



Leonardo da Vinci Academy
Governing Board Meeting
Monday, April 8, 2024

Members in attendance

Nadia Sammarco, Joseph Carlucci (interim VP), Rosamaria Carlomusto, Maria Pensato, Sabrina Gavita, Vanessa Giancioppi, Anna-Maria Parente, Tina Spiridigliozzi, Filomena Barbieri, Karen Polletta, Fatima Marandola, Jennifer Brisebois, Rosemary Greco (alternate), Renata Nespeca, Angie Tarantini, Antonella D'Angelo, Stellana Romeo, Felicia Biondi, Pietro Mercuri,

Members not in attendance

Franco Marateo, Marco Di Manno, Laetita Kachmar (on leave as interim principal at Edinburgh), Francesca Muro

1) Welcome and opening remarks

Ms. Stellana welcomed the members and the meeting began at 6:38pm.

2) Additions to the agenda

No additions to the agenda.

3) Adoption of the agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda by F. Biondi, seconded by M. Pensato. All in favor.

Motion approved.

4) Approval of minutes of the March 13, 2024 meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2024 meeting with corrections by A. Parente, seconded by A. D'Angelo. All in favor.

Motion approved.

5) Business issues:

a) Approval of CCQ Program for the 2024-25 school year

Ms. Sammarco explained that the government has asked the school to replace the Ethics Program with the CCQ Program effective for the 2024-25 school year. Just like our current ethics program, the CCQ Program will be taught in English in grade 1 and 2 and will be taught in French in grades 3-6. This course is developing and as time goes on, we will learn more about the curriculum and the material that will be used to teach it.

Motion to approve the CCQ program for the 2023-24 school year by A. Tarantini, seconded by A. Parente. All in favor.

Motion approved.

b) Approval of the Sexuality Education Program for the 2023-24

Ms. Sammarco explained that there are no major changes in the program, but the Governing Board must be consulted, and a motion must be passed. Ms. Sammarco reviewed the document and highlighted the slight changes:

- Updated to reflect the current school year.
- Grade 4: The nurse will now be speaking with the students about “Understanding main changes associated with puberty and growing up”. The reason for this change is because puberty is happening earlier, and the children need to be prepared for the changes that are coming.
- Grade 5 students will now be taught about Puberty and Influence of Hormones with the school nurse and teacher.

The program will likely be revised next year since the CCQ Program also addresses the topic of sexuality.

Motion to approve the Sexuality Education Program for the 2023-24 school year by K. Polletta, seconded by A. D’Angelo. All in favor.

Motion approved.

c) Approval of the ACGC Program for the 2023-24 school year

Ms. Sammarco explained that the ACGC Program remains mainly unchanged. This program is geared to cycle 3 students with the purpose of helping them consider a career path later. The 2023-2024 document reflects a new theme for the Lions International Peace Poster under the section of Social Influences. The theme for this year is “Dare to Dream in a World of Peace.”

Another small change to the section of **Knowledge of the World of School** has been made. Whereas LDVA was previously participating in the **Unité Sans Violence Program**, this has been updated to reflect LDVA’s implementation of the **Recess Champions Program**.

Motion to approve the ACGC program for the 2023-24 school year by A. Tarantini, seconded by V. Giancioppi. All in favor.

Motion approved.

d) Approval of Robocup on April 19 and April 20, 2024 at Royal Vale School

Ms. Sammarco explained that approximately 35 students from grades 4 to 6 will be participating in the competition and proudly representing LDVA. Ms. Batzios and Ms. Angela Triassi are working diligently to prepare the students who are extremely excited to participate in the event. Ms. Sammarco also thanked the Home and School Association for covering the costs of busing, registration and the top-notch material needed to ensure the LDVA students are set up for success.

Motion to approve participation in the Robocup competition on April 19 and April 20, 2024 by R. Nespeca, seconded by S. Gavita. All in favor.

Motion approved.

e) **Approval of cycle field trips**

GRADE	DATE	DESTINATION
Pre-Kindergarten	May 14, 2024	Musée pour Enfants
Kindergarten	May 28, 2024	Académie De Cirque De Montréal
Grade 1 and 2	June 12, 2024	Académie De Cirque De Montréal
Grade 3	May 13, 2024	Escalade Horizon Roc
Grade 4	June 3, 2024	Escalade Horizon Roc

*Grade 5 and 6 field trips were approved in a previous meeting.

Motion to approve the field trips by A. Tarantini, seconded by A. Parente. All in favor.

Motion approved.

f) **Approval of school calendar for the 2024-25 school year**

Ms. Sammarco reviewed the calendar and highlighted the important dates.

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar by S. Gavita, seconded by V. Giancioppi. All in favor.

Motion approved.

g) **Approval of school Code of Conduct for the 2024-2025 school year**

Ms. Sammarco reviewed the document with a focus on the updates and changes.

- Dates and the school calendar have been updated.
- As per the request of the EMSB, the Cell Phone Policy has been emphasized in the 2024-2025 code of conduct.

“Student cell phones are not permitted in class, lockers or in hallways. If a student brings one to school because he/she is walking to and from home alone, then the student must drop it off at the office first thing in the morning and pick it up from the office at dismissal. No cell phones are permitted in the classroom or lockers. Students who do not respect this rule will have their cell phones confiscated and it will only be returned to the parent/guardian at the front office.”

- Section 1.2 now states:
“Consequences for not respecting the Code of Conduct will result in a reflection served during recess the following school day. Parents are expected to sign and return the reflection form. Should the rules of conduct continue to not be respected or a situation arises as a much more severe incident, it is at the school’s discretion to issue the student a behaviour report. Should behaviours continue to escalate after various warnings and previous interventions or should the security and safety of said student or that of others be threatened, it is at the school’s discretion to issue a suspension, in-school, out of school or an alternative to suspension to the student and request a meeting with the parent/guardian of that student.”

Motion to approve the school Code of Conduct for the 2024-25 school year by R. Nespeca, seconded by A. Parente. All in favor.

Motion approved.

6) Reports:

a) Principal's Report

- Hope and Love Fashion Show: This was a very rewarding and gratifying experience. The result was inspiring, and the actual amount raised, including some donations made after the event, was an impressive \$20,970.47 for the Neuro.
- Solar Eclipse: The EMSB provided safety glasses to all students and staff so that they may safely enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime experience.
- Earth Day Dress Down Day will take place on April 22, 2024. Students are encouraged to wear yellow or blue and bring \$2.00 to go towards Home & School who enhance and support student life.
- The Pre-K Teddy Bear Picnic will take place on April 25, 2024.
- The dress code can already be ordered online via the Footzone website. Orders must be placed by May 23, 2024 to ensure delivery for the start of the next school year.

b) Vice Principal's Report

- The Pre-Kindergarten Celebration of Learning will take place in the gymnasium on June 19, 2024.
- The Kindergarten Moving on Ceremony will take place in the gymnasium on June 20, 2024.
- The grade 6 graduation ceremony and party will take place at Plaza Universel on June 21, 2024.
- The Regional Storytelling event will be taking place at Honoré Mercier School on April 9. Grade 5 students, Gulia Ranieri and Alicia Guerrero, will be representing LDVA.

c) Commissioner's Report

- March 26, 2024 was the last council of commissioners meeting.
- Student of the month: Grade 5 student, Ava Furfaro from East Hill, was recognized because she encourages her friends to take an active role in nurturing the environment.
- Policy PS17 was rescinded.
- Replacement to PS17, Draft Policy PS19 was brought up for consultation.

d) Teacher's Report

- Grade 6 sent out the Entrepreneurship Order Forms this week. They are hoping to raise fund for the Sun Youth Organization.
- French exams are starting April 25, 2024 for the duration of two weeks. Students are highly encouraged to avoid being absent during this time. A doctor's note will be required.
- A discussion was had about offsetting the cost of certain fieldtrips. Ms. Sammarco will make requests for subsidies if the need arises.
- The kindergarten team is in "moving on" mode. A great deal of work and preparations are already underway.

e) Regional Delegate Report

- A presentation on the **Alloprof** website was made. Tools are being added for English students. Resources are available to help students study for exams, practice math problems, etc. There is also a section for parents with tips and tools on how to help their children with schoolwork.

f) Daycare Report

- No report.

g) Home and School Report

- A. D'Angelo reviewed the 2023-2024 budget, including the amounts raised by the various fundraising events, as well as the financial commitments made by the Home and School Association. There is an expected roll-over of approximately \$5,000.

7) Question Period

- No questions.

8) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:30pm by A. Parente, seconded by A. D'Angelo. All in favor.

Motion approved.

Chairperson
Signature:

Stellana Romeo

Principal
Signature:

Nadia Sammarco