

**St. Patrick Elementary School
Governing Board Meeting – Minutes
February 7, 2017**

Attendance:

Members

Donnalynn Rainey, Nancy Leblanc, Lorrie Pompeo, Michael Rabinovitch, David Patterson, Anne Lanteigne, Nancy Leblanc, Wayne Clifford, Carole McRae and Jennifer Taylor.

Non-Members

Anthony Cirelli, and Nadia Cirelli.

Regrets: Mary Vassilikis, Niru Bhola, John Bateman, and Ryan Getty.

Call to Order

Approval and Adoption of Agenda: 6:59 pm, motioned by Marc, seconded by David, all in favour.

Approval of November 29 minutes (with some minor editing revisions): Motioned by David, seconded by Anne all in favour.

Questions from the Public (1)

None.

Reports

Principal

- Kindergarten registration process is ongoing; at present, there are 60 Kindergarten registrations for next year, which means a fourth class. Thank you to Home and School who helped out during the Open House event. There was a storm on the day of the event, so numbers might not be as high as previous years.
- The next big school activity is the Winter Carnival, which is scheduled for the week before March Break. There will be outdoor skating on Tuesday at two different parks and additional activities are being planned for the rest of the week; there will be a balance with the learning as well.
- In December, 2016, there was a meeting with representatives from the City of Pincourt, LBPSB, SQ and Governing Board in order to discuss the ongoing safety concerns around the school in the mornings. New ideas were brought forward and following the meeting, there was a positive article published in the Montreal Gazette (link on the school website). It was a positive outcome and the City will be implementing additional measures to address safety. Also, the SQ has been more present in the mornings and the afternoons and in some instances have had to ticket some parents.
- If parents or members of the community have misunderstandings regarding the City signage, they should contact the City to discuss.

Staff

- Grade 6 field trip was a success, photos have been posted on the school website.
- Play rehearsals are well underway and an excellent production is expected in April.

Daycare

- Daycare went tubing last Friday, it was a fantastic day and a successful outing.

Commissioner

- See attached report.
- In light of events in Quebec City, the night prior, the Council of Commissioners began its January 30th meeting by adopting a Declaration of Solidarity Within the Community.

Parents Committee

- Will be sent via email.

Business Arising From Previous Minutes

Follow up - Safety Measures

- Discussed previously under Principal's report. City representatives indicated new measures would be put into effect in spring.

Letter to EPCA – History Curriculum.

- Draft letter was sent out, some GB members reviewed it. Because we don't know timeline and little information was sent regarding the subject, it was decided that the Governing Board would not review and provide support.

New Business

Approval of Field Trips

The following field trips were approved:

- Cross country skiing, being run by the Physical Education program, for Grade 6 students after school from 2:45 – 4:30 pm on February 16, 20, 22 and 28 (weather and conditions permitting). 1:6 ratio, cost \$10 per student and 25-30 students are expected. School has bought their own ski sets. Motioned by Marc, seconded by Carole, all in favour.
- Junior Leadership Day, ratification of e-mail vote, event is scheduled for February 10, where 12 students leaders are selected to participate in the event at West Park. All 31 elementary schools are participating and representatives from every high school. There is no cost for the students, bussing provided. All day activity. 1:4 ratio. There was 1 abstention in the email vote.
- Musical Theatre production of Beauty and the Beast at Lindsay Place High School. Miss Jen will invite participants of the play production (Grades 3-6) to see the musical theatre

production on March 23 from 9 am – 1 pm. 1:15 ratio, cost \$12 per student. Motioned by Nancy, seconded by Anne, all in favour.

- Winter Carnival outdoor skating activity for all students, at Olympic park for older grades and Shamrock park for younger grades. From 8 am -2 pm, there will be numerous parent volunteers, and the activity is weather permitting. The skating rinks are booked and Home and School will provide snacks. No cost for students. Motioned by Nancy, seconded by Anne, all in favour.
- Cycle 1 students, experiencing science with a hands-on approach, planet of the Sciences and Marvel Roads, on April 4. There are 119 students and 20 adults for a 1:6 ratio, Grades 1-2, teachers and volunteers on bus, \$10 per student. Culture and School grant funding will offset transportation costs. Motioned by Donnalynn, seconded by Marc, all in favour.
- Physical Education Department seeking a global approval for physical education tournaments that are LBPSB-run, where cost will be no more than \$20 per event (for bussing) and permission forms would go home to parents in the weeks prior to the event. Events include basketball on April 21 for grade 6 at Evergreen; junior cross country run on May 9 or 10 at Dorset for grades 1, 2, and 3; soccer tournament on May 4 (indoor) at PCHS for grade 5; track and field event at Riverdale High School on May 30 or 31 for grades 4, 5, and 6. Motioned by David, seconded by Lorrie, all in Favour.
- Led by Ms. Fisher, Fundraiser for Kindergarten students – Wheel-A-Thon outside in school yard, during the last week of May or first week of June. Funds raised will go to organization led by Mr. Nardozza. Idea is to connect students with the concept of fundraising. Motioned by Carole, seconded by Nancy, all in favour.

Service Contracts

- Homework Program needed an additional support. An Integration Aide has helped out so we need to allocate funds for their pay. Motioned by Marc, seconded by Nancy, all in favour.
- Devon MacIntyre for an early literacy program with Kindergarten and Grade 1 students. 12 hours a week for remainder of school year. Focus with resource team on specific children. Motioned by Anne, seconded by Carole, all in favour.

Hall Rentals

- An application to rent the school building was received from Elite Dance to hold bingo fundraisers on both March 25 and April 29 from 5-9 pm. LBPSB will put a caretaker in place. Motioned by Carole, seconded by Jennifer, all in favour.

Mesure 30170

- The provincial government allocated money on an annual basis to elementary schools to do one of several things, one of which is to spend funds on technology, early literacy, books. Resolution was read by Mr. Rabinovitch, where resources allocated will be used for said purpose: fostering emerging literacy and offering students a stimulating learning environment by funding concrete and innovate initiatives related to the use of digital technology and resources for teaching and learning in the amount of \$10,156 for 2016-17 school year. Motioned by David, seconded by Anne, all in favour.

Capital Projects

- Reviewed the list and added a few items, including adding air conditioning units to the gym, re-facing the bathrooms in old section of the school, and adding water-bottle style water fountains.
- Mr. Rabinovitch will submit the final list to LBPSB for their consideration. Safety and health considerations are usually given priority.

Principal Consultation

- Discussed principal criteria based on school needs and what leadership should be brought to our school, including:
 - Leadership and vision for the school,
 - Engaged with the community,
 - Fostering school community – all about the kids, kids for kids,
 - Incorporates technology advancement into school learning environment, and
 - A child-centred approach.
- Will share existing criterial along with points raised during the meeting and members will provide feedback before the deadline on February 20th.

Bill 105 and Changes to GB Composition

- Changes that will come into effect allow for substitutions. In the event a teacher or parent representative is not available, we can call a substitute and they would have voting rights for the meetings. Additional changes will come into effect in a few years to come.
- Therefore, there will be 9 Governing Board positions available in September, 2017.

Budget Response

- Donnalynn, Jennifer, and Anthony will work on Budget response at another time before deadline.

Visibility of GB to Parent Population

- How can we work to encourage more parent participation? This is a challenge faced by several schools. Some ideas include a newsletter and sharing more information with the parent community.
- It is a challenge to get parents to step forward on AGM night. Perhaps the voting in process can be improved to encourage more parents.
- Will aim to send out two newsletters for rest of school year to inform parents of what GB does.

Changes to the Emergency Preparedness Plan

- A paragraph was added into the existing plan regarding parental behaviour in the school, adopted by Council of Commissioners, to all plans across the Board.

Varia

Pink Shirt Day

- Will be discussed further.

Email System

- There are parents who are still missing emails from the school. The school administration is aware of the issue and are working on it. Information that is put into computer system is being verified to validate all email addresses. Also, there are parents who aren't registered on the Fusion Portal. A hard copy letter will be mailed out and telephone calls will be made in attempt to validate information.

Questions from Public (2)

None.

Adjournment:

Motioned by Nancy, seconded by Carole, all in favour.

Note: Anne won't be at next meeting.