edit to temp stays eligibility to ‘awaiting conformation from the ministry of education.’ With this change Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Deborah seconded, no abstainments, all in favour hence unanimously approved.

1.4 Public Question Period (10 minutes)

Mr. Tribikram, thanked the GB for their service to the school and community at large and did not have any questions at this time.

2. Business arising from the minutes

None



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca

3. Business requiring approval (20 minutes)

3.1 Budget building process (due March 24th)

Ms. Holly shared her screen and presented the budget building process document with the GB and GB members exchanged their input to the budget and made minor updates and prepared final draft in agreement with the GB following which Ms. Marie moved, Mr. Rony and Ms. Sophie seconded, no abstainments, all in favour hence unanimously approved.

3.2 Extended day for Grade 6 classes on June 20th or 21st

Ms. Holly explained the reason and benefits for the extended day for grade 6 on June 20th and 21st to the GB in essence for a chance to get together, collaborate and exchange. Ms. Sophie asked who will be supervising the students at that late hour as many students and teachers will not be present. Ms. Holly and Mr. David responded that there will be at least two adults/teachers per class and the principal, and the vice principal will also be present on those days.

4. Items requiring discussion (25 minutes)

4.1 Communication

- **Use of Class Dojo**

The GB exchanged a lot of their views on this subject and for the need for a communication software for parent teacher discussions.

Mr. Rony submitted to GB that discussions on this subject also took place at the PC and the EMSB is re-evaluating their position on Class Dojo or other suitable application and that the discussions are work in progress. Other discussion took place around the difference in the features of Class Dojo that are unavailable in the approved apps:

Class Dojo Vs Google Classroom and Mozaik:

- The application is more user friendly.
- Chat functionality is efficient and effective for private communication.
- Allows time sensitive communication between parent and teacher that is required for all students specially for special needs students.
- Has READ notification service which shows acknowledgement without the need for a reply.
- Has translation service for the many international families, amongst others.

Motion:

"We, the Governing Board of Westmount Park School, are formally requesting the approval of the classroom communication application Class Dojo, or an alternative already available like Class Tag or any other that has similar features as Class Dojo. It is imperative that we have access to Class Dojo, or an alternative, as these types of applications, are user-friendly for both parents and teachers, offer functional, and efficient communication through features like time-sensitive private chat functionality, read receipt, immediate translation for the high number of international families we have at our school and other features as detailed in attached appendix 1."

The above motion requested by Rony was e-voted on and moved by Ms. Marie, seconded by Mr. David and Rony, no abstainments, all in favour hence unanimously approved.



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca

- EPCA-QCGN information session on Bill 96 from Wed. March 1st, Recording:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQSZuFbFDs&ab_channel=QCGNTV

Mr. Rony shared the summary of this presentation by EPCA-QCGN and requested Ms. Holly to share this link with our parent community in the spirit of parent awareness on the latest developments on Bill 96.

- PC statement on Bill 96 posted to EMSB website:
<https://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb/articles/an-open-letter-to-bernard-drainville>
<https://www.emsb.qc.ca/csem/nouvelles/lettre-ouverte-a-bernard-drainville>

Mr. Rony and Ms. Bel shared the summary of this statement by the PC and requested Ms. Holly to share this link with our parent community as well as it is our duty to share matters of mutual interest with all parents of our school.

4.2 Enrolment

- How does the registration compare to previous years at this time?
Ms. Holly shared that these number are tentative and subject to change but at this time the registration is at 521.
- Any data on weighted enrolment?
Ms. Holly shared that the provisional weighted enrolment stand at 654 again this is subject to change.

5. Reports (25 minutes)

5.1 Principal's Report

- Registration continues and the enrolment for next year is looking good.
- Online Parent Teacher Interviews were online and there was a good turnout of parents who attended.
- On March 1st we had Chez Gagnon come to school and the students had some maple and enjoyed a petting zoo.
- Emily Read Mural will begin next week with pre-k and grade 6
- Malik Shaheed will be presenting this week on diversity and bullying
- Next award ceremony will be on the 31st and we celebrate a few students from each class for their kindness, perseverance, and effort.
- Pizza Day will be on March 31st and they will be also sending out order forms for t-shirts
- Geordie Production will be here on March 29th for cycle 2
- Caden's Lighthouse field trip for our WINGS classrooms
- Starting to plan Kindergarten and grade six graduations
- Vaccination campaign for grade 4 on April 12th



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca

5.2 Teacher's Report

School Wide

- “Chez Gagnon” Sugaring -off came to Westmount Park on Wednesday, March 1st bringing their Cabane a Sucre experience with them for all students to enjoy.
- PPO Pizza Day is March 31st

Preschool

- Kindergarten had a green breakfast to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. The students dressed up as leprechauns and paraded around the school.
- Pre-K pilot , ES, and WINGS Jr. class field trip to Caden’s Lighthouse (March 31)
- Kindergarten will be celebrating Nowruz - the Persian spring festival on March 22nd

Cycle 1

- Grade 2 students visited the Eco-Museum on March 17
- Rm. 115 and 119 started an All Aboard Games project.
- Cycle One held their Rainbow Day Fundraiser where students gifted Skittles to other students similarly to the Cycle 2 Candygram fundraiser.

Cycle 2

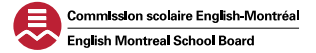
- Malik Shaheed Diversity presentation rescheduled for Cycle 2 and 3 students on March 24th
- Room 214 (and maybe 217 later on) are starting a Minecraft project on perimeter and area
- A local theater group, Geordie Theater, is coming on March 29th to present their “What If” play to Grades 3 and 4.

Cycle 3

- American author Ellen Potter did a virtual classroom visit with rooms 320 & 322.
- Grade 6 students participated and completed projects in All Aboard Games.
- Rooms 320 & 322 are participating in an Elementary Social Sciences and ICT Integration Project, using Thinglink.
- Grade 6 students are currently in the process of 3D printing their chosen monument for their French project.
- Grade 6 (320) and Pre kindergarten (Room 5) are partnering together in creating an Emily Read Mural



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca



5.3 Daycare Report

*Base Daycare had a Ped Day on March 3, 2023. Students participated in a cooking activity with Ms. Melina who is one of our pedagogical planners at Base Daycare Services at the EMSB. Students made homemade perogies, vegetarian spring rolls and Mago smoothies.

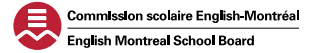
* Grade 5 & 6 continue to participate in Robotics, building fun things such as; cars, pirate ships, mini washing machines. It's been a huge success and hope to have them continue with us for the Spring session.

*Daycare enrollment is increasing for the 2023-24 school year. Parents are able to schedule an appointment with Ms. Deborah in the daycare office until beginning of May 2023

*We Welcome Mr. Robert, who will be replacing Mr Evan in daycare. He is one of our ccw's and is currently working with a few of our students after school.



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca



5.4 Parent Committee Report

The last PC meeting was held on Mar 02, 2023, and Mr. Rony submitted the following to the GB:


1. A RESPECT campaign presentation was held, intended to target all stakeholders of the EMSB including students, teachers, parents, and the community at large on the aim *“to choose to act with humanity, respect and empathy for everyone!”*
2. Discussions on parents conference that will be held hybrid this year, parents that want to join are welcome, event dates will be made available soon.
3. PC’s joint statement and open letter on the concerns from Bill 96 – This open letter is now available at the following link: <https://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb/articles/an-open-letter-to-bernard-drainvilleh>
4. Donation to families – The PC approved on providing donation from PC budget to some families of our schools who has a real need. The criteria and the fund amounts are work in progress.
5. The annual PC scholarship award – approved
6. The annual PC literacy prize – approved
7. The meeting agenda is as follows and further details on all agenda points are available here <https://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb/about/governance/meeting-minutes>



École Westmount Park School
 15 Park Place
 Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
 Tel: 514-935-4388
 Fax: 514-935-1290
 westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca



Commission scolaire English-Montréal
 English Montreal School Board

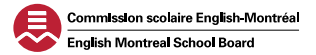
	EMS Parents' Committee Thursday, March 2, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. - Via Zoom Montreal	2022-23 Meeting #5
---	---	--------------------

AGENDA

ACTION REQUIRED	ITEM	TIME
Call to Order	1. WELCOME- LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT	(2 min)
Adoption	2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	(1 min)
Information	2.1 RESPECT CAMPAIGN	(10 min)
Adoption	3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023	(1 min)
	4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
Update	4.1 PARENT CONFERENCE	(5 min)
Approval	4.2 BILL 96 STATEMENT	(25 min)
Approval	4.3 LETTER TO ADMIN RE: INDIVIDUAL STUDENT FUNDRAISING IN HIGH SCHOOL	(5 min)
Approval	4.4 INTERNAL RULES	(2 min)
Discussion	4.5 DONATION TO FAMILIES	(10 min)
Approval	4.5.1 CREATION OF A FUND - MONEY TO FUND	
Approval	4.5.2 COMMITTEE TO: CREATE CRITERIA / REVIEW REQUESTS	
Consultation/Approval	4.6 BUDGET BUILDING PROCESS 2023-2024- DUE MARCH 24 TH (PART 2)	(30 min)
	5. NEW BUSINESS	
Approval	5.1 ANNUAL PC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	(5 min)
Approval	5.2 ANNUAL PC LITERACY PRIZE	(7 min)
	5.2.1 VOLUNTEERS TO SELECT A BOOK	
Information	5.3 FUNDRAISING – I.E. GAMBLING / RAFFLE TICKETS / BINGO ETC.	(7 min)
	6. SCHOOL REPORTS	
Information	(PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR WRITTEN REPORTS IF YOU WILL NOT BE PRESENT) (ANY MEMBER MAY SHARE CONCERNS, OR SHARE ANY POSITIVE EXPERIENCES AND/OR BEST PRACTICES)	(25 min)
	7. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD	
	(IF ANY PUBLIC IS PRESENT-ANY QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ARE ADDRESSED TO/ AND ANSWERED BY THE CHAIR)	
	A) ALTERNATES	(5 min)
	B) PUBLIC	(2 min)
	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS (PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR WRITTEN REPORTS)	
Information	8.1 PARENT COMMISSIONERS' REPORT	(6 min)
Information	8.2 TREASURER'S REPORT	(3 min)
Information	8.3 EPCA REPORT	(5 min)
Information	8.4 ANTI-RACISM SUB-COMMITTEE	(5 min)
	8.5 FOCUS GROUP ON ENROLLMENT – M. CORSI & T. SPERANZA- NO MEETING	
	8.6 YOUTH SECTOR NETWORK SUB-COMMITTEE- NO MEETING	
	8.7 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PREVENTION SUB-COMMITTEE- NO MEETING	
Information	8.8 SUB-COMMITTEE ON EMSB PC MARKETING (SOCIAL MEDIA)	(5 min)
	9. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Information	9.1 TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE- NO MEETING- MARCH 20	(0 min)
Information	9.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES	(5 min)
	10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING;	
Information	10.1 REGULAR MEETING: APRIL 13, 2023- VIA ZOOM	(1 min)
Information	10.2 EXECUTIVE MEETING: MARCH 13, 2023 – VIA ZOOM	
Approval	11. ADJOURNMENT	(1 min)



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca



5.5 PPO Report

- Pizza day is planned
- The PPO will be holding a T-shirt fundraiser
- Mar 29th at 4:15pm PPO meeting event is scheduled at the school gym and parents are welcome to attend.

6. Varia

7. Date of next meeting, April 18th, 4:15pm

Adjournment



École Westmount Park School
15 Park Place
Westmount, QC H3Z 2K4
Tel: 514-935-4388
Fax: 514-935-1290
westmountpark@emsb.qc.ca

Appendix 1

For the motion to approve a suitable communication application like Class Dojo or a similar alternative like Class Tag.

Parents' Feedback:

Many parents and teachers prefer to use the Class Dojo App as a communication tool following its successful use and benefits in 2021-2022 and if the application can address the security risks raised by EMSB, then we are requesting for its approval, failing that, the urgent approval of a similar alternative like Class Tag that contains the following collective features of Class Dojo which makes it a suitable communication application:

1. **Timely private chat functionality:**

Class Dojo's private chat functionality is a timely parent teacher communications tool. This service is essential for parents to send a time sensitive request and information to their teacher for that school day particularly in cases of special needs students this is indispensable and right now both parents and teachers are deprived from such communications. In 2021-2022 such communication would take place an hour before and after school hours so as to not distract teachers during class hours and to respect their time.

2. **Read notification:**

The read notification of a message without the need for sending a reply allows for quick acknowledgement and saves time for both teachers and parents.

3. **Immediate translation and notification service:**

This immediate translation helps to serve the needs of the high number of international families we have at our school and the instant notifications service of teacher's posts is ideal for parents to know when there is a test, homework, event, emergency broadcast etc.

4. **Class Dojo compliments Google Classroom that is currently approved for use:**

Class Dojo and other apps like Google Classroom are often used in parallel as detailed in this link: [Using ClassDojo with Google Classroom](#)

5. **Class Dojo's Security and Privacy measure as detailed by their staff:**



Elisette Weiss (ClassDojo)
Feb 14, 2023, 2:38 PM PST

ClassDojo uses professional data security services to store data in the most secure way possible. Our servers are physically located in high-security data centers - the same data centers used to hold secure financial information. Our database provider uses the same HTTPS security connections banks and government departments use to store and transfer the most sensitive data, and to date, we have never experienced a data breach. For more information on how user data is protected and stored, I am also including the resources below:

-ClassDojo's [Privacy Policy](#)

-ClassDojo's [Security Whitepaper](#)

-ClassDojo's [Information Transparency](#) page

Furthermore, we have a [Student Data Protection Addendum](#), an agreement we enter into with schools or districts, that further describes our duties, responsibilities, and commitments with respect to Student Data that we collect or receive.

In conclusion, if Class Dojo cannot be approved, then we are requesting for the urgent approval of an alternative communication application for parent and teacher communication with the above features as the present situation is deeply concerning.