

Governing Board Minutes
April 6, 2021, 7:00 pm
Held virtually on MS Teams

Present:

Parents: D. Santelli, D. Tatone, T. Dorsey, J. Stein, G. Mitchell, S. Gabriele (secretary)

Teachers: LA Bouffard, J. Lacroix, P. Foschi, N. DiMattia

Others: T. Alvares, M. Nitti, M. Filippone, A. Cannavino (EMSB Commissioner)

Regrets: L. Niro, A. Loffredi (Community rep)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by D. Santelli. S. Gabriele volunteered to take minutes. As D. Santelli was driving, it was agreed that S. Gabriele would chair the meeting exceptionally, until such time as D. Santelli could resume doing so safely.

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes (March 9, 2021)

Moved by LA Bouffard and seconded by P. Foschi with the following changes to the Minutes to be made:

- correction to Commissioner Cannavino's first name (Agostino is the correct spelling);
- correction to name of Parent Talia Dorsey;
- correction to the name of the Kathy Magi Foundation;
- George Mitchell will be added as present at the last meeting.

4. Business Arising from the Last Meeting

4.1 Follow-up A. Loffredi

Ms Alvares received an email from Mr. Loffredi indicating that the Foundation did not agree to any of the suggestions provided by the staff to recognize the planned donation to be made by the Kathy Magi Foundation (it was clarified that the donation had not been made). The Foundation prefers to have a special classroom or other defined area designated in her name, though this poses some challenges for the administration of the School.

Discussion ensued amongst the committee members about what parameters the Foundation was looking for, as the suggestions made to date were not accepted by the Foundation members. GB members suggested Ms Alvares ask the Foundation about what specific parameters the Foundation wished the school to respect. GB members are eager to find a way to honour Ms. Magi's legacy, but require some further guidance in order to suggest appropriate places/objects/spaces that align with the other considerations the School must consider.

5. Question Period

No questions were posed as no parents, beyond GB members, were present.

6. New Business

6.1 Grad Committee

Scone fundraiser was a great success. Other options are still being explored until June 22 because of the uncertainty of the current situation. Committee is looking to make the graduation event meaningful and memorable for the students.

Motion to use \$3000 from PPO to support the grad activities was moved by D. Tatone and seconded by LA Bouffard. Passed unanimously.

Motion to use \$250 from the PPO fund to purchase grad hats for kindergarten students was moved by J. Lacroix moved and seconded by N. Di Mattia.

7. Reports

7.1 EMSB Parent's Committee Report by D. Tatone, EMSB Parent rep

Learn Québec presented to the Parent's committee about the various initiatives it has undertaken in the last year.

Virtual Parent Conference – looking for moderators to help facilitate the break out rooms. High profile speakers and entertainment have been organized for the event which will take place on April 18: 9:00 am-:400 pm. All parents are encouraged to attend. Ms. Alvares noted that she had recently sent out a reminder about the upcoming Conference to the School's email list.

D. Tatone reported on the ongoing consolidation of administration at the EMSB. In particular, he noted that vocational studies are being re-organized

An anti-racism sub-committee has been created on the Parents' Committee with the goal to create a task force on Equity within the EMSB (6-7 members). The ad hoc committee on Equity at the EMSB Council level will look at issues such as hiring, recruitment of students, etc. The Parents' committee requested two seats for parents and were granted them. D. Tatone will be chairing this Ad hoc committee.

EMSB PC indicated support of the Director General in staggering the re-opening of high schools.

EPCAQ recently ran a survey with parents about IEP procedures and how requests for coding are handled at the Ministry level. It was found that the recognition of a coding for a child in the school system can take a very long time for a student. Additionally having a child supported through an IEP is also taking a long time in some schools. The concerns and findings were brought forward to the Ministère de l'Éducation.

A report on virtual enrolment through a pilot project to improve school enrollment procedures. Pros of pilot discussed included saving people the energy and effort of waiting outside which produced inequities with those who could not leave their children unattended for that period of time. Cons of the pilot were that the system was not setup securely enough and was manipulated by some parents who submitted multiple registrations by several people in a bid to secure a spot in their requested school more quickly.

7.2 Commissioner's Report by A. Cannavino, EMSB Commissioner

Nicholas Katalifos has been named the new Director General of EMSB. Next council meeting is in May.

Mary Nitti was named Volunteer of the Year. PET feels honoured to have benefitted from her dedication for so many years and is grateful that she has been recognized for her commitment.

7.3 Treasurer's Report

No expenses

7.4 Principal's Report

Update on Intercoms: wiring was done back in November; phones are installed on the bottom floor. Second floor will be done in the next few weeks, hopefully.

COVID update: masks that are being used in PET were not part of the recalled masks.

Staff have been very helpful in distributing the masks. Students have adapted very well to the new procedures. Principal Alvares cautioned us to stay vigilant and to ensure the safety of all the students and staff.

April 12 marks the start of the renovation project to renovate the two school yards. The gates on Cartier will no longer be used as this is now where the school busses will line up. Parents are reminded not to park on Cartier street. Parents reminded that only gates on Chabot and on Bélanger can be used. As a consequence of the south yard being dug up, the recess schedule needs to be changed. Students will now only be given one recess outside everyday. Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten students will go out both recesses. Lunch groups will alternate when to go outside. Phase 1 will end in June and then Phase 2 which entails the junior yard will begin.

7.5 Teacher's Report

Report on the successful completion of Reading Week, which involved a series of events focused on encouraging reading by the students.

St Patrick's Day events were held.

Owing to the generous donation of a parent, chocolates were distributed to each child before the April long weekend. PET wishes to thank the parent who made the donation.

Work on the Year book has started and the planning of graduation has begun.

Mme Bouffard has invited any children or parents who wish to support revitalizing the gardens along the front of the school.

April 14: a teachers' strike is previewed and more information is to come.

7.6 PPO Report

Scones fundraiser was successful.

PPO has asked GB to approve a raffle of spring goodies. No money is being requested as all items will be donated. Tickets will be 1 for \$3.00/ 2 for \$5.00/ 5 for \$10. Promotions will begin April 15; raffle will take place April 22. All the items in the prize will be listed on the form that will go out to the students/parents.

Motion to approve running the raffle was moved by J. Lacroix and seconded by LA Bouffard

7.7 Daycare/Lunch Report

Statement of account and tax receipts were sent via email. Both are also available in Mosaic under "the Finance" tab.

April 16 - Cabane à sucre: animal farm and lunch are planned

Motion was made to allow students to miss class time in order to hold the Cabane à sucre event. Moved by P. Foschi and seconded by D. Tatone. Motion passed with 1 absention.

8. Varia

There were no items under Varia.

9. Dates of next meeting:

Next meeting with be held May 4

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:22 pm made by LA Bouffard and second by J. Stein.