



École secondaire LESTER B. PEARSON High School
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Governing Board Minutes – November 18, 2024
6:45 p.m. (Virtual)

PRESENT:

Administration: Joseph Vitantonio, Assunta Caruso, Grace Fanelli, Patrizia Tummillo

Parents: Sandra Greco (Chairperson), Daniela Marino (secretary), Jocelyne Cacciatore, Jack Algieri, Annelisa Rende, Sabrina Ficca, Dario Falso, Angela Antonacci

Parent Alternates: Isabel Deganutto, Francesca Pitruzzello

Teachers: Paul Karpontinis, Gabriel Latino, Catherine Clarabut, Antoinette Licursi, Sara Di Maulo, Sabrina Pisaturo

Non-Teaching Staff: Casey Gagné, Charles Préfontaine

Students: Luca Di Fiore, Brianna Morello

ABSENT:

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

- Mr. Vitantonio welcomed everyone at the start of the meeting at 6:45 pm.
- Luca Di Fiore and Bianca Morello read the Land Acknowledgement.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- **Motion** was moved to adopt the agenda by Antoinette Licursi, seconded by Casey Gagné. All in favour.

3. Adoption of the minutes from the October 21, 2024, Governing Board meeting

- **Motion** was moved to approve the minutes by Gabriel Latino, seconded by Jocelyn Cacciatore. All in favour.

4. New Business:

4.1 Additional Ped. Day – Revised School Calendar

- ii) The date chosen for the additional ped. day by staff council is May 26, 2025.
- iii) No conflicts with June final exams, as some begin as early as May.
- iv) Revised calendar will be sent to community once GB approves the date.
 - Motion to approve the additional ped. day on May 26, 2025 was moved by Jocelyne Cacciatore, seconded by Annelisa Rende. All in favour.

4.2 Top Marks New Pant & Contract

- i) Mr. Vitantonio met with Top Marks for the annual review.
- ii) Sales were consistent to last year.
- iii) All orders were fulfilled in full and in part before the first day of school, if ordered by June.
- iv) Introducing a new pant for the girls: The 3484 style is a complementary option to the popular 3384 pant, sharing the same 4-way stretch fabric for all-day comfort. The main differences between these two styles lie in fit and construction. While the current 3384 pant features a jogger style with a relaxed fit, added hip room, an elastic back, and a pull-on design, the 3484 offers a slimmer fit with a button-and-zipper closure. The streamlined silhouette of the 3484 is particularly suited for students with leaner builds, including younger students who may not yet have fully grown. Both styles are available at the same price of \$57.25.
- v) They will be price freezing the process again this year for June orders.
- vi) They will also be extending the hours of their fitting centre to allow evenings for families who wish to go try on the items prior to purchasing.
- vii) Our contract is also coming to an end with Top Marks this year. If Mr. Vitantonio has GB's approval, he will schedule a meeting with Top Marks to look at our next contract.
- viii) Vote was held in order to explore the possibility of using a different supplier, but only 4 voted for it, so the vote wasn't carried.
- ix) Mr. Vitantonio will communicate with Top Marks about preparing a contract and voice

the concerns brought up about hosting fittings at the school. He will propose they present at January's meeting.

5. Reports

5.1 Principal

1. Educational Project (Information Item):

- a) The school is currently working on the analysis of educational project.
- b) There won't be a report done, but rather an initial review of strategies in place in the EP. Since it was due in March, we haven't gone through a full year for the usual reporting, so this is an intermediate step.
- c) As soon as this analysis is done, I will share it with Staff Council and GB.

2. Lock Down Drill (Information item):

- a) We will be practicing our lock down protocol the week of December 9, 2024.
- b) A letter will be sent to families before the drill.
- c) It will be an in-house drill, as the SPVM no longer assists with the drills to minimize the level of stress for students and staff during the drill.
- d) The drill shouldn't last longer than 20 minutes.

3. Breakfast of Excellence (Information Item):

- a) Second to third week of December to honor the students who made the Honor Roll, and students who were nominated for Diligence. Sec. 1-5 on the 5 days.
- b) Breakfast will be a boxed breakfast, and students will be invited by level on each day for a quicker service and easier group management in the shared cafeteria space.
- c) It will take place period 2.

4. January Midyear Exams (Information item):

- a) Dates selected for these midyear exams are January 24-27-28, 2025.
- b) Only selected courses will have the midyear exams.
- c) The school board felt that we should target only specific classes not to over 'test' students unnecessarily.
- d) The exams include tentatively History sec. 3 & 4, Math sec. 2 and 4, Science sec. 4.
- e) Teachers will hold in-class tests for evaluation purposes outside of these courses.

- f) We are looking to try to minimize class disruptions to classes by only having those grade levels writing their exams be affected by the exam day, but if we are limited on available teachers and staff to be able to cover the exam supervision and the teaching of the regular classes for the other grade levels, we may need to have a plan B and have the 3 days blocked for everyone for exams.
- g) I will have a conversation with Staff Council and get back to GB once a decision is made.

5. January Supplementals (Approval/Information item):

- a) We have exams taking place beginning during the week of January 6, 2025.
- b) We have about 20 students writing the science, and 20 student writing History.
- c) Letters will be sent home advising the families of these students.
- d) They need these credits for graduation.
- e) We also have about 14 students doing a special Art project for their missing Art credit for graduation. Special thank you to Ms. Koranteng for coordinating the project with them.
- f) Students will be coming in for exams only on those days of supplementals.

6. Geordie Productions (Information item):

- a) Play presentation for the secondary 5 students called “The Wolves” at the Segal Theatre took place.
- b) Students were bussed there and back on November 6 and 12, 2024.
- c) Secondary 4 students will be watching a play at school by Geordie productions called Megalodon.
- d) The date is February 5, 2025.
- e) Costs being absorbed by the school.

7. Camp Lift- Spring Break Camp (Information item):

- a) Spring Break Nature Camp being organized by Camp Lift.
- b) Takes place March 4-7, 2025.
- c) Free for students but require a \$100 deposit to reserve a spot
- d) It’s an overnight nature connection camp for late winter and early spring. Students will enjoy healthy meals, stay active, and play outside with activities like snowshoeing, sledding, and learning winter fire-making skills. Unwind and relax by the indoor fire in good company.

8. Holiday Social (Information/Approval item):

- a) Caterer suggestions
- b) Suggest we start at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to use Fund 3 for the holiday social was moved by Casey Gagné and seconded by Sabrina Ficca. All in favour.

5.2 Commissioner

- Susan Perera invited by email, but not correct email
- She has not yet received EMSB email

5.3 Chairperson

- Nothing to report.

5.4 Regional Delegate

- Nothing to report

5.5 Treasurer

- Nothing to report

5.6 Student Council

Chocolate Box Sales

- Our chocolate box sales have been going well with only 3 boxes left to sell!

Haunted House

- Our Haunted House was very well received with around 20 classes passing through during Halloween Day.

Costume Contest

- Our annual Halloween Costume contest took place during lunch with the top 3 participants winning Pearson Pride merchandise as prizes.

Door decorating contest

- We had our annual door decorating contest; council members went around the schools judging their FANTASTIC doors! We're proud to announce our winners for this year's competition; with an honorable mention to Ms. Koranteng's class! In Third place, Ms.

Cocco's class, In second place, Ms Berardi's class and in first place was Ms. Orobello's class! Student Council will make arrangements to reward the winning classes.

Vow of Silence

- Some student council members will take an optional Vow of Silence on November 20, in honor of the United Nations Day of the Child.

Coffee House

- On November 21st, we plan to have a coffee house, a night of poetry, singing and fun! If we don't have enough sign-ups, we will have to cancel.

Parent's Night

- We will be having our parents' night on November 28th, we will be having booths so parents can promote their businesses

PJ Day to benefit Christmas Charities

- We realized that December 6th, the day we requested to hold this PJ day, is the same day as the Secondary 3 trip to Quebec City, so, to avoid missing out on a grade's worth of donations, we are planning to speak to admin about possibly holding the PJ day on December 2nd, the following Monday.

Modified Uniform week for Christmas

- From December 16 to 20th, Student Council will be holding a modified uniform week for the whole student body, at no expense. Examples being, Ugly socks, accessories, ugly sweater, wacky hat, etc.

Spirit of Giving Food Drive

- Student Council will be holding our Spirit of Giving food drive starting tomorrow and lasting until December 13th. The winning grade will be awarded with a non-uniform day.

Grad Hoodies

- We can expect them to arrive around the end of November

Secondary 5 Breakfast with Santa

- We are organizing our first ever Breakfast with Santa, for only Sec 5s, we hope to have at least 70 sec 5s show up, each will receive a small Christmas gift

EMSB Camp

- We've started our preliminary planning for EMSB Camp.

Sports

- Futsal tryouts took place today

Free CPR Certification

-We will be having our CPR training on January 6th

Student Leadership Summit

-All student leaders will be invited to an island-wide Student Leadership Summit on April 29. We are hoping to have 8-10 of our students participate in the summit. The focus will be on student democracy, how to engage your school and how to do fundraising.

5.7 Sports Études (Casey Gagné)

- On Nov. 5 we had basketball try out outside our school for a new sport partner we are trying to work with. It is for next year's Sec 1, 2 & 3 students
- The sport partner is interested in setting up something with our leadership students and possibly doing a jamboree during the year with our elementary schools in the EMSB to help promote the sport and our school, and letting the students see our building a little earlier.

6. Varia

- a) Mr. Latino mentioned LBPHS will be hosting a GMAA volleyball play day on November 19. They will be hosting six different EMSB elementary schools with the help of some Sec. 4 & 5 leadership students. They will also be hosting a basketball play day for elementary students on February 10.

7. Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be in-person and will take place on Monday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Casey Gagné and seconded by Antoinette Licursi. All in favour.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 P.M.



Principal



Chairperson