

Willingdon Governing Board

Minutes

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

18h30 via Zoom

Attendance: Carmen Nicolas, Maya Doughan, Kathleen Usher, Lara Belinsky, Gabriel Latino, Nick Batzios, Cornélia Mandoiu, Monique Imbeau Joseph Lalla, Eric Lamoureux, Lucas Reindler, Aurora Flewwelling-Skup, Tracy Lyall, Genevieve Moore, Matt Follett, Margot (Home and School), Tanya Saviecky (EDP)

Eric Lamoureux makes amendment to the agenda.

- I. Motion to approve the agenda  
Mme Imbeau moves, Nick seconds. Motion passes.
- II. Approval of minutes from April 29<sup>th</sup>:  
Ms. Carmen makes correction on second page, second point: RWS high school, not Montreal West High School.  
Gabriel moves, Aurora seconds. Motion passes.
- III. Motion to ratify evotes.  
Geneviève Moore moves, Nick seconds. Motion passes.
- IV. Business arising:
  - a) Ms. Carmen makes a few updates:

Covid Update: We haven't had any new cases. Things are looking good.

We received emails about the mask: children no longer need to wear the mask in class and later that day we received directives that grade 1 to 4 no longer mandatory to wear the mask.

Graduation: can't have grad with parents, but was reversed yesterday, back to initial plan.

Back to school: Next year, *le plan de la rentrée*, regular school year, no bubbles, no masks. Regular back to school. Things can change depending on the situation.

Worrisome that the government is allowing students without masks. nervous about what is happening, grownups, administrators, community safety.

Yard beautification: Put on hold, prices are over double than what was initially expected for the project. All EMSB projects, they're having trouble finding people to do the work, because of COVID.

Carmen will be meeting on Tuesday with Director of Material Resources.

-Looking at all the projects around the schools and keeping only the emergencies for September, the new school year. The yard will be postponed. A company can't guarantee that the work will be done in September. We can't run Willingdon without a school yard.

-Changing all the lights and intercom are postponed.

-Project for renovating washrooms in the works, but not this summer. Important to know for caretakers how to organize summer cleaning.

b) Mr. Lalla's report:

It has become a serious problem in terms of capital projects across the board and other boards. The bids are not coming, or you're getting one or two bids. Lack of supplies affecting construction, professionals. At minimum, all projects have increased 30%, and 50%. We need to make decisions on how to spend the money on projects.

- c) Update on bike proposal: Eric heard nothing from the team since. The response of the teachers at the staff council: teachers are opposed to bike path proposal. Therefore, GB did not send a formal letter for the bike bath proposal.
- d) Ratification of the evote on the draft resolution on MEES mesure: moved by Dr. Kat, approved by Cornélia. Motion passed.
- e) Evote youth sector calendar: Moved by Cornélia, approved by Tracy. Motion passed.
- f) Ms. Carmen – Operational Budgets 2021-2022:

**Fund 5:** Operational fund projection for 2021-2022:

Allocation fund 5: 37 980\$ based on number of students.

Caretaking budget: since we have the senior campus, it had not been reflected in our budget. This year, 2021-2022, senior campus was taken into consideration and recalculated: 33 352\$ (materials, supplies, service contracts (snow removal, plumber, etc.).

MAO: 5.00\$ per student to replace desks, chairs, etc.

**Fund 6:** Ministry mesures

Hasn't received information for next school year, 2021-2022.

**Fund 3:**

School fee breakdown for each grade level is similar to last year's.

No fee for agenda – we have decided to go agenda free at Willingdon, because we are using Google Classroom and Mozaik. Every grade level has come up with a system for communicating with the parents.

Number of students per grade level: numbers are changing every day, especially this year. Activating, disactivating students. 599 students now. Varies greatly. Budget was calculated on last week's numbers.

50 540\$ pays workbooks, photocopies, Physical Education t-shirt.

School fees: removed the agenda (7\$), workbooks are 3-4\$ more.

Genevieve moves. Gabriel seconds. Motion passed.

**Lunch fees:** 250.00\$ maintain it at this number this year and might increase it next year. We have the lowest fee in the West. This year is not very representative of what we need.

Approval of lunch fees: \$250 per family – max 500\$ per family –

We had money left over from the previous years. We can decide to increase them during the school year, if we need it. Doesn't foresee that happening next year. This year, students ate in class and 1 lunch monitor per class. Next year, students will eat in lunch room and 1 lunch monitor can look over two classes. If may be, we will increase it during the year.

Mme Imbeau moves. Cornélia seconds. Motion passed.

Ms. Carmen mentions that there is a deficit because government asked admin to reimburse parents from March to June. All lunch monitors were paid until June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Deficit: 62,000\$. Government didn't reimburse these fees. The board has asked the government for reimbursement.

-149 750\$ lunch fees collected

Governing Board budget: 250\$ in other expense, because we have given it as bursaries.

Approval of year-end financial statements: 250\$

In the past it has been used to pay a secretary. Our tradition for four years is to award it as a bursary.

Matt moves. Aurora seconds. Motion passed.

Enrolment: 77 students enrolled in K. Low enrolment. 19 students a class. We need 85 to get another class.

Genevieve: if the government doesn't reimburse the 60.000 how do you plan?

Ms. Carmen: the whole province is in this situation. It's only in the lunch section of the budget. Is hopeful that something will be done.

Carmen's resolution for the adoption of the school budget by the governing board:

Ms. Carmen read the resolution – It was moved that the GB of Willingdon adopt a school operating budget for the 2021-2022 school year as presented by the principal, forecasted revenues of 73 425\$.

Aurora moves, Matt seconds. Motion passed.

g) Question period: invited the parent, parent acknowledged the invitation. Had contacted the administration. Cell phone policy question. Person has not presented themselves. We can't change the policy at this time of the year. She can bring the topic back next year. From conversation with the parent, admin said that it was resolved. Parent did not present themselves; Ms. Carmen believes that the situation has been adequately resolved.

h) Principal's report:

- Caretaking fund has been increased to show addition of senior campus.

- Received extra resource teacher for staffing plan next year. These two requests were made through our budget building process.

- Meeting with cycle teams to discuss the use of the agenda. No agenda, K working on communication log. In house made logbook. Cycle 1 and 2, Google Classroom, Cycle 3: planner, every month is on a different page. Teaching students how to plan their month to prepare them for high school.

Surveyed high schools around, in the west, if they are still using their agendas. The answers received: half of them moved away from agendas, the other half, not yet there. Cycle 3 decided to go with the planner to show students how to plan a month on the calendar.

- September back to school. We need to know if students will be in bubbles, because it changes the school organization. All K teachers will sit together to make the grade 1 lists. Last year, because of covid measures, in bubbles, admin had to reshuffle, worked with Tanya and Jen from EDP. We heard that students will not be in bubbles, so teachers have started doing the classes for next year. Whatever we know now can be changed 10 times until the start of the school year. We are hopeful and realistic.
- Supply lists are ready, will be sent out soon. Families can order through éditions Vaudreuil. Will be sent in the Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> email to parents, documents attached. 1 email per grade level, school fee letter, supply list, mini bistro, calendar.
- Report cards: will be available on Mozaik on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Grade 4 walk to senior.
- K and grade 6 graduation. Kindergarten graduation, no parents, virtual. Montage with K students. Smaller K grad. Ms. Lara and Ms. Carmen will distribute diplomas.
- Grade 6 grad: can have up to 250 parents in outside ceremony. Each bubble will have an hour in the park with their parents in the park. 4:30 to 8:30, party in the park without parents. Virtual ceremony on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Grade 6 worked on a building audit of senior campus. They made recommendations, sent to MR department. MR was impressed by students' work. Director of MR, 5 members and DDG will come to senior, explain how material resources work and talk to students.
- Genevieve asked a question: Should we not consider grouping them by EDP just in case?

Ms. Carmen answers: We don't have EDP registrations at this time. We did it last year, worst case scenario, it will happen again. We will restart again. Teachers believe in the importance of sitting together as a team to balance the classes, and wanted to do it before they leave. Some classes were difficult, but the majority worked out well. Some students ended up in the same class because of EDP. If we see that we will remain in bubbles, we'll go back and reshuffle.

Aurora: express heartfelt thanks to creating the classrooms.

- RESPECT campaign: Noticed how our students are asking a lot of questions, on different issues, they are curious, test boundaries, make inappropriate comments. We try to foster inclusion, bring in guest speaker, teach through spiritual animator, ERC, celebrate differences. We feel that the students have difficulty transferring this knowledge when there is a misunderstanding. In order to defend themselves, they use inappropriate vocabulary. How can we relay the message to the students? A general umbrella to create something special. We brainstormed and came up with a respect campaign. Willingdon t-shirt: respect, earn it, learn it, share it. Every month will be a theme. PD for teachers on respect, student workshops, involve parents in the community to bring the stories. Ordered posters for both buildings and classes. Forming a committee, two community members, Linda Luca, someone from the GABAO foundation. Tanya and Jen from EDP. Parents on the committee too. 3 parents from community.

Have a similar language to address the themes. Address life and bring it into school Centralized message, which is respect. Themes and resources to support teachers. In French & English

Assemblies, activities, teachers highlight. End of month a community share. Reaching out, level of consultation to have their input – indigenous community and other communities.

Fostering diverse community school, caring and loving empathetic students.

Christina moves. Gabriel seconds. Motion passed.

Mr. Eric Lamoureux - Annual report approval: Gabriel moves. Matt seconds. Motion passed.

i) VP – Junior report - Ms. Lara:

- Grade 4 visit to senior campus. Transition to senior day today. Very excited, the ability to get everyone excited for the environment they will be in. The students were excited, perfect weather. Walked over, Dr. Kat at the front 30 minutes with 92 students. Snacks, stations, tour inside the building, the grounds, excited about cross country skiing (equipment from the EMSB), writing reflection activity, game with M. Andrew, played games and return to junior at 2:30.

Thanks everyone for unconditional support. On behalf of everyone, thank you so much for being you.

j) VP Senior campus report: Ms. Maya:

Grade 4 visit: Loved lockers, game room, bathrooms. It was nice to have this event.

Full force for graduation, virtual ceremony on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Awards have been selected by teachers. Certificates ready. Surprises on 23<sup>rd</sup> for their party from admin team.

Yesterday was a virtual day. 4 different virtual activities for students and staff.

Mural: grade 6 part of the legacy gift, with artist Guillaume from prevention NDG, put together a concept where they will paint on big plywood and mantling it in the school yard facing Fielding. Students are excited, priming on Monday. Legacy gift from grade 6. Like the ones on Royal and Draper side at a smaller scale. Miss Sylvie is retiring, secretary at senior campus at the end of this year.

Big thank you to Lara and Carmen for support. Have a safe summer.

k) **MTA:** Kat absent, no report. Teachers still at the negotiating table.

l) Teacher reports:

Mme Imbeau: Welcome to K – virtual most children showed up. Each teacher animated a station, Mr. Gabriel and Mme Lou helped out.

K Grad: virtual 30 minutes dedicated to a small celebration, snack, admin coming in to give diplomas, video will be presented. Teachers will offer a gift to each child.

Communication book: it was hard for us to move from the agenda, but we still need to communicate with the students.

Thanking admin and H&S for virtual activities and shows.

Mr. Nick: V for victory, Oliver Jones, Oscar Petterson, songs they play on the recorder. It's exciting to see their learning. Here's hoping to more regular normal year.

Ms. Christina: on behalf of our staff we would like to thank our power team. Invited life coach Danusha Lapinski to every class, spoke to kids about compassion, self boundaries, empathy.

Mme Laurice: Merci pour tout ce que vous faites. Je vous souhaite une belle fin d'année.

m) **Home & School:** Margot –

Last froyo day today. Two t-shirt sales in late May.

Resilience Montreal: bring baked goods tomorrow, our second one. Would like to do it again next year every month.

Photographs were sent out. Magic show tomorrow. Freezie day and crazy hat day June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Spending: bought freezies for school and K graduation. Paid for magician 625\$ Art therapy 3500\$

Pantry at senior, fridge empty at senior.

Truth fundraiser: 400\$

School fees: 5340\$ to admin.

Grad: June 22<sup>nd</sup> virtual, June 23<sup>rd</sup>: 4-8 PM

Teacher appreciation: handbags for teachers.

School supplies starting June 24<sup>th</sup> to July 18<sup>th</sup>.

n) **EDP:** Dropped a cheque donation: 2000\$, additional 3700\$

Spent a lot of money on COVID supplies. Registration is in process. Would like parents to register before the end of the school year. Excited about the respect program. Different challenges, very diverse crew that works at EDP. Grade 2 program development, for mindful Tuesdays. Would like to program alongside the school for Respect theme. Would like to get staff involved on committee.

o) Mr. Lalla: last meeting, presentation on high school on west end. Director General, Mr. Nicholas Katalifos and Ms. Pela Nickoletopoulos joined a discussion with the committee, positive step, things moving forward. More facts to come in September. Expressed his gratitude to teachers and GB members.

p) EMSB Parent's committee – Matt :

-Big meeting last week: antiracism toolkits have been developed, on residential schools and anti Asian.

-Push for a grade 12 at the EMSB by the parents committee.

-Low enrolment for East end.

-Push for climate change education to be included in the curriculum for K through sec. 5.

q) PAC: no report

VI: Comment from Eric:

We could have done with an active PAC this year. Not sure if it's well understood: the bike path, supporting the admin and teachers. Issues that could have been brought to the PAC. It's unfortunate that we did not have one.

Ms. Carmen: takes a moment to thank everyone. This has been the most challenging year. It's June 10<sup>th</sup>, everyone is smiling, we're still doing so much. Thank you teachers, superstars, Tanya in EDP, bubbles respect, communication outstanding, Margot and Karen did an amazing job supporting us, Maya, my right hand man for two years and a half, Lara has been outstanding, she stepped in, she did so great, she was a superstar! Lara handled the junior campus almost on her own when Maya was home. Thank all the parents on GB for being here. We usually have a meal. We do have something, it will come home with your child. We feel very supportive, understood. Mr. Lalla, thank you for your support, you advocate for our school at the board level. Eric, you've been four years with us as a chair. Thank you everybody!

Eric: I will still be on governing board, but I will not be able to chair. I will volunteer to take minutes. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for keeping our students happy, safe. Lara and Maya, we thank you for all the support you gave. Tanya for keeping our students ok before and after school. Karen and Margot, thank you for everything. Carmen, where would we have been without your leadership, your steady hand.

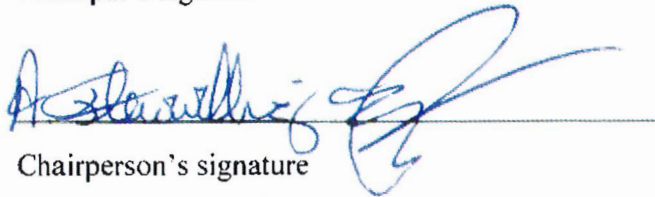
Mr. Gabriel moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Cornélia Mandoiu.



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Principal's signature



Chairperson's signature