

Willingdon Governing Board

Meeting Minutes

May 3rd, 2022

18h30, Zoom

Present: Aurora, Carmen, Nick, Lucy, Lara, Cornelia, Matt, Lucas, Kathleen, Tracy, Monique, Laura, Eric, Virginie (PAC), Karen (Home and School) Joe (Commissioner)

Regrets: Laurice Morcos

- I. Chairperson's Remarks/Welcome
- II. Approval of the Agenda. Carmen asked to add "Approval of Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten School Fees" to New Business. Matt asked to add to Question Period "Communication Platforms". Matt moved to approve the amended Agenda. Kat seconded. Passed unanimously.
- III. Approval of Minutes of March 22, 2022. Add Monique Imbeau as present. Nick moved to approve the amended minutes. Laura seconded. Passed unanimously.
- IV. Business Arising. There was no Business Arising.
- V. New Business
 - a. 2022-2023 Calendar. Carmen shared the proposed school calendar for 2022-2023. Questions were raised about the movable "Snow days" and it was explained that this year those were not used to replace actual snow days for an unknown reason, but that it why they exist. It was agreed this would be clarified in future. Lucas moved the approval of the amended calendar. Tracy seconded. Passed unanimously.
 - b. Approval of Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten School Fees. Carmen shared the proposed fee structures for Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten. The Kindergarten fees were the same as last year. The Pre-Kindergarten fees were \$22, based on a consultant's input. Eric moved the approval of these fees. Matt seconded. Passed unanimously.
- VI. Question period
 - a. Communication Platforms. Matt explained his concerns about the various online platforms, email, and paper instructions being used by teachers, which can lead to confusion and anxiety. Carmen said she would speak to the teachers involved in his specific case about what is happening and how to resolve it. It was also pointed out that Governing Board might not be the appropriate place to address such an issue.
- VII. Reports
 - a. Principal. Carmen introduced Lucy De Petrillo as the new temporary Vice Principal at Senior Campus, because Maya is replacing the Principal at Coronation School for an indeterminate amount of time. Lucy is a former Willingdon teacher and has been a high school vice-principal. Carmen also explained that Willingdon will have a new principal

next year. The school is still registering students for next year and working on filling the staff roles. The school is also working on setting up the BASE daycare with help from the school board. Progress reports were sent last Friday and teachers are working on gathering final grades. COVID has affected many students and staff in the last month, worse than Willingdon has experienced so far. She hopes parents can be patient as the school tries to fill substitution spots. The school is also working out the Welcome to School event for Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten on May 19. Carmen and Maya also went to Banff to the You Lead conference to present the Willingdon RESPECT campaign.

- b. Vice-Principal Junior Campus. Carmen explained that Michael could not be here, so Lucy gave some dates for upcoming events. May 13, the Willingdon Grad Committee will be distributing a legacy gift of toiletries with a local organization to homeless people. On May 5, there will be a chocolate sale for Mother's Day to fund the grade. May 12 is the Halo Race for grades 4 through 6. The honey sale occurs on May 17. May 19 will be the Welcome to Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten.
- c. Vice-Principal Senior Campus. See above.
- d. Home and School. Karen explained that Home and School has upcoming events. There will be a percussion show at Senior Campus on June 14. There will also be a field day for Grades 3 and 4 in June. They will also support the Welcome events. They are also going to bring in grass seed for the front lawn of Junior Campus.
- e. Teachers/MTA. Kathleen explained that Friday is the QPAT union conference, which will be interesting given the current election campaign. Negotiations are just beginning for the latest contract, focusing on special needs students and the need for resources as those same are being cut. The MTA is seeking testimonials from parents with special needs students. Mr. Lalla will raise this issue with his fellow commissioners and with the Human Resources Committee.

The teachers are also organizing their honey sale for May 17. The students are also decorating their hives, including a new one at Senior Campus. A Grade 6 mural is also being organized for the first week of June. The gardens at both campuses are also being resurrected.

Monique thanked Home and School for a contribution for materials. The Kindergarten students went to L'ecole de cirque de Verdun. The teachers are organizing the Kindergarten graduation.

Nick described his joy at the Willingdon choir singing the national anthem for the Montreal Canadiens game.

Cornelia explained that the Kindergarten students will be going to CEPSUM soon. Activities are being organized now for reading week.

- f. EDP
- g. PAC. Virginie said the PAC will be speaking to Carmen about supporting the upcoming renovation. It may also seek extra grants.

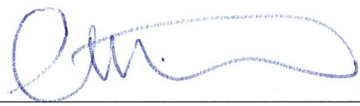
- h. EMSB Parents Committee Representative. Tracy explained that the committee has created a homework help support. It is also holding a parents conference at the end of May.
- i. School Commissioner. Mr. Lalla mentioned a demonstration regarding Bill 96 at 10:30 on May 14, starting in front of Dawson College, being planned by multiple groups. Also, the EMSB Council of Commissioners approved the re-opening of St. Dorothy School, to be specifically used for special needs students. It had been closed by trustee Marlene Jennings. The target for re-opening in September 2024.

VIII. Varia

IX. Adjournment. Eric moved adjournment at 7:54.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Lamoureux


Chairperson's signature


Principal's signature