



**Lester B. Pearson High School**  
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## **GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES**

**Date:** Monday, November 9, 2015

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Library

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### **Attendees:**

*Geraldine Anania*  
*Benny Berneti*  
*Joe Biunno*  
*Joe Cacchione*  
*Stephanie Cumming*  
*Catherine Clarabut*  
*Grace Fanelli*  
*Daina Fonicolo\**  
*Casey Gagné*  
*Gennifer Girardello*  
*Sandra Greco*

*Renée Hardy*  
*Paul Karpontinis*  
*Natasha Krsteski*  
*Stephania Mambro*  
*Melissa Mastromonaco*  
*Franco Mazzariello*  
*Cristina Mignacca\**  
*Marisa Papillo*  
*Rosanna Verrillo*  
*Mauro Zampini*

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### **Welcome:**

Benny Berneti welcomed everyone to the Governing Board meeting. The following additions were made to the agenda:

- Varia: Guidance

The revised agenda was adopted by Paul Karpontinis and seconded by Renée Hardy. Everyone was in favour.

### **Approval of Governing Board Minutes – October 13, 2015:**

The October 13<sup>th</sup> minutes were reviewed and a motion to adopt the minutes was made by Paul Karpontinis and seconded by Rosanna Verrillo. They were approved unanimously.

### **Special Presentation:**

Pierre Goyer, the Director of Service for Urban Planning of Mtl-North and Lillian Cardinal who is also working on the project presented the initial sketches and plans for "le corridor vert". The project to create green spaces around the school corridor will begin in the new year and be completed within their 5-year plan.

**New Business:**

Benny Berneti reported that he received the Selection Criteria for the Application of the Principal report. The report will be tabled for a Governing Board meeting in the new year since the document is only due on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

Benny Berneti announced that a resource manual for Governing Board members has been printed by the EMSB. Should you wish to have a copy, please email Stephania Mambro and she will ensure that a copy is given to you at the next meeting.

**Principal's Report:**

Mr. Cacchione reported that the placement exam sessions went well and that an additional 40 students wrote the exams compared to last year's number of registrants.

The sports études dance program has only one student registered this year; however, eight students are already registered for the same program for the next school year.

Parent-Teacher interviews will take place on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. and again from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Additional strike days are scheduled for Monday, November 16 and Tuesday, November 17.

**Commissioner's Report:**

Sylvia Lo Bianco was not present at the meeting.

**Chair Report/Regional Delegate Report:**

Benny Berneti reported that the CPC met for their first meeting last week. The CPC would like to offer Governing Board members the possibility of receiving a copy of their minutes following each meeting. If you would like to receive the CPC emails, please respond by email to Stephania Mambro and the complete list of interested persons will be sent to Benny Berneti.

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report:**

Stephania Mambro mentioned that she can print off copies of the agenda and minutes for anyone who does not have a printer. A pdf format of the minutes will be sent in order to correct the problem of different software versions.

**PPO Report:**

Renée Hardy reported that PPO held their first meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Elections were held and she was elected the PPO Chair.

A bake sale was held on October 28<sup>th</sup> with funds going to the Terry Fox Foundation.

At the May 19, 2015 Governing Board meeting, it was approved for the PPO to organize a “cabane à sucre” fundraising event next Spring; however, the present PPO committee has asked that this event be put on hold in order to help with the school’s organization of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary festivities.

PPO would like to hold a bake sale during the November 19<sup>th</sup> parent-teacher night using the funds to later help support student activities. Following the meeting, it was noted that since PPO parents will also have to visit teachers during the allotted time, it would be appreciated if Student Council members could assist with the sale. Paul Karpontinis approved the request for Student Council assistance with the sale. Everyone was in favour of the bake sale.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, an emailed letter was sent out on PPO letterhead outlining the school project for the need of clean, new or used uniform items and unused school supplies. Renée Hardy outlined that this project was discussed at the PPO meeting; however, the letter was to be brought to the Governing Board meeting before being emailed out to parents. The letter was sent out without approval. Benny Berneti reviewed the importance of ensuring that everyone on Governing Board or other sub-committees follow the guidelines and regulations surrounding such initiatives and the importance of obtaining Governing Board approval before sending out such notices. It is noted that the project is indeed something that is required within the school community and will benefit a large number of students. The uniform pieces that can be collected through this initiative should be washed and in good condition. Items that are no longer part of the recognized school uniform pieces (ex: blouses or skirts) will not be accepted. School items can include pens, copybooks, binders or school bags, just to name a few. Boxes will be made available on November 19 during parent-teacher night; otherwise, items can always be sent in to the office through the students.

Stephania Mambro brought forth the concern that though the project is of great importance, it may not be a PPO or Governing Board issue, but rather a school initiative. Details must be ironed out with respect to who will be responsible for the inventory control, where the boxes will be kept and the availability of a parent coming into the school to take care of the collected items. Mr. Cacchione ensured that he will review the procedures and inform the Governing Board of the outcome.

#### **Student Council:**

Daina Fonicolo and Cristina Mignacca were present and each reported on the following topics:

- Halloween: Many activities were organized in the Plaza during the week prior to Halloween including a pumpkin decorating contest, doughnut bobbing, a costume contest, a candy-gram sale and the annual haunted house. The haunted house was available to students whose teachers had signed up to bring their class down. The activity could receive five groups each period and students were also free to visit the attraction during lunchtime. Approximately 500 students visited the haunted house.

- Student Council members assisted with the placement exam sessions by helping with registration and the serving of refreshments.
- On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the first EMSAC meeting was held at Lester B. Pearson.
- The Walk to End Hunger took place on November 5<sup>th</sup>. A total of 1,500 non-perishable food items were collected. The non-perishable food items collected will benefit the food banks within the Montreal North area.
- On November 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, Remembrance Day assemblies will be held with a guest speaker present.
- On November 9<sup>th</sup>, the Secondary IV history students were visited by Thérèse Casgrain's grand-daughter, Michèle Nadeau.
- On November 10<sup>th</sup>, 42 Student Council members will attend National We Day in Ottawa.
- A sub-committee is being organized to plan Movember fundraising activities to help raise awareness for prostate cancer.
- On November 30<sup>th</sup>, Student Council will participate in the annual *Free the Children* vow of silence.
- School spirit wear items were made available to students for purchase.
- The Student Council Term 1 Newsletter was distributed. A copy is included with the minutes.

#### **Teachers' Report:**

Melissa Mastromonaco reported on the following topics:

- The taralli sale held during lunchtime generated a total of \$245 for the mental health department of the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Paul Karpontinis reported on the following topics:

- Assemblies will be held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> to acknowledge honour students. The *Breakfast of Excellence* will be held the first week of December to honour their accomplishment.
- Secondary IV French students will be going to attend the viewing of a Québécois film.

**Varia:**

Natasha Krsteski reported on the guidance initiatives. Mr. Gallo organized a workshop with a psychiatric social counsellor regarding mental health issues. Amanda Arciero is a former Lester B. Pearson graduate. She discussed issues such as negative and positive forms of stress, anxiety and depression. A follow-up workshop on anxiety entitled, "Worry Wisely" will be organized.

**Next Meetings:**

The December meeting and Christmas Social will take place on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. The PPO members will be invited to join the meeting and dinner.

**Adjournment:**

Gennifer Girardello motioned to adjourn the meeting and Casey Gagné seconded the motion. Everyone was in favour.