



# Westmount Park Elementary School, Governing Board Agenda February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Start time: 4:04pm

**Present:** Marco, Chrissy, Tina, Deborah, Rony, Cristina (Parent member), Shalani, Mujdat, Caitlin (PPO), Jennifer Maxwell (community member) **Missing:** Christine (teacher)

#### 1. Welcome:

- 1.1 Additions to the Agenda Fundraiser for Grade 1 added as item 3.4
- 1.2 Approval of the Agenda
  - 1. Deborah, 2. Shalani, unanimously approved.
- 1.3 Approval of the Jan minutes
  - 1. Deborah, 2. Shalani, unanimously approved.
- 1.4 Marketing presentation by Mr. Michael Cohen followed by Q&A (15 min)

WPS currently has 700 students weighted 800 b/c 169 students with special needs. Our school is a 'success story' partly b/c of international students. Suggested survey about how/why parents chose school with prizes to increase the response rate.

The board would like to increase WPS's social media presence and visibility including with signs outside in the park. He would like to do a profile on some international families; admin will participate and stress the diversity and inclusivity of WPS. School will identify families to profile; EMSB will send Don Laxer? to do the story.

Also suggested including small clips of students speaking in French; informing parents of 33% French instruction and how we teach it.

Discussed the PPO proposal to have their own Instagram account; Mr. Cohen encouraged the PPO to integrate content with the WPS account to build followers.

Also suggested showcasing prominent and interesting alumni e.g. Jacque Shore, a human rights lawyer and author in Ottawa.

Recommended that marketing is a standing item on GB agenda, keep updating website and social media.

Contact: mcohen@emsb.qc.ca or Instagram @mcohencsl

#### 1.5 Public Question Period

If any returning families missed the registration window on Mozaik, the school did it for them.





#### 2. Business arising from the minutes:

2.1 Parents' communication tool survey

Parents are generally satisfied with Google Classroom (scoring it 4-5/5 on Likert scale) but not with Mozaik (scoring 2-4/5). Parents are not really using Mozaik except to access report cards. They use Google classroom for homework and communication. WPS can educate parents on Curriculum night regarding use of both platforms.

2.2 Extra tutorials before or during March break as suggested by the Ministry due to missed school days

Tutorials will start March 11<sup>th</sup> targeting students who missed a lot of school due to the bus strike. Staff and students have already been identified; teachers are getting consent from parents.

#### 3. Business requiring approval:

- 3.1 Budget building process
- 3.2 Educational project

WPS has 42 homerooms with 3 K4s, 5 K, 6 Gr.1, 5 Gr2, 4 Gr.3, 3 Gr.4, 4 G5 and 4 G6 classes. Will send the educational project for review in advance of March meeting.

- 3.3 School budget and resolution for the budget Marco went over each fund. Most funds don't roll over and he is committed to spend all the
  - money in the academic year. Spending on new instruments but need storage.
  - 1. Tina, 2. Shalani, unanimously approved.
  - 3.4 Popcorn Fundraiser for grade
    - 1. Deborah, 2. Mujdat, unanimously approved.

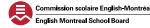
#### 4. Items requiring discussion:

- 4.1 Parking in a no-stopping zone near the school and risk of getting tickets. Mujdat has already gotten a ticket; this is adding to the frustration for parents affected by the
  - bus strike. WPS admin can send letter to parents warning them not to park in these zones. WPS can't open academy road for cars as it would be unsafe.

#### 4.2 School Green Initiatives

Success of composting and waste reduction.





#### 5. Reports:

#### 5.1 Teacher's Report

School wide events organized for Black History month. (Guest speakers / authors / storytellers - Roen Higgins, Latoya Belfon, African drummers, virtual stories etc.) door decorating scavenger hunt.

Sugar shack visit on Feb 26th. Pink Shirt Day scheduled for February 28, 2024

K4

Celebrated the 100th Day Participated in French workshops with Langmobile Pyjama party fundraiser will be held Feb. 29.

K5

Kind Kinds Social Skills Workshops wrapping up with Ms Sally's group Langue Mobile French workshop ending Groundhog day centers and activities all together Lunar New Year activities all together Celebrated the 100th Day with centers, snacks, a parade and projects! Letter of the week celebrations Pyjama party fundraiser will be held Feb. 29.

Grade 1

RULER presentation (self-regulation strategy) for grade 1 classes by Jackie Alvarado Lunar New Year celebrations in classroom Fundraiser at the end of March Valentine's celebrations all week long Carnival celebration dance party

Grade 2

Field trip to the Morgan Arboretum for outdoor education Lunar New Year Celebration Cara Carmina classroom visit for photo intervention project Concordia Math and Literature studies are ongoing

Grade 3

A conversation with Katlyn Addison. She will be joining our class for a virtual Q&A for our Black History month project on inspirational black woman Library cards and library visits to Westmount library Board game workshops



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Grade 4 Grade 5

# Grade 6

Board Game workshop started Thursday, February 15. At the end of this 7 week workshop students will have the opportunity in groups to design their own board games to play.

Candygram Fundraiser led by The Grade 6 Leadership students. Funds raised will go towards graduation and end of year activities. The Fundraiser was a great success, thank you to the school community for making this initiative so successful. Grade 6 will be starting their Transition to High School program in April with Ms. Sharon Klar. Students will have 8 sessions to learn how to take notes, use a lock, organize their binders, read a high school schedule, etc. to help them transition seamlessly into the next chapter of their adolescence.

# 5.2 Daycare Report

\* Ped Day February 12th-Daycare students participated in a "secret valentine" surprise. The students picked names and made friendship bracelets using different shapes and colored beads. They also decorated paper bags with heart shaped stickers for their secret valentine.
\* Income Tax slips are available to all parents who provided their SIN on their child's Mosaik Should anyone have difficulty printing them, they may contact Ms. Deborah in daycare.
\* Daycare registration for the 2024-25 school year will be available online for all parents to access in Mid-March 2024. Parents will be receiving an email. Should any parent have any

questions or difficulty accessing the Mosaik portal, they may contact Ms. Deborah

\* Kindly take note that school and daycare will be closed Mon Mar 4-Fri- March 8, 2024

On behalf of Base Daycare Team, wishing you all a restful spring break.

#### 5.3 Principal's Report

- Several tutors through Jordan's Principal have started to help support our First Nations students
- Additional Regular tutors have been hired and have started working with individual and small groups of students
- Rattrapage will begin after the March break
- Library evolution project has started, new furniture has arrived, green screen has been painted, magazine racks installed, lego wall items purchased
- Report Cards were available February 23rd
- Parent teacher interviews will be held February 29th
- Transportation checks should have been mailed out this week
- We celebrated our appreciation for the teachers with something different everyday for 4 days.





# 5.4 PPO ReportPPO has funds for iPad carts.Don't want parents engaging with striking bus drivers.

5.5 Regional Parent Committee Report

The PC meeting is as follows:

- Presentation on the budget-building process
- Principal selection criteria a brief explanation of the process
- Marketing tips for school discussions
- Approval of the PC scholarship award and literacy award
- Discussions on assisted therapy dogs to enter school
- Consultation on the budget-building process
- 6. Varia:
- 7. Date of next meeting: March 19th, 2024 4pm
- 8. Adjournment: