

**AGENDA**

1. Opening Remarks
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting - Regular Meeting – December 10, 2019
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Reports
  - 5.1 Principal's Report
    - 5.1.1 Budget Measures for the 2019-2020 School Year - Resolution
    - 5.1.2 Parent Workshop Topics
    - 5.1.3 Gender Variances
  - 5.2 Regional Delegate's Report
  - 5.3 Teacher's Report
  - 5.4 Daycare Report
  - 5.5 PPO Report
  - 5.6 Treasurer's Report
6. Public Question Period
7. Date of Next Meeting
8. Adjournment

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Silvana Crigna, Tanya MacDonald, Caroline Thomassin, Siarna Genest, John Cloutier, Erica Manis, Jes Corbeil, Leighton Jacobs, Avice Roberts-Joseph, Cynthia Di Rienzo, Angela Sirianni, Angela Zambito, Joanne Hall, Nadine Joy Collins

Members Absent:

Hayley Juhl

**1. Opening Remarks**

The meeting began at 6:46 PM. Tanya MacDonald welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Item 5.1.3 "Gender Variances" was added to the agenda.

**Upon motion duly made by Mr. John Cloutier and seconded by Ms. Joanne Hall, it was unanimously decided to approve the agenda, with the additional proposed topic.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – Regular Meeting – December 10, 2019**

A small typographic error in the draft minutes was noted.

**Upon motion duly made by Ms. Joanne Hall and seconded by Ms. Angela Sirianni and with Ms. Angela Zambito and Ms. Joanne Hall abstaining, the minutes of the December 10, 2019 Governing Board meeting were approved, with the correction discussed.**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

The Governing Board members agreed that keeping the protection of the environment in mind and avoiding paper waste, a printed copy of the previous meeting's draft minutes would no longer be made available; only the clean copy for signature would be printed.

**5. Reports****5.1 Principal's Report****5.1.1 Budget Measures for the 2019-2020 School Year - Resolution**

Ms. Silvana Crigna presented the report relative to the *mesures* received and outlining the school's commitments in this regard and answered Governing Board members' questions.

**Upon motion duly made by Ms. Angela Zambito and seconded by Ms. Joanne Hall**, the report confirming the commitments to the *mesures* received by St. Monica were approved, the whole based on a resolution that was signed by Ms. Silvana Crigna and Ms. Tanya MacDonald and which will be provided to EMSB.

### **5.1.2 Parent Workshop Ideas**

Ms. Silvana Crigna explained that she was in the process of planning parent workshops and was seeking the Governing Board members' ideas for workshops. The following suggestions were tabled:

1. Parent-child cooking workshop through Provigo or the NDG Food Depot, allowing parents and child/children to prepare delicious and healthy foods;
2. Workshop on Nutrition during which nutritionists would discuss nutrition and a Chef would discuss tips for preparing healthy meals;
3. Math Workbook for parents, allowing parents to follow their child's math learning curriculum;
4. Workshop on the school-to-home transition, a discussion on how to balance school homework load and family obligations; and
5. Workshop on defining bullying and distinguishing it from actions that show a lack of respect to be presented by Prevention NDG.

The members of the Governing Board discussed the various options and it was decided to prioritise Option 5 – Workshop on defining what constitutes bullying as the first choice and the parent-child cooking workshop as a second choice. It was also determined that the NDG Food Depot would be contacted in order to ascertain whether they could support the school with the cooking workshop.

### **5.1.3 Gender Variances**

Ms. Silvana Crigna explained that inclusivity is something that the St. Monica community works hard to achieve each day so that everyone feels a sense of belonging and safety. She invited an EMSB consultant to provide a presentation to the staff on "supporting gender variances". She added that the discussions led to the following suggestions:

- a gender-neutral bathroom (St. Monica has one)
- gender-neutral vocabulary, for example addressing the student body as "students" and not as "boys and girls";
- avoiding groupings of students in accordance with their gender.

She concluded by mentioning that she and the St. Monica staff had appreciated the presentation and that the session had provided information that would help everyone best support all students.

## **5.2 Regional Delegate's Report**

The Regional Delegate advised that no regional meeting had been held since the last Governing Board meeting. She confirmed that a meeting was scheduled for this upcoming Thursday, January 16, 2020.

She informed the Governing Board that a brief relative to major school changes in the North East of Montreal had been presented for an e-vote and that 31 regional delegates had voted in favor, 3 had voted against, 1 had abstained and 14 had not responded. She explained that she had not voted as she felt she had not been provided with sufficient information to form an informed opinion on this matter.

She solicited the Governing Board members' views on the Government's proposed changes to the Ethics and Religious Culture curriculum. Governing Board members determined that due to lack of information at this time, it would be something to discuss in the future when more details are provided by the Ministry.

## **5.4 Teacher's Report**

Mr. Leighton Jacobs informed the Governing Board that Cycle 2 and 3 skating sessions were underway.

## **5.5 Daycare Report**

Ms. Angela Zambito informed the Governing Board that the Winter activities had begun and detailed them as follows:

- On Tuesdays, pre-K and K students were attending a movement and art activity on an alternating basis;
- On Wednesdays, Grade 1 students were attending Theater Fun;
- On Fridays, Grade 2 and 3 students were attending Funky Feet, a dance and choreography activity with a performance scheduled for the end of the sessions;

She concluded her remarks by informing the Governing Board that the Grades 4-6 students were attending sports activities in the gym on a regular basis.

## **5.6 PPO Report**

Ms. Tanya MacDonald reported that:

- The new payment method for pizza lunches had received good response and would continue to be used for the remainder of the school year; she added the next pizza lunch was scheduled for January 29, 2020;
- Other upcoming events included Dress Down Day on February 3, 2020;
- planning for the Staff Appreciation Week was underway;
- a second Movie Night would be scheduled for March 27 and would include a bake sale with items for sale at prices between \$0.50 and \$2.50. Movie ticket prices would be \$5 per ticket and would include a bag of popcorn with a bottle of water or a juice box, with additional popcorn or drink

to cost \$1 She informed the members of the Governing Board that the movie would be selected at the end of February in order to focus on new releases.

She continued her remarks by updating the members of the Governing Board on Grad Committee activities. She advised that this year's theme was Hollywood Red Carpet and that the students had chosen an evening party. She then detailed 2 planned Grad fundraising activities:

- Candygrams to be distributed at St. Valentine's; \$1 for a card with message and candy and \$3 for a card with message and a loot bag;
- A coffee and hot chocolate sale to be held possible at the end of January at prices between \$4.25 and \$5.50;

She advised that she would be attending the next Graduation Committee meeting.

The members of the Governing Board approved the proposed fundraising activities provided:

- A February 1, 2020 deadline be set for the letter to parents relative to the candygrams; and
- That teachers be provided with a copy of the candygram delivery list in order to allow the teachers to know in advance who would be getting candygrams in their classroom.

The Governing Board approved:

- the movie night and bake sale;
- the candygram Graduation Committee fundraiser;
- the coffee / hot chocolate Graduation Committee fundraising activity

the whole as had been outlined by Ms MacDonald.

**Note: we voted by show of hands. No resolution was formally tabled.**

#### **5.7 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer advised that there had been no changes since the last meeting.

#### **6. Public Question Period**

Nil.

#### **7. Date of Next Meeting**

February 11, 2020 at 7:00 PM at St. Monica School.

#### **8. Adjournment**

**Upon motion duly made by Ms. Joanne Hall and seconded by Mr. Leighton Jacobs, it was unanimously decided to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.**



Silvana Crigna  
Principal



Tanya MacDonald  
Chairperson