

**Minutes of Willingdon Governing Board meeting
September 19th, 2017**

Present: Nick Batzios, Mark Ellinger, Jayne Hill, Catherine Boire, Steve Cunha, Lucas Reindler, Lara Belinsky, Soula Mavidis, Kathleen Usher, Eric Lamoureux, Cornelia Mandoiu, Harriet Dove, Carmen Nicolas

Also Present: Tanya Savickey, Joseph Lalla

- I. **Principal's Remarks/Welcome**
Carmen Nicolas chaired in the absence of an elected chair and welcomed all.
- II. **Approval of minutes of last meeting**
The minutes of the Annual Meeting of September 7, 2017 were presented. It was moved by Mark seconded by Eric and unanimously resolved that the minutes be approved.
- III. **Approval of the annual report for 2016-2017.**
Eric offered to get the report from previous chair Suzanne DeJonge as it had not yet been sent to the GB.
- IV. **Elections**
 - a. **Chair.** Mark Ellinger nominated Eric Lamoureux as chair. Jayne Hill seconded. Unanimous.
 - b. **Vice-Chair.** Jayne nominated Mark as vice-chair. Catherine seconded. Unanimous.
 - c. **Treasurer.** Eric moved Jayne as treasurer. Mark seconded. Unanimous.
 - d. **Secretary.** There was much discussion about the question of a secretary to take minutes for the year. Paying a secretary last year caused certain financial difficulties and funds may not be available this year to repeat this option. It was also suggested that the Board take turns taking minutes. Jayne agreed to contact last year's secretary to see if she is still interested.
- V. **Internal rules for GB meetings.**
Last year's rules were presented for consideration, with the addition of a new rule to limit meeting times to fit within a 6:30 to 8:15 framework. After 8:15, a motion to extend would be required.
- VI. **Meeting schedule.**
The following meeting schedule for the year was proposed: Sept. 19, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 23, Feb. 20, April 24, May 15, June 19.
- VII. **Starlight Express Project.** Carmen proposed the Starlight Express Project, a musical with dance and song that grade 4, 5, and 6 children will audition for and preform at the end of the year. Interested children will pay \$100 to be involved. There is no minimum ticket sale required. This is the same person who directed the project last

year which was seemingly a success. Lara moved to approve and Steve seconded. Unanimous.

- VIII. **Share the Warmth.** Carmen proposed the Share the Warmth fundraiser for food for schools. The student council wants to do it as a fundraiser with Isabelle Daniels. The school has already raised \$565.00 for this. At the next meeting, the GB will vote on the list of approved fundraisers for the coming year. In the interim, existing events need approval. Mr. Nick moved to approve these pending fundraisers: Terry Fox fundraiser and Share the warmth. Lara seconded. Unanimous.

Similarly, for school outings, a list will be presented for approval at the next meeting. In the interim, the following trips needed approval: October 2nd, Apple picking grade 1; September 22 apple picking grade 2; October 10th Pumpkin picking Kindergarten; October 11 Mount Royal. Grade 5-6; October 13 Boute en Train grade 4. Jayne moved to approve all pending outings. Catherine seconded. Unanimous.

IX. **Student Enrichment Program Follow-Up.**

Carmen raised the issue of the discussion needed to decide what to do with the \$8 of enrichment money from the school fees that is no longer going to chess. Kathleen explained that staff council had discussed issues such as who would benefit most, and what types of enrichment would be most important. The staff will be asked to put forth proposals that will be brought to the GB. This enrichment must happen during class time.

X. **Construction and repairs at Willingdon.**

Carmen detailed all the work that was done to the school over the summer:

- Oil tank has been removed
- Bathrooms had light renovations done.
- Most of the building has been or will shortly be painted.
- Gym floor was waxed
- Some tiles were repaired
- Alarm system has been updated

XI. **Question period.**

Steve discussed the idea of the Willingdon foundation. He suggested that it can be done through the school board for minimal money and time. Eric agreed to put him in touch with the P.A.C. to discuss.

XII. **Reports:**

a. **Principal.**

- October 12th meeting @ school board
- 511 students this year with 79 in Kindergarten.
- School trying out new Free entry for older grades. Children allowed to go to class without lining up.
- PELO did not have enough people interested this year.
- Fire Drill was going to be the next day. There are 4 trials required a year, 1 lock down.

- Progress reports card will be October 13th
- Reports teachers enjoyed team building day and food truck for fun!
- Introduction of new VP. Steve Spetsieris (*in absentia*).
- b. Vice Principal.**
No report.
- c. Home and School.**
No report.
- d. Teachers' report.**
 - Nick said he has 2 choirs: grade 4-5, and a grade 6 exclusive choir this year.
 - Mme. Mavidis reported she feels very supported in by all the teachers and appreciates how well prepared the grade 1's are this year.
 - Lara reported she is running the athletic council. Also, the K's are going to the YMCA for 8 weeks each this year. She is also working to continue Trotibus.
 - Kathleen reported the Beehives are set up. They will close on October 23rd and the honey will be retrieved and sold. She received a grant for a garden and fruit trees will be planted on side of school. The benches are in.
- e. EDP.**
Tanya explained that EDP appreciated Carmen's support and is still registering for fall classes.
- f. School Commissioner.**
Commissioner Lalla reported that the GB manual is on the school board website. There is also a GB workshop. English school registration is up this year. He reported they have an 89.4 success rate. It is the top school board in the province. Once again surplus money will go to schools this year. There was discussion of where this surplus money comes from. He reported it comes from International adult students who come to Quebec and enrol in vocational programs. Kathleen spoke to her experience of the challenges of the influx of international students and the need to allot more finding to the support of teachers dealing with these students.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 on a motion from Mark.

Respectfully submitted by Jayne Hill and Eric Lamoureux



Chairperson



Principal