



**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**  
**January 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm**



**Governing Board Members 2023-2024:**

Name	Position		Name	Position	
Kristina Di Cesare (KDC)	GB Chair	X	Giuseppe Pazienza (GP)	Parent Representative	X
Miranda Serrecchia (MS)	GB Vice-Chair		Nada Porco (NP)	Teacher	X
Stephanie Passucci (SP)	GB Treasurer		Stefanie Fuoco (SF)	Teacher	X
Marisa Mineiro (MM)	Principal	X	Noemia Bozzo (NB)	Teacher/IB	
Amanda Vallelunga (AV)	Vice-Principal	X	Mirella Di Stefano (MDS)	Teacher	
Pietro Mercuri (PM)	Commissioner	X	Elisa Di Genova (EDG)	Teacher	X
Nadia Cerrelli	Parent Representative	X	Nancy Salituri (NS)	Daycare Rep.	X
Pat Brancati (PB)	Parent Representative	X	Pina Rinaldi (PR)	Support Staff	X
Nick Ciccotelli (NC)	Parent Representative	X	Loredana Cardillo (LC)	Support Staff	X
Mario Benvenuto (MB)	Parent Representative	X	Joe Astorino (JA)	Community Representative	X

**1. Approval of Agenda :**

Approval: Nadia Cerrelli  
 Seconded elisa Di Genova

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Approval: Joe Pazienza  
 Seconded by Pat Brancati

**3. Question Period**

**a. What is the status of the Transco strike?**

At the EMSB PC meeting it was mentioned that there is presently no agreement and the timeline for an agreement is undetermined. Emails from the EMSB were sent to parents indicating a monetary compensation for the bussing strike days. (7\$ a day per child retroactive to October 31, 2023.

This will help parents who are now needing to pay for daycare services.

**b. Is the EMSB trying to find an alternative for the rest of the school year for the bussing situation? Which budget is being used to compensate parents for the bussing situation?**

The EMSB is compensating parents. It was a decision made by the school board. Alternate transport means for the kids: this requires authorized companies to do the transport. There aren't many transport companies out there. Transco is the largest one. Human Resources point of view; it is very difficult to find drivers to hire. There was a lack of staff prior to the strike.

**c. Is it all of Transco busses on strike being that some busses have been seen on the road?**

Transco busses are not transporting the children to school but they



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are honoring field trips. Bus numbers over one hundred are on strike and not running. Ms Vallelunga mentioned that there are two unions within Transco (one is on strike the other is not).

**D. How can we improve drop off and pick up during the winter months?**

Unfortunately, the city snow removal has been a big issue around the school. Parents are parking any which way and wherever they find a spot. Mr Mercuri communicated through text during this meeting to voice our concerns to a city counselor that he knows to find a solution to this problem. Ms Mineiro has asked staff members to park in the school yard to alleviate space on the streets for parents to be able to park to drop off and pick up their kids. Parents are creating their own parking spots which is a safety hazard. Ms Cerrelli mentioned getting the street to become a one way. Ms Mineiro mentioned that the city has looked into it and they declined this option. Mr Brancati asked if there is any way of getting the snow removal to not pass during entrance and dismissal of the children as this is what happened this morning causing chaos. Mr Mercuri will be bringing this up to Lisa Christenson, the city counselor.

**E. Based on the Gov'ts announcement, what is the school board's plan to catch up the students academically?** It was mentioned at the PC meeting that each school will decide for itself how to put a plan in motion. The Government will pay teachers to tutor however it is important to note that it is on a voluntary basis whether or not the teacher will accept to tutor. Michelangelo Int'l school was proactive and began the tutoring program in December. Each homeroom teacher gave the five students that they felt needed tutoring after school. Parents received the letters and had to fill out the forms to authorize their kids tutoring sessions. This tutoring session will take place until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Only then will teachers choose another five students to receive tutoring. The administrators haven't received any directives from the EMSB to proceed with the funds mentioned by the Ministry of Education. Ms Mineiro mentioned that there will be different directives as teachers unions are different. We are awaiting directives based on the amount of days our students missed school due to the teachers strike.

**F. What will be the take on next year for textbooks? Extra resources are no longer provided with the new textbooks. Is there a plan for online resources?** The teachers have the right to choose the textbooks they want to use each year. This right is part of their collective agreement. Staff council meets to accept these activity books. There are apps that you can purchase on your own but the rights of the teachers need to be respected. Books chosen are presented at staff council. Ms Stefanie Fuoco mentioned that teachers do verify the online resources and make a professional opinion as to whether it will benefit their students are not. If a teachers has not opted to have students pay for online resources for a particular subject it is because it was deemed not beneficial to the students.

**4. Business Arising from Minutes: None**



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**5. New Business:**

- Introduction of Community Representative:  
Ms Di Cesare introduced Mr Astorino who will be our community representative. During our October meeting, we voted to have him join. He comes with lots of knowledge and expertise as a community member and former chair of Michelangelo's Governing Board. His role will be to guide and/or give ideas however he is not a voting member.
- Approval for Staff Appreciation Week budget: Approved unanimous

**6. Principal's Report:**

1. Bus Strike: previously discussed during question period
2. Open House: Jan 26, 2024 Open House during the day.
3. Registration for siblings: January 29 to February 2, 2024
4. Registration for new students: February 5 to February 9, 2024
5. EMSB initiative for Registrations: one week before registration a link will be sent to parents via facebook for parents to choose their registration time.
6. Le Doral: Johnny is inviting the Governing Board members to his kitchen on March 13, 2024 to taste test small meals and in order to visit the facility where the hot meals are prepared. The Governing Board meeting on March 13, 2024 will be at Le Doral.
7. Sexuality Education Curriculum Plan: The plan is the same as the one for the 2022/2023 school year. Refer to the school website to read through it. Ms Mineiro explained the whole document and the topics that will be touched upon during each grade level to all GB members.  
Ms Mineiro read the resolution.  
Motion approval Mario Benvenuto  
Seconded Kristina Di Cesare
8. Safe School Action Plan: Newly re-named Anti-Bullying Anti-violence Action Plan. What are we doing at Michelangelo school? In order to assess the situation within our school we look at Our School Survey, incident reports, reports from bus transportation, analyze last years action plan, in house surveys for parents staff and community members, reflections, logs, case conferences etc. For a detailed Plan; please refer to the



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Michelangelo website for all parents to read through. Ms Vallelunga thoroughly explained each section that pertained to our school.

9. Educational Project also known as MESA: Ms Mineiro gave an overall summary of the survey for parents, teachers, and daycare educators. She thoroughly explained some of the concerns, questions and positive remarks of the school and its functioning.
10. BUDGET: Ms Mineiro explained the budget projection thoroughly  
Resolution was read by Ms Mineiro.  
Motion to pass the resolution by Ms Stefanie Fuoco  
Seconded Ms Nadia Cerrelli
11. Principal Selection Criteria was thoroughly explained and read through by Ms Vallelunga to all governing board members.  
All in favor of keeping the criteria as is.

Ms Di Cesare mentioned that it was presently 8:30pm and we were not finished the meeting. She asked to extend the meeting by 30 minutes.

Motion to extend the meeting by 30 minutes Mr Mario Benvenuto  
Seconded by Ms Elisa Di Genova

Ms Di Cesare at 9:00pm asked if it was okay to continue the meeting in order to get through the entire agenda.

Motion to extend Mr Pat Brancati  
Seconded by Ms Nadia Cerrelli

**7. Teacher's Report:** Ms Stefanie Fuoco reported that the school collected 5000 pairs of socks during the Christmas collection. She also thanked PPO members for organizing a wonderful and exciting Christmas breakfast for the students and for creating the gym into a Winter Wonderland. Crisis Prevention Intervention training was completed by Ms Stefanie Fuoco and Ms Eliza Le Brun (attendant). The students truly enjoyed the play by Geordie Productions. The staff and students are well rested and ready to tackle the final stretch of term 2 before March Break.

**8. IB Report:** None

**9. Daycare Report:** N. Salituri presented the Daycare handbook created by the EMSB. The Daycare Coordinator from each school puts it up to date for it to represent their individual schools. There have been no changes last years copy.  
Motion to approve the Daycare Handbook by Mario Benvenuto  
Seconded by Nadia Cerrelli



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February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 daycare outing to Cinema Guzzo Lacordaire: 8.00\$ movie + 12.50\$ popcorn and drink (expensive so instead the Daycare will provide them a lunch from le doral 6.75\$ instead.

Parents cost 35.00\$ per child

Motion to approve: Ms Nadia Cerrelli

Seconded by Mr Mario Benvenuto

**10. Chairperson's Report:** None

**11. Commissioner's Report:**

-City Counselor response for snow removal: The side of the street of the school is priority. The rest is afterwards. While they were clearing the snow for the first snowstorm the operation was suspended for the second snowstorm that hit Montreal. The entire borough will be done with snow removal by January 26, 2024. Lisa Christenson did send an email to put some pressure to get the school area done for the safety of the students. Mr Mercuri asked Ms Mineiro to send him pictures of the area of the school by email and for Mr Ciccotelli to email him as well as a parent explaining the situation of morning drop off being that he lives facing the school.

-Council meeting was on December 19, 2023 and was held at the head office at 6000 Fielding Avenue. During this meeting, they Nominated Emilio Santini for Student of the Month for his high achieving academic record and for becoming an elite hockey player and candidate for Team Canada. They also voted for the removal of the vice chair. The appointing of the new Vice Chair will take place on January 18, 2024.

An allocated space for Adult Education and Vocational Studies at Lester B Pearson high school was accepted.

Budget roll-overs of surpluses and deficits was approved.

A resolution to request the Ministry of Education to make it mandatory to support Genocide Education in schools was created.

**12. EMSB PC Report:** Ms Kristina Di Cesare mentioned that Mike Cohen discussed marketing strategies with the committee. He is adamant about having bilingual Open Houses and for social media posts to be posted a minimum of three times per week. She was happy to report Michelangelo school already does this.

**13. PPO Report :** Ms Kristina Di Cesare mentioned that Staff Appreciation Week is coming up. PPO is in the process of working on little treats for the staff.  
PPO is asking for 2500\$ for 80 staff members from Governing Board.

Motion to approve: Mr Mario Benvenuto

Seconded by Nadia Cerrelli



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Fundraiser: Bagel and Bagelettes from Sainte Viateur Bagels (February 2024)  
TCBY starting ongoing on a weekly basis until June 2024.

**14. Varia:** None

**15. Correspondence:** A postcard from the EMSB was received wishing GB and the Staff a Happy Holiday.

**16. Motion to Adjourn**

Motion by Mr Mario Benvenuto  
Seconded by Ms Stefanie Fuoco