

**St. Patrick Elementary School
Governing Board Meeting – Minutes
May 9, 2017 6.30pm**

Attendance:

Members: Donnalynn Rainey, Nancy Leblanc, Lorrie Pompeo, David Patterson, Marc Blanchard, Carole McRae, John Bateman, Ryan Getty, Niru Bhola, Jennifer Taylor, Anne Lanteigne.

Regrets: Mary Vassilikis.

Non-Members: Michael Rabinovitch, Wayne Clifford.

Public: Anthony Cirelli, Nadia Cirelli, and Taedra Harris-St Pierre.

Call to order 6.32pm

Agenda and Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion to approve by David, seconded by Nancy, all in favour.

Questions from Public (1)

Nil.

Reports

Principal

- Email communication regarding flooding situation in community was sent out to parents to keep them informed of the situation. In response, food donations were brought in by families within the school community. The response to support the flooding victims has been very positive and demonstrates our community spirit. LBPSB made decision to cancel the cross country run and our school proactively decided to postpone the Grade 3 field trip, which will be rescheduled later in the school year.
- The Grade 5 indoor soccer tournament went well. Students were extraordinary and were complemented on their behaviour and leadership during the event.
- The Kindergarten orientation is scheduled for May 19. Based on registration, we expect 70 new families and four classes for next year. The Home and School committee will provide snacks for guests and invite new families to the Spring Dance at the end of May.

Staff

- Several teachers visited schools in Toronto to learn about best practises in integrating technology into schools. Many of the activities that were noticed there are already in play here.
- Two teachers applied for innovation grants for next year. One grant would be to support going back to Toronto to meet with the Education Ministry of Ontario to learn more

about the concept of formative assessment, where students take more ownership for their evaluations. LBPSB is exploring this concept and our staff is looking to explore other ideas when it comes to student assessments.

Commissioner Report

- The material was shared in advance of the meeting with Governing Board members.
- There will be several personnel changes at the Board in the near future as the Chair has requested a leave of absence and there have been some retirement announcements.

Parents Committee

- *Learn Quebec* made a presentation at a recent meeting; this organization is a resource for parents that offers multiple free services available for students, including tutoring.

Business Arising From Previous Minutes

New Field Trip Approvals

- The guided tour of Iroquois village for Grade 3 students has been postponed until June 21. This field trip was already approved at a previous Governing Board meeting. *Motion to approve by Carole, seconded by Anne, all in favour.*
- “We Sing From our Hearts” choir festival will be held on May 19 at Lindsay Place High School. Ms. Jen and Ms. Ashley will accompany the choir students (approximately 20) on the bus; 8:15 am departure and arrive back at school at the end of day. There is no cost to students for transportation or the event. *Motion to approve by David, seconded by Anne, all in favour.*
- Outdoor Education program sought general approval to take grades K-2 to local parks (Bellevue, Shamrock, or Olympic) with 1:10 ratio. Teachers will take classes at their discretion (not a pre-planned event). *Motion to approve by Marc, seconded by Ryan, all in favour.*
- Green Summit at Westpark Elementary on June 5. One Grade 6 teacher will bring up to four Grade 6 students in their car. Students will be chosen based on their experience with green activities in the school. *Motion to approve by Carole, seconded by John, vote had one nay. The Motion passed with a majority vote. NOTE: Approved with caveat that transportation of students will follow all Transport Quebec laws regarding transportation of minors.*

Fundraisers

- National Denim Day in support of Breast Cancer for the Cure Foundation is May 16. Students can make any donation, wear denim, and receive a sticker. *Motion to approve by Donnalynn, seconded by Ryan, all in favour.*

Memorial Plaque for Tree

- Approximately 15 years ago, a Kindergarten student passed away during the school year. A tree was planted in the front yard of the school in his memory. Would like to put a

plaque on tree to commemorate him and to identify the tree. Will work with current teachers who were here at the time to come up with the wording for plaque and will aim to contact family to inform them of the plaque initiative.

New Crosswalk Sign on Shamrock

- Thanks to all involved in the meeting last December who helped make it happen.
- Discussed the outstanding matter of the signage in the drop-off zone (afternoon parking), which the City of Pincourt indicated would be part of their review efforts this spring. Jennifer will follow up with the City to that effect.

School Fees

- Governing Board reviewed the School Fees for next year. Some discussion items include:
- Grades 1-6 will get Agendas at \$8.15 each, art supplies will be \$10 each, and photocopies are \$27.40 per student.
- There are some difference in the workbooks.
- Minor change this year – there are additional costs in Grades 1 and 2 for supplies that have traditionally been on the supply list for parents to buy themselves (for example, Ecolo workbooks). This year, the school will buy some of these selected items in bulk, and they are included in the school fees for the Grade.
- A change in the Grade 4 list, for an additional French workbook Zigzag.
- *Motion to approve by Donnalynn, seconded by John, all in favour.*

School Supply Lists

- Governing Board reviewed the Supply lists for the upcoming school year, which are recommendations from teachers. The lists will be posted on the school website on the last day of school.
- Some specific revisions to be made to the lists:
 - Will specify on all grade lists if the items have to be labelled.
 - Indoor gym shoes should be on all lists.
 - For Kindergarten list – specify the dry erase board is small; remove “charge parents for” items, will look into the mini twistable pencil crayons.
 - Remove duplicate scrapbooks.
 - Remove words English and French on Cycle 3, level 1 list.
 - Spelling correction quad book.
- *Motion to approve by Marc, seconded by Donnalynn, all in favour.*

School Calendar – 2017/18

- The school calendar for the upcoming academic year (2017/18) will be finalized in June and will be posted on the school website on the last day of school.
- For 2017/18 school year, the first day is August 30, which is a Wednesday.
- AGM will be on September 7. The school is hoping to add a third session for parents during the evening, likely prior to the AGM.
- Report Cards will be issued on October 13 (interim), for Term 1 on November 15; for Term 2 on March 2; and Final Reports on June 22.
- November 16 will be parent-teacher interview night.
- The Open House will be on January 23 and the Play will be on April 19, 2018.

- Celebration of Learning event will be on March 28.
- Graduation on June 21.

Questions From the Public (2)

- When a field trip is cancelled, do parents get refunds? Yes, if a trip is cancelled, the funding would be returned.
- Home and School initiative – seeking donations for movement room. Not a Governing Board Initiative.

Varia

- A few families within the school are affected by the flooding. Some parents brought food in etc. It has really been appreciated by the families. The school will continue to support these families in any way possible.
- Discussed the possibility of starting a breakfast program/muffin donation program. Will explore possible options for next year.

Adjournment

7:41 pm