



École FACE School

3449 Rue University, Montréal, QC H3A 2A8

TEL: 514-350-8899 courriel/email: face@emsb.qc.ca www.face.emsb.qc.ca

Governing Board AGENDA

Date/ time:	February 5, 2024 6:30PM	Location:	Zoom (virtual)
https://mcgill.zoom.us/j/81694387792?pwd=SEFDdC9GZ2NsUERDK0Jma2NRL0JJZz09			
Present: J. Harriet (JH), Jessica Lipes (JL), Neils Christensen (NC), Fabien Welp-Barr (FWB), Carissa Springer (CS), Elizabeth Foley (EF), Marie-Eve Arsenault (MEA), Theodora Stathopoulos (TS), Kodee deClet (KdC), Elly Abramovich (EA), Voula Tsagaroulis (VT), Crystal Leger (CL-Guest), Claire Lambert (CL) Allison Gonsalves (AG)			

1.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Began with a welcome to our new Principal and Vice-Principal- Everyone is very happy with the leadership that JH brings to the position and all the positive relationships. Folks are very happy.
2.	Reading and approval of the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">- TS moves, MEA second- All approved
3.	Adoption of the minutes of the Meeting of December 4, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- EF provided two points (p. 2, Foley is floating weirdly); (p. 4, 9.1. Musicfest Quebec – motion to approve the testing? Should be motion to approve the outing). Correct CSDM to CSSDM- CS moves to adopt, EF seconds- Minutes adopted





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4.	<p>Question period for the public</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CL: Waiting on the sidewalk, does that have to continue forever. Can parents wait in the courtyard. This was a COVID thing, and we are blocking up the sidewalk. EF concurs that this is hazardous (“Thunderdome”). JH is looking into it. NC asks if 7:45 at the new school is going to be the same thing (e.g., need to wait outside). - Second question is that there have been almost no outings this year. JH agrees there are fewer outings. This is likely a pressure tactic on the part of the teachers. When we knew there would be a strike, there were no outings planned.
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5.	<p>Business Arising from/since the Last Meeting</p> <p>Update: new principal Most exciting thing is the new principal, everyone is thrilled ! Welcome to Voula as well as VP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TS wishes to thank the GB on behalf of the teachers, everyone who contributed to making sure that the EMSB was aware that JH was not only welcome but very strongly encouraged to come back as Principal. Makes a difference to be in solidarity with the principal and teachers. - JL reiterates that we will be continuing to advocate for JH as principal until they make the position permanent. - CS also indicated that many parents on the FACE FB group also seemed to be organizing to write letters. - JL clarifies that parents seem not to know how to make their voices heard, so we will continue to make these avenues available.
5.2	<p>Update on French Teacher (HS) High school teacher for French enriched has come back. Thanks to JH for making that happen.</p>
5.3	<p>Email vote: changes to the school calendar Email vote for changes to the school calendar as a result of the strike, these were approved via email. JH sent out a letter this morning to clarify what this entailed. EA moved, MEA seconded. Approved unanimously.</p>





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5.4	<p>Update: detention</p> <p>JH missed the last GB meeting, but since then, situation has been resolved. There is an alternative measure for detention (parents also called the regional office).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Vaudry had expressed that the problem was that the EMSB and CSSDM couldn't agree on the policy. JL advised her that she should then reach out the regional director, bc there is nothing in the entente that tells us what to do. But she may have left before this happened. - JH is unclear if that was brought to the regional director, but JH has discussed with her. She and Mr. Abran have a good relationship so they will be able to deal with these kinds of issues in the future. - EF asked to have something in writing re: detention. - JH did say that there has been a conversation with folks on the CSSDM side about what EMSB students are permitted to do during detention. - JH has not followed up on the detention situation this particular week, but everything seems to be going the way it should be. EA agrees that there have been no complaints from the students. - FWB asks KdC and CL to see if they could ask around if this is something that has been settled or if it is improved?

6.	New Business
6.1 approval	<p>Clarifications/questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May be a slight increase because of the increase of tutors. - NC asks about unspent funds and JH clarifies that some funds roll over to the next year, but others (like for benchmarking) do not roll over as they were not allocated appropriately. - JH has to do regular reporting at several points throughout the year. <p>FACE School Budgets for Elementary (047) Resolution (TS moves, NC seconds) All in favour</p>





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6.2 approval	FACE School Budgets for High School (147). Resolution: (TS moves, CS seconds) All in favour
7.	Reports



<p>7.1 information</p>	<p>Principal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff, teachers, support staff, professionals are all behind JH and she feels very well supported. This week is staff appreciation week at FACE and JH wishes to thank and recognize the teachers and staff who are committed to the educational success of our students. Staff contribute so much to the life of the school, and JH is grateful for their support. - JH is new interim principal. Challenging to pick up mid-way, post-strike, lack of teachers. JH recognizes her job is to keep the school moving forward and will continue the work she did last year to keep the school moving forward. JH thanks the school community for their patience during this transition. - In March JH will be presenting the educational project. Looking to present this to the staff on the next ped day. MEA was on the committee with Ms. Vaudry, so can assist. - Meeting for elementary transitional school is Thursday 5pm. FWB asks if the moving meeting is open to the public, but no it is closed – GB only and principals. - Tutors have been recruited, over 50 interviews happened in the past two weeks to hire tutors. Also have found new teachers through this recruitment. This is to support students post-strike. This Wednesday there is a meeting with EMSB to see if there are any further directives. - NC asks about staffing allocations. JH has to fight with the school board to get more staffing allocations to account for our fine arts program. This year we have 3-4 teachers on sick leave, which creates additional shortages. Every year we ask for more teachers, and we never get. EA adds that she has never seen a subbing issue like what we have right now, the teacher shortage is so extreme. Agreement with the Common Front, if it passes, calls for certain positions (e.g., resource teachers) that are currently partial, full time. Viable bc personnel are already in the schools, and this would make those fulltime. TS clarifies that allocations of teachers are a ratio to the student, and the ratio should be revisited (conditions of the strike). - Upcoming/past events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Thursday the OSF performed at Place des Arts. Great success!! JH was the MC. Great turnout! Thank you to everyone who participated! TS created this orchestra in 1998, so a wonderful success on the 25th anniversary! o PPO has guest speakers coming to elementary classes for Black History Month o World read aloud day: public figures coming to read to students o Vocal concert o World perseverance week o Pink shirt day o Music festival
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7.2 information	<p>Teachers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TS has not received reports from teachers, but most events are covered in the principal's report - TS would like to thank JH for her support for the OSF (celebration of 25th anniversary of OSF) and to thank MEA for being instrumental to transforming the string orchestra into a symphony orchestra. 70 students from the wind department and 250 from strings. Students were very motivated and dedicated, and there is a lot of support to enable this. - JL also highlighted the CBC report - MEA added that we were very lucky to postpone this concert, and it was wonderful that it happened. Wishes to salute TS and her work building the strings department. Only three public schools in Montreal have a symphony orchestra and FACE is the only English school with one. -
7.3 information	<p>Professional staff</p>
7.3 information	<p>Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KdC added that it was so wonderful to be a part of OSF, it was a wonderful experience. Great to be on stage. An unforgettable experience. - The F2 and F1 had a play that was great. - Question about 11th grade grad – when is it happening? (JL will follow up) – prom is June 21st or 22nd? - CL reiterates how wonderful the OSF concert was. The encore performance was so exciting. - Friday is the choir concert (Grades 9, 10, 11). Student soloists for the classical pieces. - Student council coming up with ideas about possible Spirit Week, entailing dressing up as teachers/teachers dressing up as students. Maybe April.





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7.4 information	<p>EMSBPC Delegate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Big push to create a marketing committee – want schools to promote EMSB schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Focus is to emphasize quality of French education in English schools. o EMSBPC is going to be asking if each school GB if we have a marketing committee (should be GB organized). o MEA asks if EMSBPC wants us to forward our social media posts, because we already do that o JH manages the social media for the school. Tries to keep it active as much as possible for both school boards. Also submits articles to the Fielding Focus (publication through EMSB). - Budgets information session - Principal criteria – how do we get JH to be our principal? Principal roles seem so opaque and there seems to be very little will to ensure adequate continuity in the principal position. Seems very challenging to get anyone at the EMSB to take responsibility with FACE. - EF suggests that making noise seems to work and flooding the regional director with parent emails and phone calls, feeling hopeful and emboldened to continue this action. We are on their radar now, and we need to continue this action. - EA asks about the principal’s role in the Elementary/Secondary school after the move. JH clarifies that at the moment the plan is to have the VP in elementary and the principal in the high school.
7.5 information	<p>Parents Participation Organization</p>
7.6 information	<p>FACE Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Last meeting was primarily around the OSF - Tuque campaign - Program design for the OSF event - FFF – February frenzy funding for teachers undertaking special events - Awards
7.7 information	<p>CSSDM Rep</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MEA could not attend the last meeting - Approved cellphone policy - Approved change in code of conduct for detentions (what was approved did not entail how detentions are conducted, but rather what causes a detention). - Discussed raising fees to support the artist-in-residence





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8	Varia

9	Date of next meeting March. 25 2024
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11	Adjournment (TS / CS)
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Signed April 15th 2024

Jessica Lipes, Chairperson

