



DANTE SCHOOL

Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, June 16th, 2020
TIME: 6:40 P.M.
LOCATION: Virtual meeting (Zoom)

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, Elaine Frenette, Eugenio Branco, Cindy Knafo, Joseph Varga, Edith Cecilia Varga, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Silvy Gomes-Pires, Alba Fiorino

REGRETS: Veronica Graniero, Elijah Mackongo Njambe,

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

The Chair, Alexandra Melnyk welcomed all the members of the Governing Board. Chantal Dussault volunteered to take the minutes for the meeting.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

Addition includes:

- 4.2 Uniform committee
- Varia: possibility of our bilingual school to become immersion.

Angela Vella moved to adopt the agenda with addition; Elaine Frenette seconded; agenda with new addition approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of June 3rd

Changes to minutes include:

- Emergency daycare 17 kids (ceci doit être corrigé mais je n'ai pas écrit le # du point du meeting d'avant dans mes notes ☐

Cindy Knafo moved to adopt minutes with changes; Edith Cecilia Varga seconded; minutes with change approved unanimously.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Lunch fees: we revisited what was voted in previous year. In order to not have a deficit, we decided to increase the fees from 1.30\$ to 1.65\$ next school year which make a total of 297\$/student. The increase is calculated with the number of students registered in the lunch program. More students = more lunch supervisors.

Josie Nardelli moved to approve the increase in the lunch fees; Eugenio Branco seconded; motion to increase lunch fees approved unanimously.

4.2 Uniform committee: we need a contract from the company. A committee will be formed to oversee what will be on the website for the uniform. Members of the committee: Josie Nardelli, Silvy Gomes-Pires, Alexandra Melnyk, Angela Vella, Antonio Zaruso, Mr. Schembri and Mr. Guerriera

No vote

5. New Business

5.1 Charges parents: the charges to parents for the school year 2020-2021 were presented.

Elaine Frenette moved to adopt the charges to parents; Edith Cecilia Varga seconded; charges to parents approved unanimously.

5.2 Hot Meals

The price for a hot meal increase from 5.50\$ to 6.50\$. Initial increase was supposed to be 0.25\$. A covid tax has been added to that. Discussion occurred about what we can do with the extra 0.75\$. Alexandra Melnyk will write to Johnny ... to see if we can reduce the cost.

Antonio Zaruso moved to approved supplier for hot lunch remains Le Doral, with the understand may be reduced. Josie Nardelli seconded; hot meals approved unanimously.

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

6.2. Teachers

Chantal Dussault talked about all the preparations for the graduation with grade 6 students held on June 22nd, 2020.

6.3. Daycare Technician

6.4. PC Delegate

6.5. PPO Delegate No Report.

7. **Varia**

7.1 we need to get in touch with Enfants et Cie about the activity “Scapbooking” in order to see if the parents will have a refund or a credit for next year activity.

7.2 Enrollment: what can we do to increase the numbers. Angela Vella suggested to become an immersion school. Elaine Frenette answered that she had taught 18 years at Nesbitt where K to grade 2 have everything in French and she said that there is no difference in grade 6 between students from immersion schools and those from bilingual schools like ours. Also, it’s a question of staffing.

8. **Next Meeting & Adjournment**

This was the last meeting for the school year 2019-2020

Alexandra Melnyk said farewell to one of our member, Eugenio Branco, and thanked him for his years of dedication as a parent.

Thank you Silvy for your hard work and dedication with GB and school.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 pm by Eugenio Branco

 . *Sept 29, 2020* 

Giuseppe Schembri,
Principal

Alexandra Melnyk,
Chairperson



DANTE SCHOOL

Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

DATE: September 29th, 2020
TIME: 7:05 P.M.
LOCATION: Dante gymnasium

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, Angela D'Aiuto, Angela Crispino, Cindy Knafo, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Andy Lee, Walter Cigana

REGRETS: Elaine Frenette, Elijah Mackongo Njambe, Joseph Varga

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

The principal, Giuseppe Schembri welcomed all the members of the 2020-2021 Governing Board.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

Addition includes:

- 4.2 School website
- Varia:**
- 7.3 Halloween
- 7.4 GB parents' emails
- 7.5 Use of playground in front of the school
- 7.6 Community rep

Josie Nardelli moved to adopt the agenda with addition; Angela Vella seconded; agenda with new addition approved unanimously.

3. Approval of minutes, June 13th, 2020

Changes to minutes include:

- Removal of covid tax in 5.2 to be address upon email received from Le Doral.

Cindy Knafo moved to adopt minutes with changes; Antonio Zaruso seconded; minutes with change approved unanimously.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Moxo is our school uniform supplier. There were some issues with x-small orders. Since it is almost the same measurements than small, the provider decided not to do x-small. As per that decision, everyone who had ordered x-small was accommodated with small instead. Some parents still wanted x-small. The company decided to give an extra pair x-small to all parents who had ordered that size.

Parents on Governing Board asked to clarify the Phys. Ed uniform. A motion was passed.

Antonio Zaruso motioned that the school uniform is mandatory with school crest. Students are allowed to wear their jogging pants navy or burgundy above their Phys. Ed uniform on Phys. Ed day. Seconded by Cindy Knafo. Approved unanimously.

4.2 **School website:** The website is an ongoing problem. Mr. Schembri is working on it. It's the school board that takes care of it.

5. New business

5.1 Election Governing Board Chair

Chantal Dussault nominated Alexandra Melnyk. Antonio Zaruso seconded. Approved unanimously.

A Co-Chair also have been voted. Cindy Knafo was elected.

Motioned by Antonio Zaruso and seconded by Chantal Dussault. Approved unanimously.

5.2 Election Governing Board Secretary

Members of the board will take turn for the post. Chantal Dussault volunteered to take the minutes for this meeting.

5.3 Approval of GB Meeting Dates

Next meeting October 27th, 2020 on Zoom. Mr. Cigana said that the link should be made public. Mr. Schembri will look into this. Other dates will be set next meeting.

6. Information and Reports

6.1 **Principal report:** Mr. Schembri announced that budget will be discussed next meeting. Picture day is October 2nd.

6.2 **Teachers report:** teachers on GB reported that the children are happy to be back at school with their friends despite of everything going on.

6.3 **Daycare:** Angela Crispino explained how daycare works this year under Covid-19. She said that students in the morning and afternoon daycare are allowed to bring their own books, coloring books and crayons, little games.

6.4 **PC Delegate:** Antonio Zaruso is the PC delegate this year. He told us about a special meeting on October 8th.

6.5 **PPO Delegate**

Alexandra Melnyk said that PPO was approved at the general assembly. They are waiting to see what and if they can do things this year.

She said that some parents (2-3) could prepare goodies bags a week in advance for Halloween. . Mr. Schembri will hold a staff council meeting Thursday and after that an email to approve candies budget should go out.

There was a discussion about two events that has been cancelled last year (1 pizza lunch and Bingo Night). Former Grade 6 students have already been reimbursed. Discussion about what to do with these events is tabled to next meeting.

9:08 A motion has been asked to extend the meeting. Motioned by Angela Vella, seconded by Josie Nardelli.

7. **Varia**

7.1 **Open House:** Mr. Schembri explained about the virtual tour (video) A link of the video will be posted on the EMSB website.

7.2 **Welcoming Day:** Teachers are looking into doing something to combine Halloween and Welcoming Day.

7.3 **Halloween:** Pumpkins will be distributed to be decorated most probably. Also candy bags will be given to students and all precautions will be taken in doing and distributing them to the students. Parents also said that a letter should be sent home where it would state to NOT send any candies/chocolates at school for the class that day for this year.

7.4 **GB members' emails to parents:** it was decided that the chair would be creating a Gmail account and this email will be posted on the website.

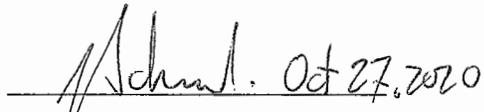
7.5 **Use of playground in front of the school:** The playground has been funded as followed: by the school – by the community and by the school board. During school hours, the playground can't be use by the community. They can use it after hour, we can't deny it. Elaine Frenette already suggested to make sign with the hours of the school: ex: 8:00 to 6:00 pm. Because the daycare uses it after school.

7.6 **Community rep:** Chantal Dussault suggested Alba Fiorino. All were in favor. The chair will extend the invitation to Mrs. Fiorino. Antonio Zaruso motioned Mrs. Fiorino as community rep, seconded by Cindy Knafo. Approved unanimously.

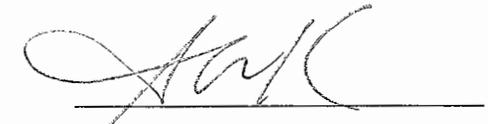
8. Next meeting and adjournment

Next meeting via zoom is Tuesday October 27th at 7PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35



Principal
Giuseppe Schmebri



Chair
Alexandra Melnyk



DANTE SCHOOL

Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

2

DATE: Tuesday, October 27, 2020
TIME: 7 P.M.
LOCATION: Via Zoom

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, Walter Cigana, Elaine Frenette, Cindy Knafo, Joseph Varga, Andy Lee (7:39pm), Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Pina Ippolito, Angela Crispino, Angie D'Aiuto

REGRETS: Elijah Mackongo

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

The Chair, Alexandra Melnyk welcomed all the members back.

Antonio Zaruso willingly accepted to take the minutes for the meeting. The meeting started at 7:02pm.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

No Additions were included.

Angela Vella moved to adopt the agenda; Josie Nardelli seconded; the agenda as well, and was approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2020.

Changes to minutes included:

Changes suggested by Alexandra Melnyk,~

approved with corrections.

Angie D'Aiuto moved to adopt minutes with changes; Angela Vella seconded; minutes with changes approved unanimously.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Bingo Night Cancellation

Bingo Night Cancellation refunds, all refunds were issued to the parents.

Expenses arising from the Bingo Night activity amounted to \$648.78, this amount is due to the purchase of two Coat Racks, ecological friendly cutlery, plates, soft drinks as well as balloons.

4.1 Bingo Night Cancellation (cont'd)

The soft drinks in question were donated to needy families, and the Balloons were used for the Grade 6 graduation ceremony.

Approval was required to cover these costs from our Fund 3.

A discussion was initiated by Walter Cigana as to why funds needed to be approved after the fact of an activity and not prior to the activity.

Alexandra Melnyk, provided explanation as to why we were seeking funds after the fact.

Walter Cigana was satisfied with the course of action which lead to this cost being created.

The cancelled Bingo Night Event also leaves us with a surplus of over 60 gifts, which will be distributed during the course of the year and at Christmas time.

Chantal Dussault moved to approve the funds, Antonio Zaruso seconded, approved unanimously.

4.2 Community Representative

Alexandra Melnyk approached Alba Fiorino for the position of community representative, the later declined.

Elaine Frenette suggested we approach Eugenio Branco a former G.B. parent.

Elaine Frenette moved to approve, Chantal Dussault seconded, approved unanimously.

Alexandra Melnyk also noted that Angela Crispino's name is absent from the official Governing Body list, it was unanimously approved to make the correction.

5. New Business

5.1. Annual Budget 2020-2021

Mr. Giuseppe Schembri mentioned that we have a total of approximately \$42,693.00 in fund 3 and took the time to explain the two fold budget.

The budget reported all sums of money available in each fund and how to purpose those sums of money. Fund money raised was approximately \$29,740.00 including rollover money.

We have a \$609.00 deficit to be verified and explained, there is \$135.00 in G.B. money (2019-2020) being rolled over from an annual amount of \$250.00

Mr. Schembri mentioned that the total amount of money in fund 3 is continuously being balanced due to the ongoing school related costs. At this point there was no mention that there is a likely need and consideration to raise lunch fees.(Supervisory Costs, Lunch Monitors).

Elaine Frenette, took on the challenge explaining her role as the Breakfast Club C.E.O.

Miss Frenette made clear that all money collected from the voluntary Breakfast Club program belongs strictly to Dante School and not the EMSB.

The budget for year 2019-2020 was approximately \$7,700.00. This money was repurposed due to the Covid-19 closure to in part fund Welcome Day, and all it's associated activities such as waffles, Bubble show, related science activities, pumpkins, etc.

Miss Frenette was adamant that these funds be spent in benefitting the entire Dante School Community this year.

5.1 Annual Budget 2020-2021

The funds collected for the voluntary ongoing Breakfast Club Program 2020-2021 school total approximately \$8,000.00 this year and will be kept in reserve, however, Miss Frenette reiterates, that this money should be made available to the Dante School community for all to benefit if needed.

Chantal Dussault echoed Miss Frenette's position, as well as Antonio Zaruso.

A motion to approve an amount of \$3000.00 for all of the Welcome Day activities to be paid by the 2019-2020 Breakfast Club Fund. Josie Nardelli moved it, Chantal Dussault seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

5.2. Halloween email funds approval October 15

An email was forwarded to all GB members seeking approval for initial Halloween funds there was a change in costs, the revised amount is \$438.00. This money was spent in the purchase of Halloween Candy to fill loot bags of candy for the Dante School Community.

Josie Nardelli moved to approve, Antonio Zaruso seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

5.3. Approval of GB Meeting Dates 202-2021

The unanimously approved dates are as follows;

December 1, 2020

January 19, 2021

February 16, 2021

March 23, 2021

April 27, 2021

May 25, 2021

June 15, 2021

All meetings will be held at 7pm, via Zoom.

5.4. Internal Rules of Management 2020-2021

The rules were put forward by Alexandra Melnyk, Walter Cigana touched on the point that Mr.Schembri should be able to keep the Dante website up to date, and also include all pertinent, present and upcoming information.

Chantal Dussault moves to adopt, Elaine Frenette seconds, it is unanimously approved.

5.5. Approval of the GB's annual operating budget

The annual operating budget for the 2020-2021 GB is \$250.00.

Josie Nardelli moved to approve, Angie D'Aiuto seconds it is unanimously approved.

The only question left unresolved is the rollover GB annual allocation from the 2019-2020 GB budget which shows a rollover balance of \$135.00. Mr Schembri, and Pina Ippolitoto will try to resolve this surplus amount.

Joseph Varga excuses himself from the meeting at 8:13pm.

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

Mr. Giuseppe Schembri provides a summary of our Welcome Day activities and describes it as a success, whereby the Waffles, The Bubble show and all other associated activities were a huge hit with the children.

The Open house virtual day was met with a tepid and lukewarm reception as many of our own GB members noted it was a very mediocre attempt.

The GB was unanimous in expressing how our next Open House day set for Jan 28 should definitely have a more professional look. It was even suggested we unlock funds to hire a private media firm to help promote our school, and also include teacher, student, and parent commentary. As well as have it narrated to explain what the Dante School community is all about.

There was a Pizza Money Discussion and how some of the funds should be used. Antonio's internet connection failed for this discussion therefore, I will mention a discussion was had, and how to go about proceeding in the future for Pizza Day Activities.

6.2. Teachers

Miss Elaine Frenette explains at how pleasantly surprised and pleased she is with how the Teachers and Staff, have banded together within the school to all do their part to keep our kids happy, learning, and healthy given all of these covid-19 restrictions and reality.

Miss Alexandra Melnyk also took to expressing her sentiment, and complete admiration for all the Dante teachers and staff as well. A BIG THANK YOU, A GROS MERCI to Dante School Staff at all working levels.

6.3. Daycare Technician

Angela Crispino – All is going as well as hoped, and nothing outstanding to report. Chantal Dussault made an analogy, that she felt safer in her classroom, than shopping at her local I.G.A.

6.4. PC Delegate

Antonio Zaruso attended a Parents Committee zoom meeting on October 20, 2020. It was to discuss By laws # 3, 8, and 11. The quick summary of all of these new by laws is to install some form of ethical behaviour, training for commissioners, accountability, and proper governance. Miss Jennings and her mandate come to an end this November 6, 2020. Another meeting also took place October 22, 2020, whereby executive nominations were sought, I failed to get elected on the executive, I do however, continue to have a voice on the parents committee and will continue to keep them accountable and ensure the practice good governance.

6.5. PPO Delegate

October 29, 2020 Halloween treats will be distributed to the children.

Christmas treats and activities will also be distributed and discussed as we get closer to that time. A letter will also go out to our Dante community to inform them about PPO.

7. Varia

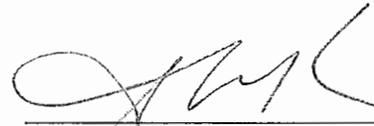
8. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next GB meeting will take place on December 1, 2020. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Angie D'Aiuto , seconded by Andy Lee and unanimously approved by all.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:46 pm.



Mr. Giuseppe Schembri,
Principal



Alexandra Melnyk,
Chairperson



DANTE SCHOOL

Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

3

DATE: Tuesday, December 1st, 2020
TIME: 7 P.M.
LOCATION: Via Zoom

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, Walter Cigana, Elaine Frenette, Cindy Knafo, Joseph Varga, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Pina Ippolito, Angela Crispino, Elijah Mackongo (7:07)

REGRETS: Angie D'Aiuto

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

The Chair, Alexandra Melnyk welcomed all the members back.
Walter Cigana will take the minutes for the meeting. The meeting started at 7:03pm.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Agenda Title to amend to state "Meeting #3"
- Add point 7.4 – Anissa's tree (Chantal Dussault)
- Add point 7.5 – Shelter outside daycare door
- Add point 4.3 – Community representative (Eugenio Branco)

Pina Ippolito moved to adopt the agenda; Josie Nardelli seconded; the amended agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2020.

Changes to minutes included:

- Point #3 – Replace the sentence "Changes suggested by ..." with "Approval of minutes with corrections"

Chantal Dussault moved to adopt minutes with changes; Angela Vella seconded; minutes with changes approved unanimously.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Open House January 2021

A new video is due to be shot to include kids in the video to show school life (e.g. show kids in the school) Alexandra Melnyk asks whether someone from the school will be speaking in the video. Giuseppe Schembri confirms that he will be speaking and possibly some members of the staff will also participate. Alexandra Melnyk suggests Antonio Zaruso could also contribute. There are no funds needed for this since this will be done by a videographer from the EMSB. Potentially, the date for the open house will be January 28th.

4.2 Website updates

Giuseppe Schembri confirms that there have been some updates done. The Governing Board minutes from the last few meetings are still missing. Alexandra Melnyk will be providing them shortly. The list of governing board members is to be reviewed.

4.3 Community representative

The Dante Governing Board welcomes back Eugenio Branco as a community representative.

5. New Business

5.1 Approval of items via email on November 24

The following items need to be formally approved after email approval was obtained

- December 4 – Dress down to collect funds for St-Brendan’s Church. They will be providing grocery cards to needy families.
- December 14th – Pancake breakfast from LeDoral. Funded by the Breakfast Club.
- December 15th – Lasagna lunch from Meridiana. Funding coming from special fund.
- December 16th – Dress down day. No special reason.

Andy Lee had a question about possible options/alternatives for pancakes or lasagna. Giuseppe Schembri confirms that there are some possibilities to substitute pancakes with other food already at the school (breakfast club) as for the lasagna, there will be 30 vegetarian lasagna portions provided. If this is not possible, Elaine Frenette suggests securing two volunteer parents to come in and make egg salad sandwiches. Angela Vella suggests wording the letter to parents as “if there are any dietary restrictions or other please provide a lunch”.

Josie Nardelli moved to approve the above; Antonio Zaruso seconded; the motion is approved unanimously.

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

Mr. Giuseppe Schembri informs the Board that the Sexuality Education Plan has to be refreshed yearly and the teachers have started to work on it. Once ready, it will need to be approved by the Governing Board. This is forthcoming

Also, December 17th-18th the school will be closed, and classes will be virtual, but the daycare might be open as an emergency daycare. The decision will come shortly from the government. Angela Vella asks how parents in the Dante community can sign-up if needed. Angela Crispino answers that this is done by signing up online with the government and the list of eligible parents is then communicated to the school.

Pizza day money from last year is still with the school and tentatively January 27th would be the target date for this pizza lunch to take place. A few helpers would be needed to help to distribute the pizza. Alexandra Melnyk will reach out to La Diperie for the pizza lunch and to Le Doral to coordinate that hot lunches will be skipped on that day.

Angela Vella asks whether it is possible to provide a water bottle in case a child forgets their water bottle. Giuseppe Schembri confirms that the school refills their water bottle or provide a disposable water bottle as needed.

The school has -14 000\$ for lunch supervision. The school board is aware. Last year, we were at -13 550\$ since the lunch ladies were still be paid from March to June. This will be covered by the school board once the funds are recovered from the government. This year we are at -907\$ approximately mostly due to the additional personnel needed for the pods/bubbles. Angela Crispino mentions that we should break even if the school stays open. There are also parents that do not/cannot pay and this +/- 1000\$ is already factored in the calculations. Andy Lee asks whether COVID has affected delinquency rates due to some people not working. Angela Crispino confirms that it is a bit higher this year. The situation will be revisited at the end of April.

6.2. Teachers

Elaine Frenette mentions that the school has been selected to receive an 8000\$ grant from "La Fondation du Président". This money is be used towards food for the whole school with a minimum of three food groups. This is separate from the Breakfast Club. Elaine Frenette would like to see the children take full advantage of this for example by bringing a sugar shack to the school or bring a food truck. She would like to see all the Dante children benefit from this. This money is in Fund 3 and expenses will need to be approved by the governing board. Andy Lee enquires whether this will be publicized at the EMSB level. Elaine Frenette would like the school to be put forward and not herself personally. Cindy Knafo proposes that the events this money will be used towards be included in the EMSB Focus newsletter as they happen. Elaine Frenette re-iterates that the money can only be used towards food and there is a requirement to provide a summary after the event(s).

Elaine Frenette also mentions that the parent-teacher Zoom meetings went very well. Chantal Dussault concurs and adds that there was less stress than anticipated. Cindy Knafo also mentions that this was a positive experience for the parents. Giuseppe Schembri mentions that in the future a hybrid solution may be put in place in the future.

Josie Nardelli mentions that the virtual book fair is still taking place and we should have the final results in the coming week. Alexandra Melnyk is also very satisfied with the service provided.

6.3. Daycare Technician

Angela Crispino mentions that the emergency daycare setup that is upcoming is the main concern at this time, as mentioned earlier.

6.4. PC Delegate

The delegate, Antonio Zaruso, has nothing to report since the last meeting.

A Parents Committee zoom meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2020. Probably the topics will be centered around air purifiers and ventilation. If anything of interest arises in the meeting he will communicate back to the governing board and to the school.

6.5. PPO Delegate

Alexandra Melnyk mentions that the school has a credit with Moxo Media (uniform company) which represents 5% of the uniform sales. The amount at this time is approximately 660\$ and they have enquired what the school wants to do with this amount.

Josie Nardelli asks if the amount can be spent to purchase masks with lanyards for the children with the Dante crest.

Chantal Dussault asks Giuseppe Schembri to communicate to the parents that it would be best to provide more than one mask for the day since the masks may get wet after recess and they need to be changed.

Alexandra Melnyk will approach Moxo Media to get the masks for 340 students and communicate back to the Governing Board.

Andy Lee asks if there is in fact a PPO this year. Giuseppe Schembri answers that there is very little need at this time, so the school is reaching out to a few people when needed. Alexandra Melnyk mentions that there are no school activities at this time and since there is no parent allowed in the school there is no official PPO meeting nor PPO setup. Andy Lee asks if a communication can be sent out to this effect. Giuseppe Schembri will look into this communication to the parents.

7. Varia

7.1 Communication to parents

Angela Vella mentions that she received a communication from a teacher which was unclear and was missing context which caused anxiety on her part. It seemed to imply that classes would be going virtual. She would like to see a system in place to ensure communications are clearer towards parents.

Elaine Frenette mentions that this is an issue, but it should be brought to the teacher's and the principal's attention for clarification and is not an issue that falls within the scope of the

governing board's responsibilities. Giuseppe Schembri mentions that he does send regular messages towards the parents and Alexandra Melnyk agrees that the information is being sent in a timely manner.

Elaine Frenette wants to tip her hat to the Dante staff and administration. There are no COVID cases in the school, the morale is high within the school and everyone is working towards keeping things as stress-free as possible for everyone.

7.2 School Ventilation System / Air Purifier

Mr Schembri reads from the *EMSB Focus newsletter* about ventilation.

Excerpt from: <http://www.emsbfocus.com/2020/11/>

STATEMENT ON VENTILATION: The EMSB wishes to provide an update on the topic of ventilation of school and centre buildings in the system. "We are waiting for an announcement from the Ministry of Education and the recommendations from Santé Publique regarding the purchase and installation of air purifiers in our school and centre buildings," stated EMSB Chair Joe Ortona. "Until then we will continue to use our mechanical or natural ventilation systems, which continue to be the most effective procedure. We have always had to air out our classrooms by opening windows and that will not change, even with air purifiers.

Mr. Ortona emphasized that the EMSB is acting prudently and expecting an announcement shortly. "We have already started an assessment on the needs of our network for buildings without mechanical ventilation system," he said. "We should get the results of this analysis shortly, at which time we will inform our stakeholders of the Board's position."

The current recommendation is not to purchase air purifiers and await a central decision.

Alexandra Melnyk mentions that the ventilation system at Dante is only a few years old so although mechanical it is not in a state of disrepair.

The system has also been checked a few weeks ago by contractors to ensure it is working properly. Antonio Zaruso is concerned that there is no data as to the air quality in the school and he would like to see more pro-active actions. He will be bringing this to the next Parents Committee meeting.

Angela Crispino wants to also thank the daycare parents that are behaving in an exemplary manner and not walking in the school/daycare and remaining outside.

7.3 Updated school calendar, extra ped. Days

Giuseppe Schembri mentions that two extra pedagogical days were added by the schoolboard. The days added: January 22nd and February 12th.

A third day is to be added by the school and is can be in February or March. The suggested date is March 26th and this needs to be approved by the governing board.

Josie Nardelli moves to approve the addition of March 26th as a pedagogical day; Angela Crispino seconded; the motion is approved unanimously.

Angelo V. asks if those two days (Dec. 17th-18th) be swapped to avoid teachers teaching on those days. Giuseppe Schembri mentions that this was brought up and not approved. The guidance is that the teachers should make contact on those days and re-assure them about what is going on.

7.4 Anissa's tree

Anissa was a teacher at Dante who passed away from leukemia. The school had planted a tree with a plaque in her name. Unfortunately, the tree, located in the park in the front of the school, has died. Chantal Dussault has met with her husband (Mike) since Anissa's youngest daughter is in her class this year. He expressed the will to have the tree replaced and is willing to pay for it. Elaine Frenette suggests the plaque is moved since the tree is in a location where kids play soccer and it receives lots of abuse from the kids who play around it. It could also be moved next to a mature tree. Cindy Knafo asks whether this is something that can come from Fund 3. Giuseppe Schembri and Alexandra Melnyk confirm that this could be a possibility.

The school will be in contact with Mike to evaluate options (new tree, plaque move, location) and receive his opinion. Antonio Zaruso suggests to not have a motion at this time before we ascertain the wishes of Anissa's husband.

7.5 Daycare Shelter

Andy Lee wants the school to explore the possibility to have a shelter for the parents outside the daycare door. Angela Crispino mentions that there was a shelter at one time outside another door and the schoolboard had the school remove it, citing safety concerns. Giuseppe Schembri mentions he will ask to see if there are options.

Angela Crispino also mentions that the daycare is on the list to be added to the HopHop system which would provide a way for the daycare to be advised of a parent's arrival and minimize wait times.

Antonio Zaruso proposes to explore the addition of a pergola. Eugenio Branco also mentions that such a structure will not be approved by the St-Leonard borough due to current by-laws.

Giuseppe Schembri proposes to contact the school board and see what is possible.

7.5 Varia

- Cindy Knafo highlights that some parents are still using the staff parking lot and Angela Crispino confirms that staff that comes in around 3pm cannot find parking with parents blocking spaces.
- Andy Lee wants confirmation that with COVID there will be no ski trip for the 6th graders. Chantal Dussault confirms this is the case today. Doing something else (e.g. tubing) would mean much higher costs due to the need to have one school bus per class. This will be looked at in early 2021 to provide some activity for the 6th graders.

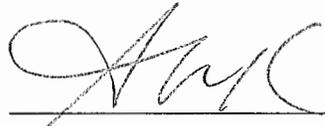
8. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next GB meeting will take place on January 19th, 2021. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Elijah Mackongo, seconded by Antonio Zaruso and unanimously approved by all.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 pm.



Mr. Giuseppe Schembri,
Principal



Alexandra Melnyk,
Chairperson



DANTE SCHOOL

Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, January 19, 2021
TIME: 7 P.M.
LOCATION: Via Zoom

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, Walter Cigana, Elaine Frenette, Cindy Knafo, Joseph Varga, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Pina Ippolito, Angela Crispino,

REGRETS: Elijah Mackongo Njambe

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

Welcome to Mr. Pietrangelo (school commissioner). All governing board members introduced themselves. Mr. Pietrangelo informed us that he will look into the air purifiers (model and other information) and he will get back to our governing board.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Andela D'Auito moved to adopt the agenda; Joseph Varga seconded. All in favor.

3. Approval of Minutes of December 1, 2020.

No changes to the agenda

Elaine Frenette moved to adopt minutes; Angela Vella seconded; minutes with changes approved unanimously.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Open House January 2021

Mr. Schembri was hoping to have an in school open house but due to the current situation with Covid, we can not. Therefore, a new video has been made. Mr. Schembri has asked if any parents would like to add a message to the video. Our governing board chair, Alexandra Melynk has agreed.

4.2 Lunch Supervision Refund from Board

Mr. Schembri informed the Governing Board that he is waiting for these funds to be given to the schools.

5. New Business

5.1 Moxo Media masks/mask holder \$164 plus tax: Fund 3: email approval December 4, 2020

The funds were approved by all. Chantal Dussault approved the motion; Seconded by Cindy Knafo

Mr. Pietrangelo mentioned that there will be more news about masks from the parents committee.

5.2 Cancelled Bingo Night Gifts Raffle to children: Email approval December 8, 2020

All prizes were raffled to the children.

Approved by Elaine Frenette: Seconded by Pina Ippolito: Approved unanimously

5.3 2020-2021 Sexuality Education Plan; Email approval Decemeber 17, 2020

Appoved by Angela Vella; Seconded by Antonio Zaruso: Approved unanimously

5.4 Selection Criteria for Principal 2020-2021

Will be moved to the end of the meeting.

5.5 Budget Building Process 2021-2022

Our GB Chair went over the items that we had identified last year.

A discussion occurred prioritizing our needs.

Increase of Special Ed. Technician

Increase Resource Teacher Allocation

Install a new fence around the perimeter of school yard

Painting of walls in the entire school

Adding Aluminium to the exterior white cement border around the school

Madame Elaine will also consult staff and will send these ideas to Alexandra

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

Mr. Schembri infomed the Governing Board that the pizza lunch scheduled for Jan. 27 was postponed due to the current covid situation. A memo will go out to inform parents of this change.

Registration will take place the first week of February. Sibling registration will take place the week of January 25, a letter will be sent to parents.

Educational Project has been completed, approved and signed.

Annual Report needs to be reviewed by G. B and signed by G.B. and Mr. Schembri

Covid Outbreak December 17: Grade 2 classes were affected and some kindergarten students.

Fortunately, we had the Christmas break, therefore no classes were closed.

At this times, we have three cases but none of the students had returned to school following the January reopening of school.

Funds from General Vanier have still not been distributed to the receiving school (Dante 70 students/Pierre de Coubertin 30 students).

Mr. Lee asked about a possible awning or covering near daycare door, Mr Schembri will get back to the board with costs.

6.2. Teachers

Madame Ealine informed us that Dante won \$2000.00 Presidents Choice Award. A committee will be established to decide how to go about spending this money for the students. Storytelling: Mr. Droin will be invited to present to the students virtually. Each class will do the storytelling in their own classes. We will not participate in any regional this year due to the current covid situation.

Gr 5 and 6 will take part in a hooked on school activity on Feb. 17

A question concerning how many hours of online school were suppose to be done. Mr Schembri answered roughly 2 hours a day.

6.3. Daycare Technician

Hop Hop System: Not yet available

6.4. PC Delegate

Dec 3, 2020: Air Purifier Discussion

Jan. 14, 2021: Building Budget Discussion

Virtual Enrollment for West End due to the long line ups for registration. East Hill in the East End will also use virtual enrollment this year.

Answers concerning air purifiers was not adequate, therefore, our delegate wants more information.

6.5. PPO Delegate

Nothing to report

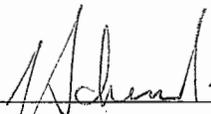
7. Varia

No points added to varia

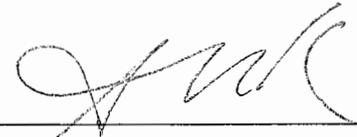
8. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next GB meeting will take place on February 16, 2021. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Angela, seconded by Antonio Zaruso and unanimously approved by all.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:12 pm.

 March 23, 2021

Mr. Giuseppe Schembri,
Principal



Alexandra Melnyk,
Chairperson



DANTE SCHOOL

MINUTES

Governing Board Meeting # 5

DATE: Tuesday, March 23, 2021
TIME: 6:30PM
PLACE: Via Zoom

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, Walter Cigana, Elaine Frenette, Cindy Knafo, Joseph Varga, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Pina Ippolito, Elijah Mackongo

REGRETS: Angela Crispino, Angie D'Aiuto

GUEST: Caleigh Saucier, *Mario Pietrangelo, COMMISSIONER*

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

- The Chair, Alexandra Melnyk, welcomed all the members back.
- Andy Lee will take the minutes for the meeting.
- The meeting started at 6:35PM.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Add point 5.4 Dress Down Day for Grad.
- Add point 5.5 Grad T-Shirt/Hoodies
- Add point 7.2 East End Marketing

Chantal Dussault moved to adopt the agenda; Josie Nardelli seconded; the amended agenda was approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes, January 19 Meeting

- No changes to the agenda

Elaine Frenette moved to adopt the minutes; Cindy Knafo seconded; the minutes was approved unanimously.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Awning Day Care Door

- Principal Schembri emailed the Governing Board members the quote/info.
- 32' (\$1960) or 50' (\$2345)

- There will be no post and it will not be retractable.
- Vote for approval for \$3000 for awning.
- Motion was denied.

4.2 Lunch Supervision refund from Board

- \$18,000 should be paid by school board.
- Where is the extra \$5000 from? Principal Schembri will check for next meeting.

4.3 School Website

- The school board is revamping the website.
- Principal Schembri will choose a style.
- Logo/Crest – Keep the old one or make a new one?
- Principal Schembri will have 2 or 3 options for the Governing Board to decide on.
- Cindy Knafo motioned for a refresh of the logo/crest; Antonio Zaruso seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

5. New Business

5.1. Uniform Supplier renewal

- Moxo is our current uniform supplier.
- All issues with the supplier have been fixed.
- They are local and not moving.
- There will be a \$1 increase.
- 5% given back to the school.
- They are cheaper than Triangulum.
- The quality is good.
- They are accommodating.
- Will it be a 1 year or 2 years contract?
- There will be no discount.
- Possible to lock in the price? (Maybe a small increase of \$0.75)
- Tabled for next meeting.

5.2. Email Feb. 17 Approval Healthy Breakfast March 23, \$2,000 Fund 3

- Chantal Dussault moved to approve; Cindy Knafo seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

5.3. Email Approval Budget February 15 , Minister of Education Funds

- \$17,439 deposited.
- Pina Ippolito moved to approve; Josie Nardelli seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

5.4. Dress Down Day for Grad.

- Date will be emailed. Either April 16 or 23.
- \$750 from Fund 3 plus the money from the dress down.
- Josie Nardelli approve the motion; Angela Vella seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

5.5. Grad T-Shirt/Hoodies

- Info was sent too early.
- All students' and teachers' signatures are on the back.
- Angela Vella approved the motion; Josie Nardelli seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

- Fund 3 - \$44,000
- COVID
 - Small outbreak.
 - Principal Schembri will continue with the communications.
 - There are rumors regarding Dante.
 - We have faith in our administrators.
- Smearing has been taken care of.
- It was half-truths.

6.2. Teachers

- Josie Nardelli
 - Book Fair - $\$340 + \$33 = \$373$ in credits
- Chantal Dussault
 - Yearbook is coming soon.
 - Grad pictures on April 6.
 - Graduation will be the same as last year.
 - Held outside
 - Receive diploma and gift
 - There will be no dance.
 - Will be held on June 22 or 23.
 - There will be a Facebook Live of graduation.
- Elaine Frenette
 - She would like to thank Principal Schembri and Pina Ippolito.

6.3. Daycare Technician

- Not present.

6.4. PC Delegate

- EMSB PC
 - All Grade 6 classes will receive 2 books
- EPCA
 - Better Learning
 - Virtual Parent Conference – April 18

6.5. PPO Delegate

- Nothing to report.

7. Varia

7.1. Fundraisers

- Options from Moxo and Big Box.
- Do we need fundraisers?
- Pizza Day still to be determined.
- Ice Cream
 - April 23 – 380 ice cream and 20 sorbets
 - Cost - \$1.60 each + \$10 delivery + tax
 - Staff Council approved.
 - Josie Nardelli approve the motion; Antonio Zaruso seconded; the motion was approved unanimously.

7.2. East End Marketing

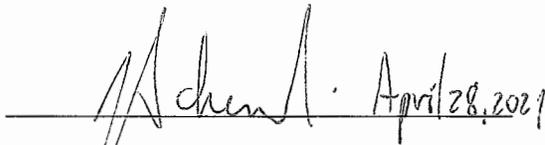
- East end schools have low enrollment.
- Need ways to market schools.
- Sub-committee of Joseph Varga, Cindy Knafo and Alexandra Melnyk.
- Includes all EMSB schools east of St. Michel.
- Alexandra Melnyk states that there are no ads from EMSB.
- What are the demographics?
- What about the grandfather clause?

7.3. Masks

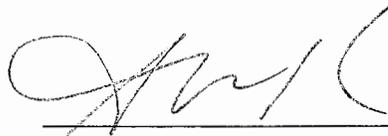
- There are many discarded masks outside on the floor.
- There is a company to collect the masks.

8. Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next GB meeting will take place on April 26, 2021. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by ???; ??? seconded; approved unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 8:33PM.



Mr. Giuseppe Schembri,
Principal



Alexandra Melnyk,
Chairperson



DANTE SCHOOL

Governing Board Meeting # 6 MINUTES

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 5th)
 - o Motion for Approval: Cindy Knafo, Seconded Madame Elaine, Approved unanimously

- Mr. Schembri informed the board of an event on Tuesday, May 4th 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 21st, 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

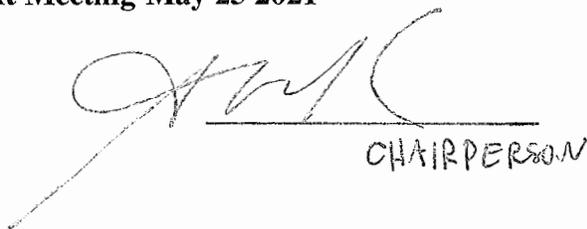
7. Varia

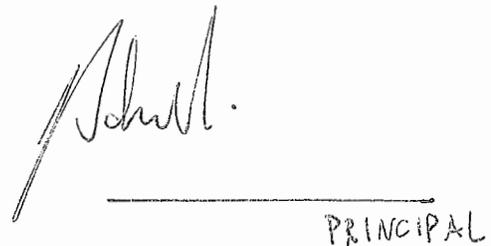
7.1. Special Activity (Picnic Lunch)

- Madame Elaine informed the Board that there is still +8000\$ in the Fund3 Choix de President. She proposed a boîte-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


CHAIRPERSON


PRINCIPAL



DANTE SCHOOL

AGENDA

Governing Board Meeting # 8

DATE: Tuesday, June 15th

TIME: 6:44PM

PLACE: Zoom

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Josie Nardelli, Chantal Dussault, , Cindy Knafo, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Angela Vella, Pina Ippolito, Joseph Varga, Eugenio Branco

REGRETS: Elaine Frenette, Angie D'Aiuto, Walter Cigana, Elijah Mackongo, Angela Crispino

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

- Alexandra Melnyk says the greetings
- Pina Ippolito volunteered to be minute-taker

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve: Josie Nardelli; Seconded Chantal Dussault; Approved unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes, May 25th

- With amendments: Motion to approve: Chantal Dussault, Seconded Cindy Knafo, Unanimously approved

4. Business Arising

4.1 Lunch Supervision refund from Board

- Will be discussed in September

5. New Business

5.1. Lunch Supervision Fees 2021-2022

- Lunch fees increased from ~~1.50\$~~ to 1.65\$ per day
- Form will be sent to parents (non daycare users)
- Deficit (Status Quo)
- Motion for Approval: Angela Vella, Seconded Cindy Knafo, Approved unanimously

5.2. Welcome Back Day September 2021

- Welcome Committee would like to order t-shirts with “Be a Kind Human” printed on them in English and French. Students can colour/draw on the t-shirts on welcoming day September 10th, 2021. T-shirts may be worn once a month. Moxo was contacted for a price, 6.95 +tx per t-shirt. We would need 300-400 T-shirts. Committee is asking for 2900\$ from fund 3.
- A parent asked that we hold a Dress Down Fundraiser for Leukemia Lymphoma Team Karina
- Motion for Approval: Antonio Zaruso, Seconded Andy Lee, Approved unanimously

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

- Mr. Schembri advised that the School Budget must be approved for this week.
- Student Fees by level are not ready, they will be sent by email for approval. Budgets and Supply lists will be sent by two separate emails for approvals.
- Sports Day cancelled due to 90% rain moved to Thursday, ice cream will be distributed Friday.
- Pizza Fundraiser with individual slice boxes at 1.50\$ each. 1435.78\$
- Graduation Grade 6 government directives
- Consulted with schools around our boundaries. School board advised Graduation to be held outside with parents. Tented rented from Mira Amusement approx. 2600.00\$ for 4 tents.
- Lambert Closse must be advised school yard will be used for morning of Graduation.
- School Practicum \$ rolls over, we would need 1600.00\$ from G.B. fund 3.
- Motion for Approval: Andy Lee, Seconded Cindy Knafo, Approved unanimously

6.2. Teachers

Grad Letter will be sent out.

6.3. PC Delegate

- Mr. Antonio spoke about emails regarding anti-racism, books for different levels, there is a kit that we can buy.
- Regarding Low enrollment, where are students going after elementary, maybe High School students can come visit the Grade 6 classes.

6.4. PPO Delegate

- N/A

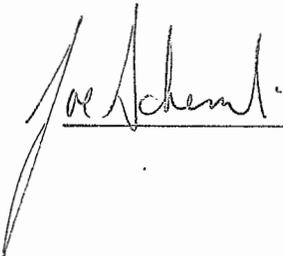
7. **Varia**

7.1. Up for approval next year: Joseph Varga, Angela Vella, Antonio Zaruso.

8. Motion to adjourn: Angela Vella, Seconded by Andy Lee, approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 8:02pm



CHAIR

 Sept 30, 2021

PRINCIPAL



DANTE SCHOOL

AGENDA

Governing Board Meeting # 1

DATE: Thursday, Sept. 30th 2021

TIME: 7:02PM

PLACE: Dante school gymnasium

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, , Chantal Dussault, , Cindy Knafo, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Pina Ippolito, Elaine Frenette, Maria Sntino, Marianne Nudo, Kyle Stanley, Fiorenzo Vetrone, Sue Iasenzanero

REGRETS: Josie Nardelli, Walter Cigana,

PRINCIPAL:Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

- Giuseppe Schembri says the greetings

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve: Cindy Knafo; Seconded Pina Ippolito; Approved unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes, June 15th

- With amendments: Motion to approve: Antonio Zaruso; Seconded Cindy Knafo, Approved unanimously

4. Business Arising

5. New Business

5.1. Election Governing Board Chair

- Alexandra Melnyk was nominated.
- Motion to approve Fiorenzo Vetrone; Seconded Pina Ippolito; Approved unanimously

5.2. Election Governing Board Secretary

- Alternate secretary. Chantal Dussault volunteer for the first meeting.

5.3 Approval of GB Meeting Dates

- Virtual meeting (form) 6:30 – 8:30 approx.
- Next meetings: Oct 19th, Nov. 18th, Dec 16th Motion to approve Fiorenzo Vetrone; Seconded Pina Ippolito; Approved unanimously

5.4 Election Governing Board Co-Chair

- Cindy Knafo volunteer to do it. Motion to approve Fiorenzo Vetrone; Seconded Pina Ippolito; Approved unanimously

5.5 Discussion to include Community Rep on GB

- At this point, GB does not feel that a community rep is a necessity, Motion to approve Chantal Dussault; Seconded Cindy Knafo; Approved unanimously

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

- Dante School did a little ceremony on the intercom on “Every child matter” on Sept. 30th. Children were wearing an orange t-shirt as a pin on them.
- Mr. Schembri informed us that the Fire Drills (4) and Lockdown (1) practices are back this year. Fire drills are to be practice during school day, lunch and daycare time.
- PPO is back this year. An email will be sent to parents to sign-up.

- Covid protocol change constantly. An update stated that pre-k and k children must now wear their mask in the bus.
- First Open House is Oct. 21st. Discussion about last January video to be revamped occurred. Second Open House is in January,
- Chess program in school will start Thursday Oct. 7th during class time for grade 1 to 6. It will be 8hrs/per group, 3 groups a day. When first session is over, 3 new groups will have their turn and so on. It could be a possibility to have chess as an extracurricular activity too (lunch time and/or after school) depending on enrollment.
- Staffing: still looking for a Music teacher and 40% support in French for pre-k. As of Monday, school population will be 288.
- There are two lights to replace outside, School Board is aware.
- Covid: Rapid testing will occur. Consent forms have been sent home.
- Neighbors have been complaining with pictures as proof about all the masks on the ground. Our janitor is already going outside to pick them up.

6.2. Teachers

- Ski Trip has been approved by Staff Council but it's on hold for now. SP doesn't approve of overnight trip so far. Plan B will be discussed among grade 6 teachers if it's canceled.

6.3. Daycare Technician

- We had two ped days in September. First one was in school with indoor activities and second one, was a field Trip (Apple picking). Ms. Santino reported that there is more registration than last year at this time in daycare. She's also looking into the application HOP so the parents would be able to text daycare to say they are at school and get the child ready to be picked up. She's also looking to have online payment for lunch fees.

Approval of the Daycare Handbook: Motion to approve Pina Ippolito;

Seconded Cindy Knafo;

Approved unanimously

6.4. PC Delegate

- Mr. Antonio Zaruso will be going to his first meeting shortly.

6.5. PPO Delegate

- N/A

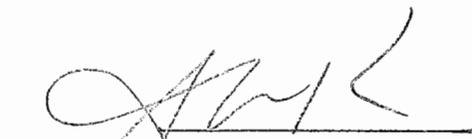
7. Varia

7.1. Fundraising: discussion about options of fundraisers. Pizza was brought up as an easy one to do. Served in individual boxes with a juice and an ice cream.

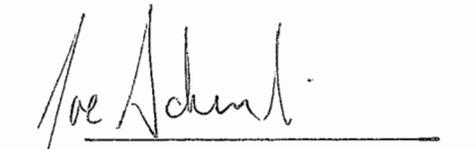
Motion to gather more info about pizza lunch as a fundraiser: Motion to approve Pina Ippolito; Seconded Cindy Knafo; Approved unanimously

8. Motion to adjourn: Andy Lee, seconded by Chantal Dussault, approved unanimously.

Meeting ended at 8:50pm



CHAIR



PRINCIPAL



DANTE SCHOOL

AGENDA

Governing Board Meeting # 2

DATE: Tuesday, Oct. 19th 2021

TIME: 6:34PM

PLACE: Zoom on line meeting

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Chantal Dussault, Cindy Knafo, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Pina Ippolito, Elaine Frenette, Maria Santino, Marianne Nudo, Kyle Stanley, Fiorenzo Vetrone, Sue Iasenzaniro, Josie Nardelli

REGRETS: Walter Cigana,

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

- Alexandra Melnyk greets everyone.

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve: Antonio Zaruso; seconded by Sue Lasenzaniro;
- Approved unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes, September 30th

- With amendments: Motion to approve: Marianne Nudo; seconded by Fiorenzo Vetrone,
- Approved unanimously

4. Business Arising

4.1. Lunch Supervision Deficit

- There is a \$21, 000.00 fund deficit dragging due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Principal Joe Schembri insists this will continue in a holding pattern till the EMSB receives some sort of monies from the Quebec government. Principal Joe Schembri also mentions that Fund 3 will not be used to assume those costs.

4.2. Open House

- There will be a video shoot this upcoming Thursday October 21, 2021, at Dante School at around 10:00am. The videographer will be filming the gymnasium and the library, and will either produce a new video, or compliment the existing video in circulation.
- Principal Joe Schembri is debating whether or not to make a cameo or lend his voice to the video describing our school as well as providing a descriptive narrative of our school.
- At this moment Elaine Frenette, Cindy Knafo, as well as Alexandra Melnyk, all chime in and mention that we should have better prepared and scripted this, and that Dante school has way more to offer. Maria Santino also suggests that for the January 2022 Open House, we use some of the Fund 3 money to have a professional video independently done, as well as Miss Kyle mentions we include and highlight our students and the integrational programs we have which include kindness, and culture.

4.3. Kindness Sweater Day

- This will be held the first Wednesday of every month, this will officially begin this Wednesday November 3rd 2021.
- Motion to approve by Antonio Zaruso, seconded by Miss Kyle Stanley,
- Unanimously approved.

4.4. Book Fair

- Josie Nardelli has set November 23rd & 24th for the actual in school Book Fair, for the children only. The Books on offering are still being reviewed, and discussed at this present time.
- Motion to approve by Sue Lasenzaniro, seconded by Miss Kyle Stanley.
- Unanimously approved.

4.5. PPO Pizza Day Lunch

- This event will be held on November 24th as a Pizza Day Lunch.
- There will be no Pizza Day Lunch in the month of December.
- The pricing is still to be finalized amongst several suppliers, and the pizza will be served out of a ten slice box, by our helping parents and daycare staff, along with ice cream or a TCBY treat.
- Compulsory vaccination will not be imposed on the parent helpers or PPO serving pizza to our children, as suggested by Fiorenzo Vetrone.
- Motion to approve by Andy Lee, seconded by Pina Ippolito, unanimously approved.

5. New Business

5.1. Halloween

- Principal Joe Schembri, mentions that the Halloween candy bags will be bigger this year, Halloween will be a dress day, and the teacher's discretion determines the day being a full or a half day. Principal Joe would like to provide the children with individual pumpkins, so that they may be decorated during some part of the day as a Halloween activity. The funds to purchase the pumpkins would come from an Art fund or a School Supply Day fund.
- A motion for funds from Fund 3 was also put forward to purchase candy in the amount of \$500.00. Motion to approve by Chantal Dussault, seconded by Maria Santino, unanimously approved. The hunt for 300 pumpkins is on!!!!

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

- Staffing: Principal Joe Schembri mentions that we are still missing some support teaching staff. He also took time to mention our new Music teacher is doing well with our student body and they seem attentive to his teaching style. This position is presently a 54% posting, and Principal Joe hopes to can transform this into a 90% posting. Our new Music teacher presently teaches Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

6.2. Teachers

- Ms. Marianne Nudo, has formed a leadership group to help increase school spirit, and help our kids develop a voice as an integral part of our Dante School community at the Grade 6 level.
- Ms. Maria Perozzi, Ms. Cinthia Vicario and Miss Kyle Stanley are also involved in this leadership group.
- Chantal Dussault informed us that the Yearbook preparations have begun
- Ms. Maria Santino has taken a notice that the children are really involved in this leadership initiative.
- Madame Elaine Frenette, mentioned that she is back in top form, and has found her groove again since the last meeting held September 30th 2021.

6.3. Daycare Technician

- Ms. Santino reported that all is going well, and the children under her care will also be receiving refreshments and snacks for Halloween.

6.4. PC Delegate

- Mr. Antonio Zaruso had his first meeting, it involved voting in various type positions, and the future meeting dates are set as follows; November 4, December 2, 2021, January 13, February 3, March 10, April 7, May 5, and June 2, 2022.

6.5. PPO Delegate

- Ms. Alexandra Melnyk chair of PPO laid out the ground rules at the initial meeting this October 2021. We have 17 PPO members for the upcoming year.

7. Varia

7.1. Dress Down Day

- Principal Joe Schembri will likely set a first dress down day around Christmas time, the set date will be determined at our next meeting in November 2021.

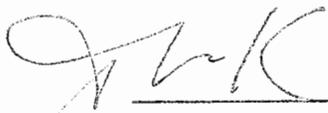
7.2. Christmas Breakfast

- Principal Joe Schembri, mentions that Christmas day activities are presently being looked into, and that either a breakfast or a lunch is being considered. Discussions are ongoing with present suppliers, and we are looking at our best options.
- We are also waiting on feedback from PPO with Christmas Breakfast or Lunch, an outcome will ensue following the feedback and options.
- The date will be set for either December 20th or 21st 2021.

8. Motion to adjourn: Andy Lee, seconded by Chantal Dussault, approved unanimously.

Meeting ended at 7:43pm.

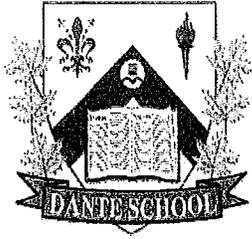
Next meeting November 18th 2021.



CHAIR

 Nov. 18, 2021

PRINCIPAL



DANTE SCHOOL

AGENDA

Governing Board Meeting # 3

DATE: Thursday, December 16th 2021

TIME: 6:34 PM

PLACE: Zoom, online meeting

PRESENT: Alexandra Melnyk, Chantal Dussault, Cindy Knafo, Andy Lee, Antonio Zaruso, Pina Ippolito, Elaine Frenette, Maria Santino, Marianne Nudo, Walter Cigana, Fiorenzo Vetrone, Assunta Iasenzanero, Josie Nardelli, Maria Drudi

REGRETS: Kyle Stanley

PRINCIPAL: Giuseppe Schembri

1. Opening & Welcome

- Alexandra Melnyk greets everyone.
- Quick introductions to welcome a new member: Ms. Maria Drudi who teaches grade 1 and split 1/2

2. Additions and Approval of Agenda

- Ms. Josie wants to add to 5.3: After school activities for January
Motion to approve: Josie Nardelli ; seconded by Fiorenzo Vetrone
- Approved unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes, October 19th 2021

- Without amendments.

Motion to approve: Josie Nardelli ; seconded by Andy Lee

- Approved unanimously

4. Business Arising

4.1. Lunch Supervision Deficit

- There is still a \$21,181 fund deficit dragging due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Principal Joe Schembri insists this will continue in a holding pattern till the EMSB receives some sort of monies from the Quebec government.

4.2. Open House January 2022

- This will be a virtual open-house in January 27th 2022
- Principal Joe Schembri has contacted the person who recently did videos for other schools and specifically the video for Pierre-de-Coubertin, Michelangelo as well as Honoré-Mercier; the company is KaptureUs Media
- The amount quoted is 1600\$, including 2 videographers for 6-8 hours, plus a dynamic edit of 2-3 minutes for 450\$ and royalty-free track to use for social media is 100\$. The total is 2150\$ for the complete video.
- Alexandra M. agrees that we need a more professional video from someone with experience that can better “sell” our school.
- Maria Santino suggests creating a QR code and putting that on a poster outside the school such that anyone can reach the video online. Cindy Knafo agrees that this is money well spent and a good way to promote the school.
- Motion to go ahead with KaptureMedia for the virtual open-house for 2150\$ from Fund 3 : Cindy Knafo; seconded by Maria Santino

5. New Business

5.1. Educational Project Annual Review 2021-2022

- Principal Joe Schembri mentions that this is the same document that needs to be approved for this year. This is the agreement between the school and the government describing what the school commits to.

- Marianne Nudo asks how we can evaluate the results described in the document due to the lack of measurements (e.g. final exams). Mr Schembri mentions that the government will come back with guidelines.
- This document must be signed by the Governing Board chairperson and the principal.
- Need the full motion from Mr Schembri
- Motion to approve: Assunta Iasenzaniro ; seconded by Chantal Dussault

5.2. Selection Criteria of Principal

- Alexandra Melnyk proposes to move this to the January Governing Board meeting. This needs to be submitted by the end of February.

5.3. After school activities for January

- Josie Nardelli mentions that the school reached out to Enfants&Compagnie for activities to start in January:
 - Science + STEAM challenge
 - Dinosaur discovery (K-2)
 - Cosom hockey
 - Gift mania
- The activities would run Mondays and Tuesdays (2 per day), starting January 17th.
- Cost for activities is 98\$-104\$ for 8 weeks
- Motion to approve: Pina Ippolito; seconded by Andy Lee; unanimously approved.

6. Information and Reports

6.1. Principal

6.1.1. After-school volleyball with St-Leonard schools

- Mr Schembri had a meeting with St-Leonard high schools. Mario Pietrangelo (commissioner) wants to have an east-end sports event. Each elementary

school would practice volley-ball and then there would be one or two “play dates” at Laurier-Macdonald high school. The plan for now is that every Thursday high school students from Laurier-Macdonald will come to the school and help the kids learn and practice volley-ball in preparation for the meet. This could be cancelled due to government restrictions.

- Motion to approve after school volley-ball for St-Leonard schools.
- Motion to approve: Josie Nardelli ; seconded by Antonio Zaruso; unanimously approved; unanimously approved.

6.1.2. Governing Board budget

- This amount is now 562\$, which has rolled-over from previous years.

6.1.3. Staffing:

- We now have a new music teacher, Alexandre Lafontaine. Students seem to appreciate him and he is enthusiastic about the kids and the school.

6.1.4. EMSB Focus (Fielding Focus)

- Dante is present in the December edition of the EMSB Focus newsletter: <http://www.emsbfocus.com/2021/12/december-15-2021-edition-volume-24.html>
- Marianne spearheaded the initiative with support from Ms. Cynthia and Maria Perozzi. The children really enjoyed themselves during the activity which benefited the Montreal’s Toy Tea Holiday Toy Drive
- Over 200 toys and 700\$ in gift cards were donated to this cause.

6.1.5. The St-Brendan’s dress-down day raised 688\$.

6.1.6. Pizza Lunch

- Mr Schembri mentioned that the Pizza lunch was break-even, possibly generating a loss, which is unusual. Alexandra Melnyk wants to review the amounts collected as well as the amount paid since this should have generated a profit.
- There were mixed reviews about Champion Pizza. Some pizzas were dry, some kids liked it, some didn’t. On the positive side, the pizzas were perfectly sliced which made for easy distribution.
- We will delay the next pizza/ice cream fundraiser to sort things out and also due to possible upcoming Covid-19 restrictions.

- Alexandra Melnyk mentions that we struggled to get 6 parents to come help. Thankfully, the daycare lunch staff was able to help.

6.1.7. Vaccination

- Grade 4 vaccination is happening for MMR/Hepatitis A+B. Scheduled for February 17th.
- Alexandra Melnyk asks about the 2020 vaccination campaign that didn't happen in April 2020 due to the schools being shut-down. Pina Ippolito asked the nurse and she was told that this will be done in high school (sec. 3)
- Covid-19 vaccination is happening tomorrow (December 17th). Cindy Knafo mentions that the second dose for grade 4 might conflict with February 17th. Mr Schembri to look into whether this is an issue or not.
- At this time, 75 kids are signed-up at this time for Covid-19 vaccinations. This will probably be a bit more. This is the Pfizer vaccine.
- Maria Drudi asks whether we have a list of the students getting vaccinated and what to look for once they come back to class. The usual 15 minute wait period will be observed before returning the kids to their classroom.
- Chantal Dussault asks whether this will proceed by level. Mr Schembri mentions that is the plan, but Sante Publique might decide otherwise.
- Chantal Dussault mentions that an anxiety therapy group was started some weeks ago with a therapy dog (James Bond) and Mme Christine will be there tomorrow with James Bond to help kids that need it.

6.1.8. Rapid Tests

- Rapid tests will be distributed tomorrow. It will be one box of 5 tests per child.

6.2. Teachers

6.2.1. Graduation

- Chantal Dussault mentions there are still 3 scenarios for graduation like last year: outside with parents in the front yard if it is sunny, in the gym with parents, or outside with tents if it is raining.

- Marianne Nudo mentions that in the past there was a graduation t-shirt or hoodie, available for purchase, that could be worn on Fridays. This year the teachers want to give the hoodie to every 6th grade student (mid to end of January) to be worn until the end of the year. In the past, not everyone would be able to afford a hoodie, so the initiative is to make it the same for every child.
- Marianne Nudo requests that the budget for the graduation would now be a per capita amount and not an overall amount. The requested amount is 30\$ per child which could be supplemented by a dress-down day or other fund-raising activity. There are 47 children graduating this year.
- Maria Drudi asks about school colours. The hoodies selected will be black.
- Josie Nardelli reached out to different companies and MOXO was selected: 25\$/hoodie (taxes included), 110\$ for the design (55\$ per side). They are willing to work with us for sizing.
- Alexandra asks whether there will also be a 5% credit to the school as for the uniforms. This could be used towards the graduation as well.
- Motion to approve a per capita amount of 30\$ for grade 6 graduation: Cindy Knafo ; seconded by Fiorenzo Vetrone. Unanimously approved.
- Motion for a dress-down day on January 28th towards grade 6 graduation: Assunta Iasenzaniro ; seconded by Pina Ippolito. Unanimously approved.

6.2.2. Book fair

- Maria Drudi and Josie Nardelli mention that the bookfair went well: over 5000\$ worth of sales. Unfortunately, there was not a wide variety with only 5 boxes versus the typical 20 boxes of books received in the past.
- The next book fair (French) is planned for February 23 or 24, 2022.
- There could be an issue or conflict with the grade 6 class schedule since that week will be an activity week to replace the usual ski trip.

6.2.3. Ski trip replacement for graduating class

- To replace the ski trip, other activities are being planned: going to Garibaldi park, going to Mont Avila for a ski/tubing day, Laser-Bullseye day and possibly other activities in the school gym.
- The money needed will be paid by parents but the amount is not finalized at this time.

6.3. Daycare Technician

- Ms. Santino mentions the daycare is nicely decorated for the Holidays. The Leadership students are also helping a lot in the mornings, which is appreciated. The feedback is that the kids are participating and involved.

6.4. PC Delegate

- Mr. Antonio Zaruso reports on the December 2nd meeting which brought some controversy: a letter was presented on behalf of the EMSB PC, but not all the EMSB PC was aware. The regional director was questioned about the EMSB position on certain issues and the response was not satisfactory. In the end, the PC came together to state that everyone should be treated with respect.
- Something to look forward to is the Parent's conference coming up in April or May. The main topics include, but are not limited to: mental health, online learning, tutoring, supporting children with learning difficulties, racism, equity, diversity, STEAM, parent governance, and much more.
- As a Governing Board, we should strive to get some volunteers to help contribute to the success of the conference. The contact person is Daniel Totoni at the EMSB.
- Alexandra Melnyk suggests having the EMSB PC send a memo to the Governing Board to distribute a uniform statement to parents.
- We are looking for volunteers to help organize, but we are also looking to increase attendance to the conference.

6.5. PPO Delegate

- Alexandra Melnyk, chair of PPO, mentions that the Christmas breakfast will be handled internally with no involvement from the PPO.
- Mr Schembri brings up upcoming fundraisers. Alexandra Melnyk suggests discussing this in the next meeting. This will be brought up in January.

7. Varia

7.1. EMSB and Focus East end School Facebook publicity

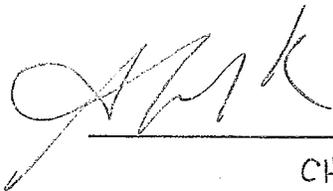
- Alexandra Melnyk brings up the point that publicity for EMSB schools' open houses is uneven with little to no advertising of the Dante open-house. The information obtained is that Dante's publicity was not considered to focus on and prioritize Gerald McShane (information obtained from Maria Corsi). This seems unfair to Dante. Mr Schembri will follow-up with our commissioner.
- Fiorenzo Vetrone asks that we have a resolution to ask our commissioner to attend our next meeting. Antonio Zaruso would second that. Mr Schembri mentions that we can extend an invitation and move our next meeting in case there is a conflict.
- Maria Drudi asks whether the next open-house will be publicized and Mr Schembri mentions that this is expected, but we need to ensure that our investment in a video is worth it.
- Motion to formally invite Mario Pietrangelo to our next Governing Board meeting to discuss EMSB school publicity; Motion to approve: Fiorenzo Vetrone ; seconded by: Antonio Zaruso. Unanimously approved.
- Maria Drudi asks who runs the East-end school Facebook. This was Maria Corsino, but is now a joint venture also overseen by Michale Cohen and others at the EMSB.
- Discussion about the open-house videos and availability of the previous videos. Mr. Schembri mentions the videos should be available.
- Fiorenzo Vitrone asks whether we have statistics on viewership. We do not at this time. Mr Schembri can ask the EMSB if they have any information.

- Andy Lee asks whether we can advertise the open-house on Facebook. Mr Schembri to look into this.
- Maria Drudi asks whether we will be receiving the link to the new video to be posted to Facebook and other social media. Mr Schembri responds that it seems to be included in the quote received but that he can check.
- Andy Lee suggests to send more articles and information about Dante to the EMSB Focus newsletter to make Dante more visible and have publicity in that way.

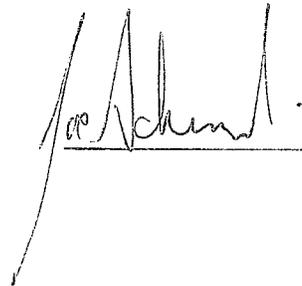
8. Motion to adjourn: Andy Lee, seconded by Pina Ippolito, approved unanimously.

Meeting ended at 8:29pm.

Next meeting: January 18th 2022.



CHAIRPERSON



PRINCIPAL