



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EMSB PARENTS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE LAURENCE PATTERSON ROOM OF THE EMSB, 6000 FIELDING AVE., MONTREAL
ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.**

EMSB PARENTS COMMITTEE DELEGATES / ALTERNATES

ACSES	Mubeenah Mughal	Merton	Michael Gonshor
Carlyle	Sabrina Pagano	Michelangelo	Pietro Mercuri
Cedarcrest	Raymond Ayas	Nesbitt	Glen Jensen
Coronation	Ravi Singh Chevvan	Our Lady of Pompei	Alt Anthony Cristofaro
Dante	Joseph Varga	Parkdale	Caleigh Saucier
Dunrae Gardens	Joseph Bondi	Philip E. Layton	Roynette MacIntyre
Edinburgh	Caroline Phaneuf	Pierre de Coubertin	Johnny Petrecca
FACE	Alyssa Kuzmarov	Royal Vale	Alt Andrea Batsis
Gerald McShane	Alt Laura Fortin	Royal West	Norm Gharibian
Hampstead	Katherine Korakakis	Royal West	Alt Anne Monereau
John F. Kennedy	Johnny Leoci	Sinclair Laird	Alt Apostolia Petropoulos
John Grant	Sabrina Lawrence	St. Gabriel	David Benoit
John Paul I	Mickey Lemme	St. Monica	Peter Papastratis
Laurier Macdonald	Alt Torina Cunsolo	Vincent Massey	Mario Pietrangelo
Leonardo da Vinci	Tony Speranza	Westmount Park	Sophie Antippa
Lester B. Pearson	Benny Berneti	Westmount	Antonio Crespo
Marymount	Andrew Ross		

REGRETS/ABSENT

Bancroft	Dean Stamler	Laurier Macdonald	Sophie Di Vito
Dalkeith	No delegate	Mackay	Caroline Elias
East Hill	Adrienne Taylor	MIND	Stefanie Novick
Edward Murphy	Stacey Birmingham	Our Lady of Pompei	Arthur Fabio Gallucci
Elizabeth Ballantyne	Maria Orjuela	Pierre E. Trudeau	Marie-Hélène Bédard
General Vanier	Jason Trudeau	Rosemount	Costa Carrara
Gardenview	Walter Ninzatti	Roslyn	Catherine Forbes
Gerald McShane	Joe Rossi	Royal Vale	Mark Ellenbogen
Honore Mercier	Joseph Di Liello	Sinclair Laird	Amanda Liste
John Caboto	Richard O'Doherty	St. Dorothy	Milan Cardone
LINKS	Samantha Dudok	Willingdon	Lucas Reindler
Laurenhill	Barry Rolbin		

ALSO PRESENT: EMSB

John Pevec, Regional Director, East
Brigida Sellato, Communications Consultant

GUESTS

Joe Ortona, Vice Chairman, EMSB
Me Lucie Roy, Director, Legal Services

ALSO PRESENT: OTHER PARENT MEMBERS

George Varelas, Parent, Gardenview

1. **OPENING REMARKS**

The Chair, Joseph Bondi welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Pietro Mercuri, seconded by Tony Speranza that the agenda be accepted as presented.

Vote: 30-0-0 (R. Ayas, J. Varga, R. Chevvan not present)

Motion Carried

3. **FIRST QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 1, 2018**

It was moved by Caroline Phaneuf, seconded by Norm Gharibian that the minutes be accepted as presented.

Vote: 27-0-3 (R. Ayas, J. Varga, R. Chevvan not present)

Motion Carried

At 7:15 pm J. Varga arrived.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

5.1 CONSULTATION: RELOCATION OF WESTMOUNT PARK

John Pevec gave the members a summary of the consultation. Both governing board chairs of the affected schools (Westmount Park and Marymount Academy) were present and gave their scenario of what they are doing in response to the consultation.

At 7:35 pm R. Ayas arrived.

The members discussed the response they would take to the consultation.

At 7:45 pm L. Fortin left.

The members wanted to include in the document;

- assurances to both governing boards that their needs be respected
- clause for parents not to register at St. John Bosco as it is for the population of Westmount Park

At 7:48 pm R. Chevvan arrived.

Following the brief discussion, it was moved by Pietro Mercuri seconded by Caleigh Saucier and resolved that the parent committee form a sub-committee to write the brief for January 8th and the approval be taken via email vote.

Vote: 32-0-0

Motion Carried

Volunteers to the writing committee; Pietro Mercuri, Andrew Ross, Sophie Antippa and Glen Jensen.

5.2 CONSULTATION: FOCUS/OUTREACH RELOCATION NEW SCHOOL

John Pevec gave the members a summary of the consultation and answered some questions. Edinburgh and Merton delegates explained their overcapacity and how it has affected their schools.

Some concerns mentioned were;

- if the building would be ready for the new school
- how the students at Focus/Outreach will handle the move to a new building
- the boundary of the new program and how it overlaps the other boundaries

Following a brief discussion, it moved by Andrew Ross, seconded by David Benoit and resolved that the parent committee form a sub-committee to write the brief for January 8th and the approval be taken via email vote.

Vote: 32-0-0

Motion Carried

Volunteers to the writing committee; Caroline Phaneuf, Mubeenah Mughal, Michael Gonshor, David Benoit, Andrew Ross and Katherine Korakakis.

5.3 LOCKDOWN DRILLS- PRESENTATION

The presentation will take place at the January meeting.

5.4 CHABAD LIFELINE- PRESENTATION

The presentation will take place at the February meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 CONSULTATION: STUDENT OMBUDSMAN- ME LUCIE ROY

Me Lucie Roy explained the process taken to select the new student ombudsman and shared the documentation with them.

6.1.1 CONSULTATION RESPONSE

It was moved by Pietro Mercuri, seconded by Johnny Leoci and unanimously resolved to accept the candidate presented to be hired as the new student ombudsman.

Vote: 32-0-0

Motion Carried

At 9:00 pm B. Berneti and A. Cristofaro left.

6.2 CONSULTATION: THREE YEAR PLAN 2019-2022

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Katherine Korakakis, seconded by Mario Pietrangelo and resolved to accept the proposed plan and make the following recommendations;

- An annex (glossary) page with the methodology behind the capacities and the forecast numbers. Making it easier for readers to understand
- Edinburgh, Cedarcrest, Merton requests a solution to not be over capacity
- Westmount Park requests that the numbers for temporary resident students be included
- Request that documents not be published on-line in advance of approval
- That the entire plan not come for consultation while other consultations for relocation are taking place
- Regardless of n/a, information should be given

At 9:30 pm just before the vote A. Kuzmarov and S. Lawrence left.

Vote: 20-8-0

Motion Carried

6.3 SUB-COMMITTEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DELEGATES

Pietro Mercuri asked the delegates from the elementary schools to join a subcommittee, no member will be obligated to attend meetings, to discuss matters at the elementary level, moved by Pietro Mercuri, seconded by Tony Speranza and unanimously resolved.

Vote: 28-0-0

Motion Carried

6.4 SUB-COMMITTEE HIGH SCHOOL DELEGATES

Andrew Ross asked the delegates from the high schools to join a subcommittee, no member will be obligated to attend meetings, to discuss matters at the high school level, moved by Andrew Ross, seconded by Caroline Phaneuf and unanimously resolved.

Vote: 28-0-0

Motion Carried

At 9:44 pm R. McIntyre left.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION PLAN

There was no report.

7.2 PARENT CONFERENCE

Norm Gharibian gave a report on the conference. He will bring a breakdown of the event to a future meeting. Suggestion to include more topics for special needs was made.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 PARENT COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Topics included the consultations discussed at the meeting and the parent commissioners were sworn in to office.

8.2 TREASURER'S REPORT

There is a balance of 15,644.83.

8.3 EPCA REPORT

Katherine Korakakis asked that at the next meeting an item be included to elect another delegate to be on the special needs committee being established at EPCA. Katherine Korakakis was also elected as vice president to EPCA.

9. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

See written report from Anne Monereau.

9.2 EDUCATIONAL POLICIES COMMITTEE

There was no report.

9.3 FINANCE COMMITTEE

Topics discussed were renumerations, budgets and entente with the Ville de Montreal.

9.4 ADULT EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There was no report.

9.5 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Topics discussed were the Three Year Plan, a presentation on the IEP and Chabad Lifeline.

9.6 TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Topics included the cam pass and other transportation issues.

**10. SCHOOL REPORTS (PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR WRITTEN REPORTS)
(ANY MEMBER MAY SHARE CONCERNS OR ASK QUESTIONS)**

11. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

12. SECOND QUESTION PERIOD (8 MIN)

There were no questions.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13.1 REGULAR MEETING

Thursday January 10th at 7:00 pm at Administration Building.

13.2 EXECUTIVE MEETING

Monday, December 17th.

14. VARIA

There was none.

15. ADJOURNMENT (1 MIN)

It was moved by Andrew Ross, seconded by Tony Speranza, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Vote: 26-0-0

Motion Carried

Joseph Bondi
Chair

Brigida Sellato
Consultant/Secretary

Education committee report
Meeting held on November 14, 2018

Topics of interest were:

1. International students
2. Sexuality Education program presentation
3. History course review

1. International Students (IS):

- The EMSB has a population of 268 IS for this academic year
- THE EMSB no longer accept IS for the elementary years except if a sibling is in high school and an exception is requested
- IS must start by the first day of school
- There is now a detailed contract between the EMSB and parents or guardians of IS
- There is a partial refund policy prorated to semesters and not months
- All field trips are now covered by the IS fee
- Schools who have IS or Temp stay students received an allocation for tutoring
- 43% of IS students attend Westmount high primarily due to location, but other EMSB schools also have IS students

2. Sexuality Education program presentation

2.1 The goals are:

- Promoting egalitarian relationship
- Preventing sexual assault
- Preventing violence
- Promoting a healthy body image
- Respecting sexual and gender diversity
- Preventing pregnancy and disease (STBBIs)
- Being aware of sexualisation of public space

2.2 Expectation

- 5-10 hour topic for elementary students
- 10-15 hour topic for high school students
- Training for the teachers who will be teaching this content will be in December and January
- Program starts in February
- The board will inform the GBs and principals of themes, who will be delivering the course and when.
- Principals will have to advise parents of themes and in which month theme will be covered
- Parents can ask for an exemption of a theme as per exemption process

2.3 Parameters of exemptions:

- Exemption cause theme may cause psychological harm to students
- Exemption cause theme infringes on fundamental rights of freedom by QC and / or Canadian charter
- There is no exemption for the entirety of the program but only for a specific theme
- More than one exemption may be requested

2.4 Process for exemption

- Schools informs parents of program
- Parent must request meeting with Administration to discuss theme / content
- If parent still feels an exemption is warranted, parent must request it by going to the EMSB website at least 15 days prior to theme being taught
- A EMSB committee comprised of 3 members (1 director, 1 lawyer and 1 from ETS) will review all files to have a uniform approach for the board

NB Schools that were in the pilot project have had no exemption request

3. History course review

A sub committee was put together to analyse the content of the new history books that committee which was comprised of history experts presented their finding.

In summary the committee observed

- “the problem with the program (and therefore also with the textbooks) is that it is ostensibly a history of Quebec and Canada but is ultimately a history of Quebec. Canada comes up only to state the impact on Quebec.”
- The aim of the program is “the construction of world view, the construction of identity.... “the committee feels that the book does not reach this goal.
- The program does not develop critical thinking in the students
- No insights for indigenous people or other racial minorities such as Jews, Italians, Haitians or other ethnic groups

Recommendations

- Withdrawal of books and replace by more appropriate material for 2021

This committee is going to report to the counsel of commissioners to see what is the next step.