



## DANTE SCHOOL

### AGENDA

#### Governing Board Meeting # 6

**DATE:** Wed April 28 2021

**TIME:** 6:30PM

**PLACE:** Zoom

**PRESENT:** Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, , Walter Cigana, Elaine Frenette, Cindy Knafo, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Pina Ippolito, Angie D’Aiuto

**REGRETS:** Chantal Dussault, Joseph Varga, Elijah Mackongo, Eugenio Branco, Angela Crispino

**PRINCIPAL:** Giuseppe Schembri

#### 1. Opening & Welcome

- Vice-Chair Cindy Knafo welcomes the Board and explains that Chair Alexandra Melnyk will be joining shortly
- Angela Vella volunteered to be minute-taker

#### 2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Point 7.1 added
- Motion to approve: Madame Elaine; Seconded Ms. Pina; Approved unanimously

#### 3. Approval of Minutes, March 23 Meeting

- With amendments: Motion to approve: Ms. D’Aiuto, Seconded Walter Cigana, Unanimously approved

## **4. Business Arising**

### 4.1 Lunch Supervision refund from Board

- Now in the positive; best to look at it at the beginning of September for an idea;
- 13,000\$ still be refunded

### 4.2 School Website

- Link sent prior to the meeting; the website is live
- Aim is to make it as clean as possible
- Andy Lee brought up the fact on the EMSB website and find schools in an area (ex. St. Leonard), Dante School brings up a blank page
  - Antonio Zaruso brought up that he found grammar and/or spelling errors and asks that it is corrected; Andy Lee highlights the number of students enrolled is wrong (and perhaps remove it altogether); Ms. D' Aiuto kindly offered to proof-read it.
  - Andy Lee asks that Mr. Schembri mention the website needs to be phone/tablet friendly

### 4.3 New logo

- The logos provided by the Media Office of the EMSB were oversimplified and not representative of our school's culture.
  - Alexandra Melnyk suggested MoxoMedia as a company that creates logos and invites others to bring forward names of other companies they may know
  - The discussion is on hold; the old logo is status quo and will be used for next year's print of uniforms

### 4.4 Renovations

- All renovations requested (washrooms, gym floors, white columns, etc) all postponed one more year

## **5. New Business**

### 5.1. Grade 6 Food and DJ Approval

- The Grad Committee is thinking of a special lunch
  - o Possibly penne tomato sauce and chicken cutlet with rice and potatoes offered by Restaurant Meridiana (11\$ plus tax for adult portions)
- Grad cupcakes and bottles of water will be offered (usually offered from Daycare)

- A tentative DJ (Costanzo Manna) has been booked, all dependent on Covid protocol
  - o The idea is that two groups (ex. 601/602, first, 603/604 next) would enjoy the music together but still maintain their bubbles by using two ends of the gym
  - o The DJ quote is 375\$ – paid from other school monies (same as the past)
- Fundraising money is used for personalized gifts, décor, etc
- 750\$ previously approved by the Governing Board will be used, but more monies will be needed and will need to be voted on by the Governing Board to cover all the costs (due to the unprecedented larger amount of Grade 6 students)
  - o This will happen via email approval when we have more details of actual costs
  - o Ms. Alexandra suggests that future amounts be approved per capita rather than a whole cost with an option to fundraise at the grade level
  - o A conversation arose about the use of FUND3 monies to be used for a specific grade vs the whole school only

#### 5.2. Dress Down Fundraiser Leukemia Lymphoma team Karina

- A fundraiser always done in the past for Team Anissa
- A parent asked that we hold a Dress Down Fundraiser for Leukemia Lymphoma Team Karina
- Motion for Approval: Ms. Josie, Seconded Ms. D’Aiuto, Approved unanimously
- Date in May to be decided up by Mr. Schembri upon discussion with Teachers

#### 5.3. Uniform Supplier Approval for 2021-2022 School Year

- Renewal is for one year
- All prices were provided to the Board in an email document prior to the meeting
- Price went up 1\$ per item
- Motion for approval: Mr. Antonio, Seconded Madame Elaine, Approved unanimously

## 6. Information and Reports

### 6.1. Principal

- Mr. Schembri has not had time to inquire regarding the mask-recycling companies provided by Ms. Angela Vella but will try to do so
- The Board is asked to vote on allowing a dress down day for the 4 groups (two Ks, Grade 3, Grade S3/4) that were not present on the original dress-down day (to be held on May 5<sup>th</sup>)
  - o Motion for Approval: Cindy Knafo, Seconded Madame Elaine, Approved unanimously

- Mr. Schembri informed the board of an event on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> in which the St. Leonard Elementary Schools (PDC, Honoré Mercier, and Dante) are throwing a ‘Thank You to Frontline Workers’ with attendance from various members of the EMSB; only Principals will be in attendance, plus EMSB guests and Frontline Workers – no children (except for the choir from Honoré Mercier) due to COVID spacing restrictions
- Mr. Schembri provided an update regarding enrolment and number of classrooms for next Fall
- The future of PELO: the question has arisen if we should maintain PELO integrated, removed or offered optionally (during lunch or after school). It was suggested to send a survey to all parents.
  - o Mr. Schembri read a resolution by the Staff Council that offered the following options:
    - Option 1: status quo 90min a week (Italian Grade 1 – 6)
    - Option 2 : 45mins / week (grade 1 – 6)
    - Option 3 : voluntary at lunchtime or after school
    - Option 4: complete elimination
  - o Madame Elaine asked about the impact on scheduling if it is removed from the schedule.
  - o Ms. Josie brought up a survey was sent in the past, and further highlights that it should be the 4 options only, **no** comments section
  - o The timing of the survey and the implementation of any changes needs to be rediscussed at Staff Council, considering the school was advertised at the last Open House with the PELO program
  - o Mr. Antonio suggested that, should Italian be removed, we should use that space to offer other courses such as computer literacy; Mr. Schembri clarified the nature and funding of PELO (Programme d'enseignement des langues d'origine).
  - o Mr. Walter suggests a streamlined questioning with two questions:
    - Keep the PELO program
    - Remove the PELO program (with an option to include lessons at lunch or after school should there be enough demand)

## 6.2. Teachers

- Ms. Josie requested that there be two more frozen yogurt days (May and June). She informed the Board it went really well in April. All protocols were followed and the children were happy. To make it different, sorbet could be offered to everyone (instead of those with lactose intolerances).
  - o Monies to be taken from Fund 3, last invoice was approximately 680\$
  - o **Motion of Approval: Antonio Zaruso; Seconded Ms. Josie, Approved Unanimously**

- Dates: May 21<sup>st</sup>, date TBA for June
- Ms. Josie asked that the Grade 6 group be allowed to wear their graduation hoodie any day of the week
  - Motion of approval: Andy Lee, Seconded Walter Cigana, Approved Unanimously

### 6.3. Daycare Technician

- N/A

### 6.4. PC Delegate

- Mr. Antonio informed the Board it is status quo

### 6.5. PPO Delegate

- N/A

## 7. Varia

### 7.1. Special Activity (Picnic Lunch)

- Madame Elaine informed the Board that there is still +8000\$ in the Fund3 Choix de President. She proposed a boite-à-lunch picnic.
  - The picnic would be individually packed at a cost 10\$ (tx incl.) per box, to be held on Wed. May 19 (and held outside in true picnic style, weather permitting and upon teacher's discretion)
  - Motion to approve: Cindy Knafo, Seconded by Antonio Zaruso, Approved unanimously
  - Ms. Alexandra on behalf of the Board thanks Madame Elaine for all her hard work and effort in getting our school these grants

- 8. Motion to adjourn: Andy Lee, approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 8:25pm

**Next Meeting May 25 2021**