

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**  
**September 24, 2019**

Present: Melissa Robertson, Lucy Bucciarelli , Jesse Sicinski, Philip Risacher, Monica Morales-Perez, Maria Orjuela, (parents), Rose Servello, Lucy DePetrillo (teachers), Kate Marien (Support Staff), Melodie Charette (Daycare Technician), Joseph Lalla (Commissioner), Michael Brown (Principal).

**1. Opening & Welcome:**

Mr. Brown opened the meeting by welcoming all those in attendance, and members introduced themselves with a brief description.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda:**

*On motion duly made (P Risacher) and seconded (Rose Servello), it was unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda with the following additions;*

- ▶ *4.2 Election of Executive/Appointment of EMSBPC Representative and Alternate*
- ▶ *6.6 Commissioner's Report*
- ▶ *8.2 Approval of Field Trips*
- ▶ *8.3 Code of Conduct*
- ▶ *8.4 Appointment of Community Representative*

**3. Approval of the minutes of June 2019:**

*On motion duly made (Rose Servello) and seconded (Melissa Robertson), the minutes of the meeting of June 2019 were approved.*

*In favour: 6 Absentions: 4*

**4. Election/Appointments:**

**4.1 Election of the Executive for 2019-2020:**

Mike explained the duties of each position, which were filled by the following members:

- ▶ Chairperson – Melissa Robertson – elected by acclamation
- ▶ Vice-Chair – Maria Orjuela – elected acclamation
- ▶ Secretary – K Marien offered to serve as Secretary – elected by acclamation.
- ▶ Treasurer – Monica Morales-Perez offered to serve as Treasurer – elected by acclamation.

**4.2 Appointment off EMSBPC Representative/Alternate:**

Lisa Bucciarelli offered to act as EMSBPC Representative, and Philip Risacher offered to serve as Alternate. Both were appointed by acclamation.

**5. Business Arising:**

**5.1 Parent Workshops:**

Mike explained that we received very positive feedback regarding the parent workshops that were held last school year (Social/Emotional Learning, Nutrition). He would like to offer more

parent workshops, earlier in the school year. Maria offered to help him look into the possibilities, and several suggestions were made. Mike will send out a survey.

## **6. Reports:**

### **6.1 Principal**

- ▶ We have had a good start to the school year, although there have been some glitches with the school bus schedules.
- ▶ Plans for an outdoor classroom are in the works; we are hopeful that this will become a reality.
- ▶ In October, he will be travelling to a STEAM school in the U.S., accompanied by some of our teachers. Lunch program and school fee payments have gone well this year so far. That being said, we are missing some payments and letters will be going out soon.

### **6.2 Regional Delegate:**

No report

### **6.3 Teacher's Report:**

- ▶ The students really enjoyed the Super Heroes who joined us for our Welcome Back to School party.
- ▶ The addition of an afternoon recess has been very well received by staff members and students.
- ▶ The Grade 6 students went to Marymount on September 23 in order to learn about various local community organizations (in case they need to do community work at some point in the future).
- ▶ Our first Dress Down Day profits will be donated to MADA.
- ▶ Our first House Assembly will be held on September 26 – we will be celebrating the virtue of Kindness with a speaker and an activity.
- ▶ Our annual Terry Fox run will be held on September 27.

### **6.4 Home & School:**

Mike reported that the next H&S meeting is coming up soon, at which time the executive will be named and a volunteer base will be established. They have expressed an interest in helping with funds for the classroom, so it is important that as many volunteers as possible are recruited.

### **6.5 Daycare:**

Melodie reported that daycare enrolment is very high this year – we were at capacity for our most recent Ped Day activity.

### **6.6 Commissioner:**

Joe reported that the EMSB has a success rate of 92.4% (highest among 70 school boards). There is an annual workshop in October for Governing Board parents; this has always been well received in the past.

Rose asked about Bill 21, and Joe explained that the school board is in discussion regarding the issue. They have sought legal opinions regarding a challenge to the legality of the bill. For the time being, the board is unable to hire new teachers who do not comply with the law.

### **7. Question Period:**

Maria asked about putting in place liaison parents to help support international families. Mike explained that this type of initiative does not fall within the mandate of the Governing Board, but that he will be reaching out to parents with this in mind.

### **8. New Business:**

#### **8.1 Dates of Meetings**

The following days were chosen as tentative dates for the next meetings; October 29, November 26 and December 17.

#### **8.2 Approval of Field Trips:**

There was discussion regarding local field trips.

*On motion duly made (R Servello) and seconded (M Orjuela), it was unanimously resolved to give the mandate to the Principal to approve local Daycare field trips without consulting the Governing Board. The Principal will keep the Governing Board informed of such trips.*

*On motion duly made (Rose Servello) and seconded (M Charette), it was unanimously resolved to give the mandate to the Principal to approve local day field trips without consulting the Governing Board. The Principal will keep the Governing Board informed of such trips, and will provide a breakdown of the cost.*

#### **8.3 Code of Conduct:**

*On motion duly made (Philip Risacher) and seconded (Jesse Sicinski), it was unanimously resolved to adopt the code of conduct as presented, with the addition of the following item "Members of the Governing Board will represent the entire student population, and not individual students".*

#### **8.4 Appointment of Community Representative:**

Our librarian, Ekaterina Valkova-Damova, has graciously offered to act as Community Representative.

*On motion duly made (Monica Morales-Perez) and seconded (Philip Risacher), it was unanimously resolved to appoint Ms. Valkova-Damova as Community Representative for the 2019-2020 school year.*

### **9. Adjournment and date of next meeting:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. The next meeting will be held on October 19, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Daycare Room.

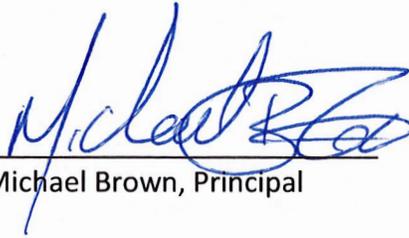
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Respectfully submitted,

Kate Marien  
Secretary



Melissa Robertson , Chair



Michael Brown, Principal

Nov 26, 2019  
Date