

September 5th, 2017

Re: Governing Board General Assembly and Elections

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the Willingdon Governing Board, we would like to welcome everyone back for this new school year! We would also like to invite you to attend our General meeting that will be held in the gymnasium on September 7th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

The Governing Board plays an important role in the school, as outlined in the Education Act. For those of you who may not know, or want to know more, here's some information of the role of the Governing Board:

The Governing board is a body established in each school according to the Education Act. It is composed of the principal, parents, teachers, representative of both the non-teaching professionals and support staff, day care, and community representatives who work in partnership to ensure that all students receive the best possible learning opportunities.

Among other duties, the GB approves the budget, any fundraising events that take place at the school, new initiatives, and in general is responsible to work with the school administration to ensure that the school is operating efficiently.

A full detailed account of what the GB is responsible for can be found on the EMSB website:

http://www.emsb.qc.ca/emsb_en/pdf_en/parents_en/GB%20Manual%202015.pdf

At Willingdon, there are **SIX** parents who sit on GB, and each year, **three** of those positions are open for elections. All members are elected for a two-year term. Please note that a governing board cannot be formed if fewer than the required number of parents is nominated.

We encourage everyone to submit their candidacy. There is a considerable commitment; governing board meets once a month, as well as the occasional "emergency" or "special" meeting when deemed necessary. There are also occasional "e-votes". This is a wonderful way of being involved in the workings of our fantastic school.

As well it is important to mention that according to section 47 of the Education act, the Central Parents' committee delegate and Alternate must be voted in at the Annual General Assembly. The CPC delegate is a voting parent member of the Governing Board.

The role of the delegate is to represent all the parents at the school on matters related to the region, including but not limited to:

- Promoting the parents' participation in the activities of the school board
- Giving advice on any subject conducive to the most efficient operation of a region

- Promoting adequate dialogue with the parents on the governing boards and parent participation organizations in order to facilitate the proper functioning of these two groups
- Informing the school board of the needs of parents as identified by the school representatives
- Responding to School Board consultations on matters stipulated in Section 193 of the Education Act and others that the School Board may submit to them

If you wish to present your candidacy for this year's governing board elections, please fill out the attached form and return it to the office by September 7th, 2017 and we will include your name on the ballot. Please note that if there are more candidates than seats, each candidate will be asked to speak briefly on his/her involvement in school activities and why he/she wishes to be a member of the governing board.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at cnicolas@emsb.qc.ca.

We thank you for your cooperation,

Carmen Nicolas

Willingdon Principal

Suzanne de Jonge

Willingdon GB Chairman

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Name of parent: _____

Name of child: _____