



École Westmount Park School

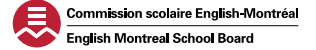
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Westmount Park School | Governing Board agenda

October 17 2023

1. Welcome

Called meeting to order at 4:08pm.

Present: Marco Gagliardi (Principal), Chrissy Pappas (Vice-principal), Tina Truffa (teacher), Christine Philip (teacher), Deborah Mete (staff), Rony Wahed (parent), Shalani Bel (parent), Mujdat Ozel (parent).

Missing: Cristina Ionescu

1.1- Public Question Period – none.

1.2- Additions to the Agenda – bussing issues placed as item 6.1; approval of Quebec City grade 5 field trip as 3.6; election of treasurer as 3.7

1.3- Approval of the Agenda 1. Deborah 2. Rony All in favour, thus approved.

1.4 Approval of the June Minutes 1. Deborah, 2. Shalani All in favour, thus approved. Only voted by the 3 members who were present at the June meeting.

2. Business arising from the minutes

Three items suggested for consideration in this year's GB:

- i. Parent communication tools
- ii. Parent survey on school dress code
- iii. Google reviews of WPS – what are the policies on official school response?
To be discussed in subsequent meeting.

3. Business requiring approval

3.1 Election of Secretary – Shalani accepts nomination from Rony. 1. Rony 2. Tina
All in favour, thus approved.

3.2 Election of Chair – Rony accepts nomination from Shalani. 1. Shalani 2. Mujdat
All in favour, thus approved.

3.3 GB Meeting Dates: Nov. 21st, Dec. 19th, 2023; Jan. 24th, Feb. 20th, Mar. 19th, Apr. 23rd,
May 21st, June 11th, 2024. Will try to have the June meeting in person but always offer a
remote option.

1. Tina 2. Mujdat All in favour, thus approved.



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3.4 Approval of Daytime Field Trips: Blanket approval for free, local field trips that children can walk to or use public transportation. Anything with a cost or extensive travel will have separate permission form

1. Deborah 2. Rony All in favour, thus approved.

3.5 Community Reps: Jennifer Maxwell from Tyndale; Michael from Centre Greene; Omar from Big Brother. Invite all and see who is available.

3.6 Quebec city trip for grade 5: School will fundraise and subsidize a Quebec-city day trip on Friday June 7th, 2024. Total cost is \$40/student. Confirmed that school will subsidize students whose families cannot afford the trip.

1. Tina 2. Rony All in favour, thus approved.

3.7 Election of Treasurer – Mujdat accepted nomination from Rony.

1. Rony 2. Tina All in favour, thus approved.

4. Items requiring discussion

4.1 Rules of Internal Procedures and Guidelines for Conduct – tabled to next meeting.

Marco will send it by email ahead of November meeting.

5. Reports

5.1 Regional Parent Committee Report (sent by Cristina after the GB meeting)

ESMB Parents Committee meeting on October 12th, 2023

- Meeting was well attended; round table introduction stating our names, which school we represent, and sharing about the extent of our experience on our school's governing board and/or the parents' committee. Many returning members, and also first-year participants such as myself.

- No election for Parent Commissioners since 2-year terms (next election in October 2024).

- Executive members were elected as such

o Katherine Korakakis (ACSES, Marymount, Westmount) as chair*

o Jason Trudeau (Rosemount) as vice-chair*

o Stephanie Passucci (Laurier Macdonald, Michelangelo) as treasurer

(*Note: these positions are held by the same parents as last year)

- Executive committee members (3) were elected out of 8 nominees

o Steven Merling (Merton)

o Joseph Rainone (Pierre de Coubertin)

o Merika Ramundo (Honore Mercier)

- Voting member of the transportation and safety advisory committee elected

o Stephanie Passucci



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- It was decided that the following sub-committees would only meet if there are important items to discuss and that any PC member can reach out to the committees directly if needed:
 - o Focus group on enrolment
 - o Youth sector network
- Volunteers were solicited for active participation in the remaining sub-committees
 - o Anti-racism
 - o Sexual misconduct prevention (*I volunteered)
 - o EMSB PC communications
- Discussion ensued briefly between a parent member from the sexual misconduct prevention sub-committee and the chair on the pertinence of this sub-committee. The chair's position was that Bill 8 now addresses complaints involving sexual violence making the sub-committee redundant. Many parents, myself included, disagreed on the basis that Bill 8 addresses "reactions" to sexual misconduct, not "prevention" strategies.
- EPCA delegate (2-year term) remains
 - o Katherine Korakakis (next election in October 2024)
- EPCA delegate (1-year term)
 - o Jessica Houde-Woytiuk (Royal West)
- During question period, a member of the public read a long statement expressing outrage at the statement issued by EMSB pertaining to the current events in Israel. The matter was not discussed during the meeting but would be brought to the next meeting of the PC executive committee.
- Dates of PC meetings were decided as being on the first Thursday of each month, mostly in person, at times virtual.
- Next meeting: November 2nd, 2023

5.2 Teacher's Report

The whole school participated in the Terry Fox walk on October 6th. It was very successful. Parents from P.P.O. invited others to join in and cheer. The students were excited to see them. October 19th an assembly will be held to give the final tally. We raised over \$6000. Students who raised the large sums of money will "ice bucket" Mr. Gagliardi and other staff members.

Cycle One

- New classes opened up in grades one and two.
- Feedback on the new UFLI reading program has been positive.
- Most classes are participating in a Concordia Literacy Study. At the end classes will receive new books for their classroom libraries.
- Grade two is participating in Outdoor Education workshops.
- The Museum of Contemporary Art visited grade 2. Students did hands on activities building sculptures.
- Various activities were held to honour Orange Shirt Day.



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- Halloween centers are being planned.

Cycle Two

- Orange Shirt Day
- Halloween centers are being organized.
- They will be visiting the symphony on October 30th

Cycle Three

- Participated in a land acknowledgement workshop with the spiritual animator.
- Powwow at McGill.
- Participated in a Zoom meeting with Fred Fox. (Terry Fox's brother)
- Museum of Contemporary Art workshop
- Marymount and Westmount High visited to present their schools
- Participated in a sustainability workshop / composting.
- Went to a Geordie Productions play at La Maison de Theatre. The play was written and performed by neurodiverse people.

5.3 Daycare Report

*Daycare enrollment is stable. There are presently 8 groups from Pre-K-Grade 6

Educators have been working hard on their lesson plans with their students, and preparing them for fun Halloween activities on Tuesday, October 31st.

* Weekly lesson plans from each educator, are posted in the daycare entrance for all parents to read.

* Pre-K and K will be starting Latin Groove dancing, every Thursday from 3:30-4:30 every Tuesday from 3:30 pm-4:30 pm for the next 10 weeks for our Fall Session.

*All students have been enjoying the weather outdoors with structured activities and nature walks

*Approval for daycare fieldtrips on Ped days*Approval for daycare handbook 2023-2024

*Ped day October 13- dress in black/orange, and Painting Pumpkins

*Ped day November 1- Pyjama Day/Board games, Puzzles, card games...

5.4 PPO Report

First meeting tomorrow, October 18th at 4:45pm in hybrid format to elect executive.

Already organized the parent support for the Terry Fox run, and they are also planning pizza fundraisers at lunch to be approved in a subsequent meeting.



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5.5 Principal's Report

- Welcome back assemblies
- 670 registered students across 42 homerooms; using every room in the building
- Music will be in the auditorium (now mobile)
- Art therapy
- Breakfast club and milk program

6. Varia

6.1 Bussing issues

School is aware that parents are frustrated and doing their best to accommodate everyone. The problem is a lack of drivers. We are handing out passes on a regular basis, and we are not always able to get answers from the bus company. Rony requested an EMSB procedure to give parents more clear direction on who to speak to regarding these issues. Agreed that more effective support and a more efficient system is needed, as we are having the same bussing issues each year. Rony conveyed parent requests to have a staff supervisor on the busses with many special needs students. Marco needs to look into it further; expects issues with staffing and may have union considerations. Mujdat raised concern over bus driver's inappropriate behaviour with a special needs child. Agreed that need more clarity on the correct procedure to address this issue working with WPS administration.

6.2 Daycare field trips

Motion to go on field trips during PD days. 1. Rony 2. Shalani All in favour, thus approved.

7. Date of next meeting: November 21st

Adjournment at 5:24pm 1. Tina 2. Deborah. All in favour, thus approved.