

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

Attendance

Voting Members: Ryan Getty, Donnalynn Rainey, Robert Pigas, Ashley Dunn, Melissa Ruiten, Marc Blanchard, Lorrie Pompeo, Jodi Esterson, Jennifer Taylor, and Anthony Cirelli.

Non-Voting Members: Michael Rabinovitch, Wayne Clifford

Substitute Members: Caroline Gleeson, Maria Puente, Doug Bentley.

Public: Taedra Harris-St. Pierre.

Regrets: Niru Bhola, Natalie Knott, and Shannon Tomalty.

Call to Order

7:02 PM

Approval of October Minutes and Adoption of Agenda

- Anthony questioned the date of the Grade 5 trip in the October minutes, as the form that was sent home to parents indicated a different date. Staff will follow-up and correct.
- Given that a parent representative is absent, Maria is granted voting rights for the meeting.

Motioned to Approve by Ryan, Seconded by Doug, all in favour.

Questions from the Public (1)

Nil.

Reports

Principal

- Several PhysEd events took place over the last month and were a great success, including the handball tournament, the frisbee tournament, and the cross-country run. Thanks to the staff and parents who assisted during these events.
- The Halloween Hallway was a great event again this year. The Grade 6 students came in during the PED day before Halloween to decorate.

- The Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on Friday, November 10 in the morning. Students who are members of Scouts, Guides, etc. are asked to wear their uniforms. On November 9, Grade 6 students are headed over to John Abbott College to participate in a Remembrance Day event with Mac High students.
- The current Grade 5 cohort will be writing the high school enriched program entrance exam in May, 2018.

Staff

- Kindergarten students are working on an animals/fall unit and are going to the Ecomuseum on Thursday, November 9.
- Cycle 1 are finishing author studies, studying forest animals, starting a Dr. Seuss theme, and learning about Remembrance Day in French.
- Cycle 2 students: applied for a Culture in School grants to have a Mohawk dancer come in and are looking to have pen pals with a school in the Kativik School Board.
- Cycle 3 students participated in the *Tell Them From Me* survey, are working on their digital portfolios, organizational skills, and using iMovie and green screens.
- The entire school is preparing for the Remembrance Day assembly.
- Several classes are writing cards to Jacob Thompson, the young boy from Portland, Maine who is terminally ill. Students are writing Christmas cards to cheer him up, as per his wishes.

Daycare

- Some of the daycare classes are also writing cards to Jacob Thompson.
- The theme this month is *Friendship* – classes will be doing several activities to that effect.
- The previous PED day – Monster Bash – was a great success.

Parents Committee

- There have been three meetings so far, focused on elections and setting up.
- Food and Nutrition Policy consultation – a sub-committee will be established.
- Any issues can be sent to Ryan.

Council of Commissioners

- Meeting minutes were provided in advance.
- Next meeting is on November 27; will be webcast.

Home and School

- Pizza and Subway lunches are going well. Looking to implement an online payment system in 2018.
- Getting ready for Portfolio Night (selling clothes and gear; bake sale) and Christmas lunch events. Will have a pamphlet made to showcase school pride items available for purchase.
- Home and School sought approval to sell refreshments and school pride items at all school events for the 2017-2018 year.

- *Motioned to Approve by Melissa, Seconded by Lorrie. All in favour.*

New Business

Field Trips

- Daycare fieldtrip to the movies being planned for November 17 – *The Star* at Kirkland Coliseum. Two busses leaving at approximately 9:15 AM and returning at 1 PM. \$25 per student includes transportation, snack and movie ticket and daily supervision fee. Ratio is 1:20 and will aim for 1:12 for younger grades. An option for students to stay back at the school is available, however, it requires a minimum of twenty students to do so.
- Jennifer mentioned it would be useful for parents to have a cost breakdown on the form, to identify all specific costs associated with field trips.

- *Motioned to Approve by Melissa, Seconded by Marc. All in favour.*

Fundraisers

Nil.

Service Contracts

- Homework Program after school: Integration Aids to support students in the classroom and after school, two times a week. Teachers identify students who could benefit from this program.
- Francization Budget: for students who require additional support to learn French as a second language. Teachers identify students for this program.

- *Motioned to Approve by Jennifer, Seconded by Carolyn. All in favour.*

Anti-Violence/Anti-Bullying plan

- Reviewed the Plan as minor edits were made, including:
 - Language changed slightly to encompass online dimension and to ensure that any form of harassment relating to online activities and social media would be encompassed within this Plan.
 - Added in relevant school programs, such as the Virtues Program.
 - Made a few edits regarding typos.
 - Added in Vice-Principal position.
 - Changed the term *Police* to *Sûreté Québec (SQ)*.
- Some discussion on the difference between the definitions of bullying and mean behaviours.
- The focus of the Plan is to work on teaching and correcting behaviours.

- *Motioned to Approve by Anthony, Seconded by Lorrie. All in favour.*

Daycare Handbook

- Reviewed the revised Handbook as several changes were made, including:
 - The term *Policy* was taken out.
 - Differentiation made between Sporadic and Regular users.
 - If student is absent, parents should inform the Daycare, call by noon.
- *Motioned to Approve by Marc, Seconded by Robert. All in favour.*

Consultation Launch: Evaluation of Student Learning

- Consultation due in January, 2018 so it will be reviewed during the December meeting.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Internal Rules

GB adopted the Internal Rules for 2017-2018, allowing for changes to include the new role of the substitute members.

Questions from the Public (2)

Nil.

Varia

- Jennifer Taylor asked if there were any plans to have new grass in the soccer field or any other options for the school yard. Will explore options.

Adjournment: 8:08 PM

Next Meeting: December 5, 2017