



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

20th December 2022

Meeting started at 4:21pm.

Attendees:

- Holly Kusiewicz(P)
- Chrisoula Pappas (VP) – Joined at 4:22pm
- David Weiss (Teacher Member)
- Marie Alexiou (Teacher Member)
- Deborah Mete (Daycare Tech)
- Shalani Bel (Parent Member)
- Rony Wahed (Parent Member)
- Nicholas Lalli (Parent Member) - Absent
- Iulia-Cristina Ionescu (Parent Member) – Joined at 4:30pm
- Jennifer Maxwell (Community Rep.) - Absent
- Sophie Antippa (Alternante Parent Member) – Joined at 4:19pm
- Ashley and Naveen (Guest parents) joined at 4:30 pm

1. Welcome (10 minutes)

1.1 Public Question Period

None

1.2 Additions to the Agenda

Section 2.2 was added to the agenda.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Mr. David moved, Ms. Deborah and Rony seconded, no abstainments, all in favour hence approved.

1.4 Approval of the October minutes

Correction to section 1.5 of Nov minutes done on the second alternate parent member and Ms. Holly will send out invitation for any parents interested to be the second alternate parent member of the GB. Following the above correction, the Nov minutes were moved by Ms. Marie and seconded by Ms. Deborah, no abstainments, all in favour hence approved.



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2. Business arising from the minutes (5 minutes)

2.1 Follow up on having aide on school bus

Ms. Holly submitted that it is possible to have aide on school bus, but staffing is difficult. One staff member starting in January for one am and pm route but only for two days a week – Tue and Fri.

Future needs on staffing based on need will remain in consideration.

2.2 Changes to future meeting dates

New dates were agreed by the GB for the following meetings:

<u>Old date</u>	<u>New date</u>
Jan24	Jan 17
Feb 28	OK
Mar 28	Mar 21
Apr 25	Apr 18
May 23	May 16
June 20	OK

3. Business requiring approval (5 minutes)

3.1 Adoption of the GB's annual operating budget

- Extracted from year-end financial report: \$237.68 balance kept in account for 2021-22
\$237.68 balance+\$250 (this year's allowance) = \$487.68. Moved by Ms. Sophie and Ms. Marie seconded, no abstainments, all in favour hence approved.

4. Items requiring discussion (35 minutes)

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

Several views exchanged in this relevance by Ms. Bel, Ms. Marie, Ms. Sophie, Ms. Cristina, Mr. Rony and Ms. Holly, a summary is as follows:

Many needs in class and professionals try their best to meet all needs, including undiagnosed ones. Several school technicians and support staff are available for help on a need basis who work together to support students to meet their goals. At a higher level this matter needs to be raised at ministerial level as there is clear deficit of resources in schools for CCWs and other support staff for special needs students and other students. 7 to 10 hours of CCW support for special needs students in mainstream class is clearly insufficient.

Positive dialog is key to finding suitable solutions for special cases of concern and parents are encouraged to have positive dialog with teachers and management of school.



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

Ms. Bel submitted her views on this topic and in response Md. David and Ms. Marie, added that QC collective agreement stipulates that it is not required to write comments at all. There are equity issues for access to meetings and possibilities around virtual meetings are being explored. Mr. Rony shared his thoughts that providing comments or reference letters is not uncommon practice in educational institutions worldwide but provincewide differences are present but that is not to say that special cases need to be unrecognised or left unsupported. Ms. Holly added that parents are welcome to contact her and she will help with this matter as best possible.

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

Ms. Bel expressed her view on this subject to this Ms. Holly and Ms. Deborah added that Pre-K and K has longer eating time than others, but they will speak to teachers about the possibility of extra time for very slow eaters. It is acknowledged that not all students eat at same pace and students are in school for a long time and sufficient time for eating their lunch needs to be ensured for maintaining students' welfare and nutritional needs.

4.4 Proposed clothing swap especially of winter clothes (PPO plans for November)

Ms. Shalani and Ms. Sophie submitted that along with Movie night's parent volunteers and green club to help support the winter clothing swap this year. PPO also plans to have one event every month is possible.

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

- Our commissioner is interested to do a town hall, possibly at WPS
Ms. Shalani submitted on this and the GB were in agreement to invite him to our GB meeting similar to past years while we gather questions form our parent body. The GB decided against the town hall being held at WPS.
- <https://montrealgazette.com/news/quebec/ready-or-not-sweeping-changes-coming-to-quebecs-english-cegeps-and-private-colleges>
The above link is submitted for the parent body of WPS to stay informed and updated on the latest changes in this relevance.

4.6 Online kindergarten registration – January 23rd at 7am

<https://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb/reserve>

Marketing plans are underway by the school and the GB for this event including and not limited to calling parents body to register in person or online via this link, information updated on the WPS website, mass email plans for January and GB will to promote our school at all possible networks.



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4.7 EPCA Survey on Services for Students with Special Needs:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EPCASN>

Ms. Shalani and Mr. Rony submitted on this survey to the GB. This survey was created by the English Parent's Committee Association (EPCA) for parents to voice their concerns or share thoughts on the current services available to special needs students and provisions for further improvements.

5. Reports (25 minutes, written reports can be submitted to Secretary)

5.1 Principal's Report

- 583 students enrolled
- Pre-school numbers are very high
- Toy tea event
- 1st steam day (challenge to teachers) about snowflakes
- \$1300 ugly sweater fundraiser (holiday basket)
- Preschool breakfast with Santa, gingerbread houses, sing along etc
- Safe school action plan

5.2 Teachers' Report

Special Events:

- In December, many of the classrooms participated in winter holiday themed activities. These have helped to cultivate the diverse culture of our school, and to celebrate our varied cultural community at WPS.
- The Green Club would also like to thank Mr. 'Chess Master' Steve and parent volunteer Caitlin Rakowski for their help with the weekly compost which has helped to further our school's green initiatives.
 - The Ugly Sweater Day PPO fundraiser was a great success and helped to spread a little bit of joy while supporting WPS families. In the Kindergarten cycle,
 - Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Cycle One welcomed the Santa Bus to school where they listened to holiday tunes and got into the festive spirit.
 - Kindergarten is holding their annual Pyjama Day fundraiser on December 23rd where all students are encouraged to wear their pyjamas and bring 1\$ to school. This fundraiser will help to support the kindergarten program year round.
 - Kindergarten had their annual Breakfast with Santa where they received a meal along with a present and got to meet the man himself. They also made gingerbread houses and will be celebrating Hanukkah during their Hanukkah Party on December 22nd.
 - Borden Lang, & Gervais lawyers continued their storytime with Kindergarten activity and also donated funding for the kindergarten program
 - Retired WPS grade 1 teacher and volunteer Ms. Debbie Beitel has come to our school



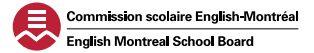
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twice a week to volunteer additional resource support. She provides literacy and fine motor support for students in Kindergarten. In Cycle 1

- In 104, Ms. Debbie Beitel presented the story of Hanukkah alongside one of the grade 1 students. The class enjoyed learning more about this celebration.
- Grade 2 has their final art exposition, inspired by Cara Caranina, and invited families in to showcase their artwork.
- Grade 1 (Room 110) and Grade 2 explored the circus and mimes on their field trip to the Maison de Theatre on December 20th. In Cycle 2
- Room 303 and Ms. Kiley's RISE classroom collaborated to create 3D snowflakes and Minute-to-Win-It challenges. They aim to continue to create projects together in the new year.
- Grade 3 and 4 students took part in the Snowflake STEAM challenge where they aimed to create 6, 8 and 12 pointed snowflakes using their knowledge of symmetry.
- Room 310 & 313 went Christmas tree shopping at Home Depot. They chose the tree, carried it to school and decorated it for their classrooms. In Cycle 3
- Grade 5 is organizing a holiday breakfast on Friday, December 23rd which will conclude their weeklong festive celebrations.

- The Grade 6 Winter Formal is scheduled for Thursday, December 22nd and the graduating class is looking forward to this social event.
- The Grade 6 Leadership club has been hard at work creating holiday activities for the rest of the school this week. The Holiday hustle, Holiday Hat & Hair day, and other activities have helped to create a sense of leadership and community within the school. The Leadership Club has also created and taught younger students games and activities during recess time. We cannot wait to see their next initiatives in the new year. The Teachers would like to wish the members of the Governing Board a happy holiday season, and health and happiness in the New Year



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5.3 Daycare Report

- Ped day December 9 -Winter Wonderland: 4 stations
- Making snow globes
- Painting ornaments
- Making their own playdough
- Musical chairs/ Jut dance

● Student have been involved in many Holiday activities, with their educators.

Students have been making holiday stockings, painting holiday murals, creating snowmen, and painted a beautiful fireplace using recycled boxes.

Friday, December 23 rd , we will be ending off the week with Pyjama Day, special snacks (gingerbread cookies and chocolate milk), and Holiday movies.

On behalf of Base Daycare Team, we would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!!

5.4 Regional Parent Committee Report

The Last PC meeting was held on Dec 1, 2022, and the report is as follows:

1. Presentation on Quebec Virtual School (QVA) by Mr. Servello (principal of the school):

This is the only all virtual school in Canada. QVA is still on a pilot project approval with possible long-term approval in future based on results. Students' criteria for eligibility are across: medical conditions, elite athletes, and rural areas.

- Programmes are offered from Elementary K5 to High school 7-11.
- Currently the school has 48 students
- More details on the QVA and its application process are available in the link below:



 **www.emsb.qc.ca/qva**

Home Parent Information Contact Us

WELCOME TO QUEBEC VIRTUAL ACADEMY

An initiative of the Ministère de l'Éducation with the participation of the nine English school boards.

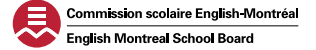
In the spring of 2022, the English Montreal School Board submitted a pilot project on behalf of the anglophone community. We are pleased to announce that the pilot project was accepted. In collaboration with the MEQ, students in the following situation may be eligible for the delivery of remote education to complete all their academic requirements.

Application Process

1. Complete the form: [Quebec Virtual Academy application form](#)
2. Upon completion of the form, you will receive an email with a link to upload the required documents in a secure folder (please allow 2 business days for the folder link)



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2. WPS GB General assembly:

PC members appreciated the parents' turnover at our annual GB assembly and specially praised the idea of holding the general assembly during the teacher orientation day and handing out leaflets of the event to parents in person with multiple language translations. Some PC members expressed to do similar things at their schools.

3. Proposal to expand MIND High School to add Sec 1 & 2:

This was approved by the GB on condition that all other stakeholders also get consulted.

4. Principal Selection:

The selection criteria for principal was approved based on submitted report.

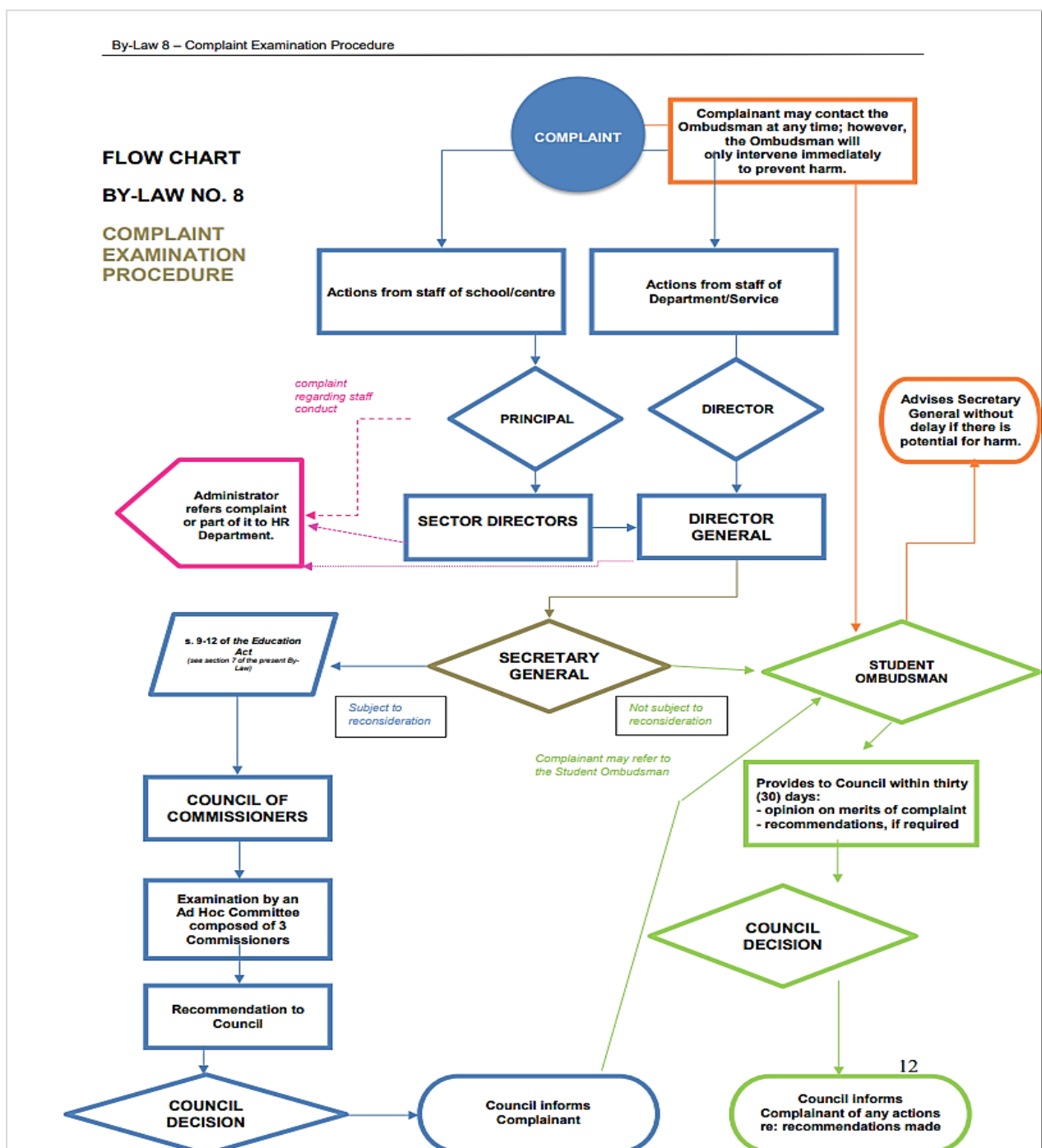
5. MTransport app:

This new app will be available for students to use within the next few months on select school before rolling out to all school in the short term. The aim of the app is to reduce issues around students getting on the wrong bus through issuing ID cards to students that needs to be scanned by the driver before while onboarding. Further details on this will be available in due course. PC appreciated the app and expressed the need for the app being urgent and important...



6. Complaints procedure steps of the EMSB:

There were a lot of discussions around how complicated and inaccessible it is for parents to get this information from presently displayed sources. It was agreed with the EMSB to simplify the complaints procedure with visual aid and simple 1,2,3, process. The simplified procedure was also agreed to be placed on the parents' handbook of all schools of the EMSB. A visual diagram is submitted below while more details will be available here: <https://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb/services/central-services/ombudsman>






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7. PC Meeting Agenda:

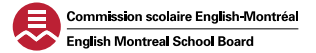
More details on any points of the PC agenda is available at:

<https://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb/about/governance/meeting-minutes>

 EMS Parents' Committee Thursday, December 1, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.- In-Person Laurence Patterson Room, Administration Building, Montreal		2022-23 Meeting #2
AGENDA		
ACTION REQUIRED	ITEM	TIME
Call to Order	1. WELCOME- LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT	(2 min)
Adoption	2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	(1 min)
Presentation	2.1 QUEBEC VIRTUAL SCHOOL- D. SERVELLO	(20 min)
Adoption	3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2022	(1 min)
Information Discussion	4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
	4.1 TRAINING/PC MEETINGS WILL RUN	(5 min)
	4.2 PARENT CONFERENCE- VOLUNTEERS/CHAIR	(10 min)
	4.3 INTERNAL RULES -PART 1 REVIEW- BASED ON COMMENTS RECEIVED	(30 min)
Information	5. SCHOOL REPORTS (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	
Consultation	6.1 PROPOSAL FOR EXPANSION OF MIND HIGH SCHOOL TO ADD SEC 1 & 2	(25 min)
Information	6.2 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE – STEPS	(20 min)
Information	6.3 SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PRINCIPAL – PROCESS	(15 min)
Information	6.4 MTRANSPORT APP - ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	(5 min)
Information	6.5 SUB-COMMITTEE ON EMSB PC MARKETING- VOLUNTEERS	(10 min)
Record in the Minutes	6.6 E-VOTE ON LETTER OF CONDOLENCE TO RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD	(1 min)
Discussion/Approval	6.7 MOTION ON TAXATION COMMITTEES	(10 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)
Information	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS (PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR WRITTEN REPORTS	
	8.1 PARENT COMMISSIONERS' REPORT	(6 min)
	8.2 TREASURER'S REPORT	(3 min)
	8.3 EPCA REPORT	(5 min)
	8.4 ANTI-RACISM SUB-COMMITTEE	(5 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	(5 min)	
INFORMATION	9. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS	
	9.1 TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE	(3 min)
	9.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES	(3 min)
Information	10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING;	
	10.1 REGULAR MEETING: JANUARY 12, 2022- VIA ZOOM	(1 min)
	10.2 EXECUTIVE MEETING: DECEMBER 19, 2022 – VIA ZOOM	(1 min)
Approval	11. ADJOURNMENT	(1 min)



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5.5 PPO Report

Ms. Sophie the Bazaar event was a success

PPO preparing for movie night on Jan 09 (date tentative).

They welcome and are open to ideas from parent body of WPS about events.

6. Date of next meeting: January 17th, 4:15pm

Adjournment – Mr. Rony oved and Ms. Cristina and Ms. Marie seconded, all in favour hence adjourned.