



**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING - AGENDA  
October 13th, 2022 at 7:00 pm**



**Governing Board Members 2022-2023:**

Name	Position		Name	Position	
Joe Astorino (JA)	GB Chair	P	Johanne Renda (GR)	Parent Representative	P
Kristina Di Cesare (KDC)	GB Vice-Chair	P	Noemia Bozzo (NB)	Teacher	P
Rosanna Palermo (RP)	GB Treasurer	P	Lori Cardillo (LC)	Support Staff	P
Miranda Serrecchia (MS)	GB Secretary	P	Elisa Di Genova (EDG)	Teacher	A
Marisa Mineiro (MM)	Principal	P	Suzanne Fortier (SF)	Teacher/IB Coordinator	P
Mario Benvenuto (MB)	Vice-Principal	P	Amanda Lucia (AL)	Teacher	P
Pietro Mercuri (PM)	Commissioner	P	Pina Rinaldi (PR)	Support Staff	P
Choukri Berghout (CB)	Parent Representative	A	Nancy Salituri (NS)	Daycare Technician	P
Nick Ciccotelli (NC)	Parent Representative	A	Domenic Urso (DU)	Teacher	P
Stephanie Passucci (SP)	Parent Representative	A	Pasquale Brancati	Guest	P

Meeting called to order at 7:08pm by Mr. Astorino

Mr. Astorino welcomes members and guests. Reminds everyone that questions for question period must be submitted in advance and asked in the form of a question and not simply brought up as a topic. Anonymous questions will not be accepted as we want to promote and encourage transparency. If a parent doesn't feel comfortable bringing forward their question, they are to contact the office or Mr. Astorino directly. Parents are invited to attend our GB meetings as these are public however they are not able to participate in the GB meetings/discussions.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Motioned by: KDC  
 Seconded by: JR  
 Approved: Unanimous  
 Opposed: 0  
 Abstained: 0

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Motioned by: SF  
 Seconded by: JR  
 Approved: Unanimous  
 Opposed: 0  
 Abstained: 0

**3. Question Period**



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**3.1 (SP on behalf of anonymous parent) Cost of Extra-Curricular Activities**

Can the cost of extra curricular activities be lowered by fundraising by the PPO?

ANSWER: Ms. Mineiro explains that ECA are a choice by the parent and the school acts as a facilitators to the 3<sup>rd</sup> party companies offering the activity. Fundraising efforts are for the benefit of the whole school.

**3.2 (JA on behalf of Pat Brancati) What's the status of having speed bumps on Jean-Yves Bigras street to slow down traffic? Has the school put in a request?**

ANSWER: Ms. Mineiro explains this is an initiative from the city and not the school. The school has asked for increased speed bumps, increased police presence, potential one-way road directions around the school and crossing guards. Students crossing while accompanied by a parent are not considered the same as a students who walks alone. Parents are entitled to call 311 and inquire about these initiatives as well.

**3.3 (JA on behalf of Pat Brancati) Are decisions for fundraising ideas taken at the GB level or PPO? If so, are those decisions finalized for this year or is there an opportunity to explore different fundraising options?**

ANSWER: Ms. Mineiro explains that PPO is responsible for deciding on the fundraising initiatives. The PPO is working on developing an annual calendar for fundraisers and is always open to new ideas. Priority will be given to initiatives that maximize the returns for the school. Chocolate fundraiser brings in approximately \$18,000 and covers the IB fees. SEBIQ fees are also a priority to be covered. Ideas for new initiatives may be forwarded to the PPO Chair and Vice-Chair.

Decisions are made by the PPO and are approved by GB. Anything that has to do with funds for the school must go through the GB.

KD adds that the PPO is always open to donations for raffles or gift-giveaways.

**3.4 (MM on behalf of Donny Insogna) Was the parking in the schoolyard necessary as it decreases the amount of space?**

ANSWER: MM explains that the amount of space taken has little impact on the amount of space allocated for students. There is a growing number of staff as the student population also grows. Staff vehicles have been vandalized (scratched, tires slashed, etc), staff have been verbally harassed, cars get snowed in in the winter, staff have been injured and there was a situation of a mugging, staff safety is a concern, and the parking alleviates some of these issues. What we see is phase 1. Phase 2 will include a dedicated entrance separate from the students' entrance to the yard. Lighting will be added. Decisions were made over time and involved the school board (B&G).

The modular unit is a temporary aid provided by the schoolboard. The modular is not to house more students; it is to accommodate more programs to offer to the students. Examples of lack of space inside the school: IB



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coordinator works out of the staff room to meet with teachers, CCWs do not have a space to themselves. Interventions with students in crisis. Resource teachers only have 1 space for junior and senior students. NB adds that the school remains a place of work for the staff at the school and they should be entitled to have a parking space. The teachers and support staff dedicate their efforts to the students and do not want to be perceived as wanting to take their space away from the students.

MM showed the plans of the neighborhood elementary school to compare space allocated for schoolyard, parking and the modular unit. In comparison, Michelangelo has the largest yard despite space being taken by the new parking lot and the incoming modular unit.

**3.5** (MM on behalf of Donny Insogna) Can safety around the school be improved? (ex: 5e becomes a one-way, more speed bumps, etc.)

MM explains that these are city initiatives and not decisions that the school take. The topic of 5e becoming one way was a proposition but was not accepted. Safety during times of arrival and dismissal begins with parents and they need to take ownership of the safety of their children (ex: Crossing buses, double-parking, etc.)

JA adds that the more pressure parents can put on the city to benefit the safety of the children, it is welcomed. As citizens, we have power to speak up and make requests.

MM gives the example of parents calling 311 for snow removal to be a priority during the winter.

**3.6** Donny Insogna: What is the capacity of the modular unit and what number of students are from in-zone?

MM: depends on the needs of the school. The building holds over 700 students. It also depends on the number of special needs students. We are currently at 520 and our goal is to remain and not necessarily increase. We have not had to refuse any students from out-of-zone. If enrollment increases to capacity, then we would need to go to prioritize in-zone students.

**3.7** When is Phase 2 of the parking lot expected?

MM explains that typically it is done during the summer and hopes that it will take place during summer 2023.

#### **4. Business Arising from Minutes**

Nothing to add

#### **5. New Business**

Nothing to add

#### **6. Principal's Report**

6.1 Welcoming Day: successful event with bouncy castles, food and freezies, students had fun and the school was able to welcome back parent volunteers.



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6.2 Chocolate fundraiser update: 176 boxes sold so far. 39 donations. This initiative goes until the first week of November.

6.3 Halloween: PPO is working on this. Theme: Stranger Things. Haunted House is in the works.

6.4 Book Fair: Returns in person November 22, 23, 24. Asking for an allocation of \$400 for décor.

Motion to allocate \$400 for the Book Fair.

Moved by KDC.

Seconded by Palermo

Accepted: unanimous

6.5 QPAT: GB approved a budget for teachers to spend for their classrooms

6.6 Open House: November 17, in person.

6.7 ECAs have started. Ball hockey, Karate, Chess (postponed but will still last 8 weeks), soccer academy. Teacher clubs will be starting shortly. Student elections, guitar club, etc.

6.8 Fund 3 \$12,000 (it's a bank account, money goes in and out). PPO \$11,000

## **7. Teacher's Report**

NB presents on behalf of the teachers.

Thanks the GB on behalf of the staff for the QPAT funds.

## **8. IB Report**

SF presents: She and Ms. Gemma are the staff advisors.

8.1 Staff will be following IB and SEBIQ workshops and conferences.

8.2 Student Council: VoxPopuli guides the school to have a successful and impactful student council. Students are very excited and have started their election campaigns. Election are October 21<sup>st</sup>.

8.3 Peace Project: Began September 21<sup>st</sup>, International Peace Day. Theme: How to eliminate racism.

## **9. Daycare Report**

NS presents:

Ped Day: World Smile Day → How can you bring a smile to someone's day

Upcoming: Apple Picking → it's a go rain or shine

Movie day in the works with Guzzo For November 18, 24 or 25.

Motion to supplement the movie outing: \$35 per student to cover ticket, combo and bus.

Motioned by: KDC



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Opposed: 0  
Abstained: 0

BASE providing activities free of charge. Sportball will begin next week with the juniors. Science activities are coming soon.

**10. Chairperson's Report**

JA thanks the GB members for dedicating their time to the GB for the students.

**11. Commissioner's Report**

PM presents

11.1 Special Board Meeting held last week: Appointment of acting secretary general (Maître Magdalena Sokol appointed). Budget allocations to schools and centers. Remuneration for Student Ombudsman. Approval of the QESBA allocations.

**12. EMSB PC Report**

KDC presents the first meeting will take place next week. A report will follow at the next GB.

**13. PPO Report**

JR presents.

Halloween: Stranger Things theme. PPO is asking for a budget of \$600. Items purchased will be made to be reused.

Motion: To allocate \$600 to the PPO's Halloween Fund.

Motioned by: KDC

Seconded by: RP

Approved: Unanimous

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried.

**14. Varia**

Nothing to add

**15. Correspondence**



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Nothing to add

**16. Motion to Adjourn at 8:37pm**

Motioned by KDC

Seconded by AL

Approved: unanimously

Next meeting: November 10, 2022 on Teams