



École Westmount Park School
Address: 15 Park Place, Montreal H3Z 2K4
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Westmount Park School | Governing Board agenda

29th November 2022

Meeting started at 4:46 pm.

Attendees:

- Holly Kusiewicz(P)
- Chrisoula Pappas (VP)
- 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 5:04 pm
- Iulia-Cristina Ionescu (Parent Member)
- Jennifer Maxwell (Community Rep.)
- Sophie Antippa (Alternante Parent Member) – Absent
- S. Becoulet (Alternante Parent Member) – Absent
- Gopi O and Kaleen (joined at 4:53 pm) – Parent Visitors

1. Welcome (5 minutes)

1.1 Public Question Period

- Is it possible to have aides present on the school bus?
Ms. Gopi attended the meeting as observer and said she does not have any question at this time.
Ms. Kaleen expressed concerns on lack of aid in school buses particularly in buses of special needs students and requested if it will be possible to have an aid in the bus.
Ms. Holly replied that she will get [back with details and possibilities after talking to transportation and relevant staff](#) and understands the request for this in special needs student buses particularly the few with serious concerns.

1.2 Additions to the Agenda

Section 1.5 added to the agenda.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Mr. David moved, Ms. Deborah seconded and all in favour hence approved.

1.4 Approval of the October minutes

Ms. Deborah moved, Ms. Marie seconded and all in favour hence approved.

1.5 Update to the Substitute parent members

L. Strauss is no longer going to be a substitute as she has moved as such Ms. Holly has informed S. Becoulet of this update. Therefore S. Antippa and S. Becoulet are the two substitute parent members of the GB.



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2. Business arising from the minutes (5 minutes)

2.1 Approval of Daycare field trips

- unanimous e-vote for trip to Zig Zag Zoo on Nov. 25th
Due to urgency this was e voted by the GB members and Mr. Rony moved, Ms. Marie seconded, and all in favour hence approved.
- new approval needed for subsequent trips with no option to stay at school
Ms. Deborah explained why there is no option to stay at school for some during such event days.
GB members requested Ms. Deborah to strive to always keep the trips at an affordable range for all parents of the school that was well received. Mr. Rony moved, Ms. Cristina seconded, and all in favour hence approved.

3. Business requiring approval (50 minutes)

3.1 GB internal rules

Ms. Marie submitted that the hybrid model of the GB meetings is well received and appreciated the flexibility this provided to all members, and this was acknowledged by all GB members. Internal rules were presented by Ms. Holly and GB members were OK with the contents. Ms. Marie moved, Mr. Nicholas seconded, and all in favour hence approved.

3.2 Daycare handbook

Ms. Cristina referred to Pg. 7 for clarification on refund policy for genuine medical absence. Ms. Deborah explained that for genuine reasons fees refund will be processed where applicable upon submission of medical note.

Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Cristina and Mr. Rony seconded, and all in favour hence approved.

3.3 Sexuality education plan

Ms. Cristina expressed concerns on the sexual education plan particularly due to not having medical professional presence during teaching such sensitive particularly around inappropriate touch, sexual assault, and self defence etc. This concern was shared by other GB members in different capacity and Ms. Marie suggested that presence of two adults while teaching his plan would be advisable and GB members further discussed on this matter at length and agreed on the following steps to be undertaken for teaching the sexual education plan at Westmount Park Elementary School:

- a. Presence of two adults in the room while teaching this plan to students.*
- b. Teachers should receive training for teaching the sexual education plan.*
- c. Consent and awareness of students/parents needs to be taken for the sexual education plan.*
- d. Consultation from professionals for teaching this is encouraged.*

Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Marie and Mr. Rony seconded, and all in favour hence approved.



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3.4 Annual report on educational project

Ms. Holly presented the educational project to the GB and they acknowledged it. Mr. Nicholas moved, Mr. David seconded, and all in favour hence approved.

3.5 Budget report

Ms. Holly shared and presented the report with all GB members.

Mr. Nicholas moved, Ms. Marie seconded, and all in favour hence approved.

3.6 Adoption of the GB's annual operating budget

- Excerpted from year-end financial report: **\$250 balance kept** in account for 2022-23

Mr. Rony moved, Ms. Bel seconded, and all in favour hence approved.

4. Items requiring discussion (if time allows)

4.1 Assignment of CCWs and their participation with other students in the class

Tabled for December meeting.

4.2 Lack of substantive comments on report cards especially for students in cycle 3

Tabled for December meeting.

4.3 Insufficient time to eat lunch especially for students in cycle 1

Tabled for December meeting.

4.5 Proposed clothing swap especially of winter clothes (conveyed idea to PPO)

Tabled for December meeting.

4.5 Bill 96 and how it will impact high school/CEGEP/University choices.

- [We could invite our commissioner to discuss this at the December meeting](#)

5. Reports (15 minutes, written reports can be submitted to Secretary)

5.1 Principal's Report

- Dog Therapy and Art Therapy continues. Art Therapy students are currently working on a mural in one of our resource spaces.
- Langmobile started this month. This is to help promote French in our pre-school classes.
- There was a Remembrance Day assembly for our senior students. This was organized by our Spiritual Animator Mikaella.
- Pre-k and Grade 1 participated in a Social Emotional workshop on Kindness given by Amen
- Kindness Whole School activity began. Students have a Kindness Card and can gain points when they demonstrate acts of kindness. They are then given a prize form the office. Lots of smiles and kindness are being spread.
- Author Monique Polak came to read her story The Brass Charm to our grade 3 students.
- Artist Cara Carmina came in to do a workshop with grade 2
- First Term report card was posted on Mozaik on November 16th
- Parent Teacher interviews were held on November 24th and was a great success. It was so wonderful to see our WPS families.



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5.2 Teachers' Report

- Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten went trick or treating at Ms. Alex's house.
- Kindergarten concluded their social skills sessions with Ms Heidi from Kind Kids that had started in October
- Kindergarten have begun their weekly sessions with Langmobile (a French movement animator)
- Lawyers from BLG (Borden, Ladner and Gervais LLP) began bi-weekly reading to the Kindergarten classes
- There was an extra special letter party for the letter C in Kindergarten: They “brought” the circus to school where there was juggling, cupcakes, face painting etc.
- Grade 2 learned how to do street art with Cara Carmina who is an author/artist that came into school as part of Ecole Montrealaise. The author came in and read one of her books and did activities related to kindness and anti-bullying. This project will wrap up on December 7th with an exposition in which parents are invited to.
- On November 2nd, in honour of the holiday “The Day of the Dead”, a parent volunteer came into the grade 2 and 3 classrooms to guide the students through a presentation and activity. The students enjoyed learning about different cultures and celebrating our school’s cultural diversity.
- All of Grade 2 and room 110 will be participating in a clown project which includes a field trip on Dec. 20th, the project starts in December and ends at the beginning of February.
- Grades 3 and 4 Chess club has started and they are starting their tournament.
- Monique Polak visited the grade 3 students on Thursday, November 17th 2022 and read her book, ‘The Brass Charm’. This book served as an introduction to conversations about the Holocaust for young learners as well as connected to themes of kindness and friendship. A grade 3 student was selected to take part in the Holocaust Education podcast through the EMSB and was interviewed by Mark Bergman, alongside another EMSB student from Our Lady of Pompei and the author Monique Polak.
- Grade 5 has been participating in Peace by Peace, a social and emotional learning program through McGill. Each week, McGill students create team building and social skills challenges for the students.
- Grade 6 is completing the Chill zone program which is designed to help regulate their emotions.
- Grade 6 had various High schools come in to speak to students about what their schools have to offer.
- The Cycle 3 Rise Program class prepared a breakfast as part of their ongoing work on developing various life skills with the support of Ms. Lori and Ms. Katrina.
- A group of grade 6 girls are organizing a grade 6 Winter Formal that will take place in December
- Mr. Simon in Music has started preparations for the Tea Toy event
- Students from Dawson College as part of their CRLT (Community, Recreation & Leadership Training) program came in and did various group activities with students across all grade levels



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5.3 Daycare Report

- Ped November 4-Mason Jar Tea lights
- Ped day November 24- Camping Day
- Ped day November 25- Zig Zag Zoo
- Daycare Handbook Approval
- Students are preparing for our upcoming ped day December 9, 2022. “Winter Wonderland”. Different stations will be set up by the educators. The students will be participating in each station and have their “winter wonderland passports” stamped as they complete each station.
- Students are also preparing for the holidays with their educators and discussing traditional holiday events and activities.
- Grades 3-6 continue to enjoy their afterschool soccer activity with coach Joey Cortese every Tuesday from 3:15-4:15pm
- Students are preparing for our upcoming ped day December 9, 2022. “Winter Wonderland”

5.4 Regional Parent Committee Report

- Consultation session on Success Plan by Tracey Mangal of the EMSB
It was a presentation and a consultation session on the most pressing matter post covid for education space and there was a website shared with members to fill the survey information.
- Presentations On Incident Reporting
Anna Sanalidro, Director of Educational Services and Julie Rene De Cotret, Director of Student Services, presented to the members what the Board does to educate the students on sexuality and the services that are offered when an incident is reported.
- Parent Conference-Wrap Up
Daniel Tatone updated the members;
 - There were over 400 registrations.
 - Excellent comments on the keynote speeches.
 - Some workshops were recorded and can be viewed by logging into the platform again
 - Survey will be going outThere were discussions on how this parents conference can be improved this year and suggestions and brainstorming is underway, hybrid option and shorter length events were top suggestions...
- Consultation- Three Year Plan (Due June 3Rd)
The members discussed the Three-Year Plan document and expressed concerns over the errors in the projected enrolment numbers.
Following a discussion on the projected numbers that appear in the Three-Year Plan, it was moved by Franco Mazzariello, seconded by Jessica Houde-Woytiuk and resolved that the Parents Committee do not accept the Proposed Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2022-2025 as presented due to the errors in the enrolment numbers of the schools. Vote: 23-4-3 Motion Carried



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- School yard beautification Grant # 5530 – please see PC minutes image below for details:

Caleigh Saucier
Chair

Brigida Sellato
Consultant/Secretary

Schoolyard Beautification Grant #5530

- **Deadline for submissions January of each year for the following schoolyear (ex. Submit Jan 2023-for project 2023-2024 school year)**
- **Minister does not have a maximum number of projects they approve each year**
- **Each school may only submit one project at a time**
- **Grant amount: Ministry will pay 80% of the project up to a maximum of \$50K.**
- **Residual must be raised by the school**
- **No limit to the number of projects each school does, but must be one per year.**
- **Principal fills out the paperwork and submits to Materials and Resources dept. Principal may have assistance from staff and/or parents.**
- **MR will only forward the application if it is complete**
- **Reply from the Ministry is within 4-5 months (April-May)**
- **Feedback as to why a project was rejected will be given verbally to MR by the Ministry**

Playground Activities and Equipment #15029

Schools may request from Materials and Resources

No deadline, may request anytime

Examples:

- **Soccer balls**
- **Benches**
- **Playground line painting**



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- The PC agenda summary page is submitted below and details on any point will be available on the EMSB website under - EMSB Parents Committee minutes:

Commission scolaire English-Montréal
English Montreal School Board

EMSB Parents Committee

Thursday, November 3, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Via Zoom, Montreal

2022-23 Meeting #1

AGENDA

ACTION REQUIRED	ITEM	TIME
Call to Order	1. WELCOME- LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT	(2 min)
Adoption	2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	(1 min)
Consultation	2.1 SUCCESS PLAN – T. MANGAL	(60 min)
Adoption	3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:	(1 min)
Adoption	3.1 JUNE 2, 2022	(1 min)
	3.2 OCTOBER 20, 2022	
	4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
Information	4.1 PARENT RESOURCES	
Information	4.2 CONDUCTING PC MEETINGS- HOW THEY TAKE PLACE	(5 min)
	5. 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)
	6. NEW BUSINESS	
Discussion/Approval	6.1 PARENT CONFERENCE- PLANNING A NEW CONFERENCE	
	6.1.1 WRAP UP LAST YEAR CONFERENCE	
	6.1.2 TYPE OF CONFERENCE (VIRTUAL, HYBRID, IN-PERSON)	(25 min)
	6.1.2 CHAIR FOR THE COMMITTEE	(15 min)
Information/Discussion	6.2 INTERNAL RULES REVIEW	
	6.2.1 ARE THERE ANY CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR	
	6.2.2 DO WE STRIKE A SUB-COMMITTEE	
	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)
	8.4 ANTI-RACISM SUB-COMMITTEE	(0 min)
	8.5 FOCUS GROUP ON ENROLLMENT - M. CORSI & T. SPERANZA	(0 min)
	8.6 YOUTH SECTOR NETWORK SUB-COMMITTEE- M. CORSI & T. SPERANZA	(0 min)
	8.7 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PREVENTION SUB-COMMITTEE	(0 min)
	9. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS	
INFORMATION	9.1 TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE	(3 min)
	9.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES	(3 min)
	10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING;	
Information	10.1 REGULAR MEETING: DECEMBER 1, 2022 @ ADMINISTRATION BLDG.	(1 min)
	10.2 EXECUTIVE MEETING: T.B.D.	
Approval	11. ADJOURNMENT	(1 min)



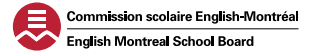
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5.5 PPO Report

Ms. Wendy presented that they are doing more advertising for the PPO events and requested everyone to help promote the events to the parent's body of WPS.

PPO plans on having an event every month if possible and the next planned events are as follows:

- Dec 17 – Bazaar event
- Movie night plans for Jan 2023

6. **Date of next meeting: Dec 20th, 4:15pm**

Adjournment

Mr. David moved, Ms. Cristina seconded, and all in favour hence approved.