

**St. Patrick Elementary School
Governing Board Meeting – Minutes
November 8th, 2016**

Attendance

Members: Donnalynn Rainey, Carole McRae, Michael Rabinovitch, Niru Bhola, David Patterson, Ryan Getty, Jennifer Taylor, Mary Vassilakis, Anne Lanteigne, and Nancy Leblanc.

Non-Members: Wayne Clifford (Commissioner), Michael Rabinovitch (Principal), Nadia Cirelli and Anthony Cirelli (parents).

Regrets: John Bateman and Lorrie Pompeo.

Call to order 7:05 pm

Approval and Adoption of Agenda

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the Agenda. Motioned by Mary and Seconded by David. Vote in favour unanimous.*

Approval of October Minutes

- Correction to be made to October, 2016 minutes: Grade 6 event at MacDonald High School is on November **10**, 2016.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the October Minutes with above-mentioned correction. Motioned by David, Seconded by Nancy. Vote in favour unanimous.*

Ratification of Email Votes

- Halloween Fundraiser to sell donated costumes, event organized by teachers.
- Daycare Ped day, in house activity at a cost of \$13.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the ratification of the e-mail vote. Motioned by Nancy and Seconded by David. Vote in favour received majority vote (as one person missed the vote).*

Questions from the Public (1)

Nil.

New Business

Home and School Approvals

1. Babysitting Course for Grade 6 students to be held on January 17-19, from 2:20 – 5:30pm in the school, at a cost of \$55.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the activity. Motioned by Donnalynn and Seconded by Anne. Vote in favour unanimous.*

2. Edition Vaudreuil School supply list, no cost to school, a percentage of sales goes back to Home and School. Teacher point of view – lists are sometimes inconsistent with what was initially provided.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the activity. Motioned by Donnalynn and Seconded by David. Vote in favour unanimous.*

3. Chocolate fundraiser – La Montagne or Laura Secord. Multiple options for families will be available, including one box per family or the choice to opt out entirely. There are usually 30 bars per box, at a cost of \$3 each, to be held in the spring.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the fundraiser. Motioned by Marc and Seconded by Mary. Vote in favour unanimous.*

4. To sell snacks during the Christmas concert intermission (December 15) and the play intermission (April 2017) such as chips, chocolates, etc.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the fundraisers. Motioned by Donnalynn and Seconded by Mary. Vote in favour unanimous.*

5. Hair Donation – event to take place in the spring. At this point, more details are not available.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the activity. Motioned by Donnalynn and Seconded by Anne. Vote in favour unanimous.*

6. Spring Dance – Usually takes place on the last Friday in May or first Friday in June. We can invite incoming Kindergarten parents, invitation can be included in orientation package. More details to follow.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the fundraiser. Motioned by Donnalynn and Seconded by Anne. Vote in favour unanimous.*

Field Trip Approvals

- Class of 2017 Grad trip to Jouvence in Orford, Quebec from January 31- February 1, 2017. The trip is one overnight and two full days of activities, with an expected return at 8 PM. Seeking approval for the anticipated cost, which with two buses and the minimum amount of students is approximately \$11,000 (approximately \$235 per student). With fundraising efforts (Fundscrip, etc.) the cost will go down; last year after fundraising the cost was \$200 per student.

DECISION: St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the activity. Motioned by Marc and Seconded by Mary. Vote in favour unanimous.

Service Contracts

- For Kindergarten, an in -school activity, the Ecomuseum will visit on January 30-31, 2017 under the learning theme of “Animals in our Environment.” The cost will be \$10 per student.
- Francisation Program, two staff to work with some students who need extra help, Tuesdays and Thursdays. As chosen by the French team, the program targets 4-10 students a year from K through to Grade 2.
- Homework Program, 4 staff provide homework help to selected students after school.

DECISION: St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the above service contracts. Motioned by Marc and Seconded by David. Vote in favour unanimous.

Email Voting

- During the Governing Board training session at LBPSB, the concept of GB email voting was discussed and it was mentioned that it should only be used if timing is an issue, not as a “normal” procedure. Need to ensure required approvals are planned ahead of time and aligned with GB meeting dates.

Pincourt Activities Committee

- Received a letter from the City of Pincourt informing that financial assistance is available to support some activities and encouraging an application from the school, with a deadline of November 25.
- Committee decided to make an application for the outdoor education program for cross country skis sets. Aiming for set of thirty (skis, boots, and poles) at \$100, for a request of \$3,000. Donnalynn will complete the application.

Governing Board Budget

- Governing Board has an operations budget, with funds available to send members to training sessions.
- Donnalynn raised the need for a Treasurer to look after bills. Michael indicated he can keep track of receipts.

Business Arising From Previous Minutes

- Reminder for parents for morning drop-off zone safety. The issues are ongoing and we will need to think of new ideas to move forward. Some ideas that were discussed include a Safety Awareness Day or a promotional video made by the students. Niru will look into making a video.
- Governing Board will continue to look into ideas to move forward to address the matter.
- If ever there are concerns and parents want to voice their options to city officials, they can call Denise Bergeron, she is aware of the situation.
- If ever there is a security issue that needs to be reported, a call can be made to SQ in Dorion 450-424-1212.

Reports

Principal

- Michael has been posting updates on the website and sharing information and photos. Principal's Blog is also being updated regularly, with information from teachers, to see what's going on in the school.
- The school now has a Facebook Page, consistent with other schools in LBPSB. It is a quick way to make connections with the parent community. Check it out!
- Remembrance Day Assembly on November 11 is a school event and is a learning opportunity for the students. The Kindergarten and Grade 4 students are preparing a Question and Answer activity.
- The school is working with Edgewater to join MacDonald High School students at the Remembrance Day ceremony on Thursday, November 10. Activity for Grade 6 students.
- This month's field trips were a great success, at Notre Dame de Fatima and a day in Old Montreal.
- The Kindergartens, Grades 1 and 2 are preparing for the Holiday Concert on December 15th at 10 am and evening show at 7 pm.
- Christmas lunch and Santa Store will be on December 20.
- Parent-teacher meetings will be on November 17 and 18. Fusion portal system being used this year to book interviews and teachers will put a reminder notice in with the report cards.

Staff

- Went to Toronto for training opportunity, to learning about new applications on Chrome Book.
- Reports cards being finalized and sent out next week.

Daycare Report

- There are various plans in the works for potential upcoming field trips, including bowling, Mount Royal for tubing, Lasalle swimming and gym activities and possibly LaserQuest. To be determined.

- Friday, November 18, will be an in-house PED Day; it will be a spy theme with a \$10 supervision fee and \$3 activity theme.

Commissioner

- See attached copy of Commissioner's Report.

Parents Committee

- Issues covered under Commissioner's Report.
- We are now Elementary West, next meeting on November 17. Alternates can come with representatives.

Varia

- Anne – when attending the Governing Board training session at the LBPSB, there was some discussion regarding the safety of putting certain information on school website, specifically dates of field trips and activities. Michael will call Genevieve at LBPSB to verify what information should be included on the website.

Questions from Public (2)

Nil.

Adjournment 8: 20 pm.

***DECISION:** St Patrick Elementary School Governing Board approves the adjournment. Motioned by Mary and Seconded by David. Vote in favour unanimous.*