



Souvenir Elementary School Governing Board Minutes Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Present: Jimmy Abraham, Jennifer Bell-Pierre, Krikor Bijian, Catherine Hervieux, Effie Kontakos, Peter Koutroumanis, Vicki Krawczyk, Elisa Mucciardi, Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis,

Principal: Eric Ruggi

Secretary: Effie Kontakos

Regrets: Susan Reinblatt, Eugene Sakellaropoulos, Cheryl Smith
Dimitra Sideris (Alternate Delegate), Gary Ersan (Alternate Delegate)

Guests: Polizoi Christodoulakis, George Foutrakis,

0.0 Verification of Quorum: Jimmy Abraham confirmed quorum and began the meeting at 7:10pm.

1.0 Approval of Agenda: Addition made in Varia 10.1 STEM

GB-180418-01: Peter Koutroumanis motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.

2.0 Approval of Minutes:

2.1 March 21, 2018 meeting: There were no amendments to the March Minutes. The revised February Minutes were emailed to all the members and a copy was distributed to the members present.

GB-180418-02: Krikor Bijian motioned to approve the Minutes of March 21, 2018, Catherine Hervieux seconded, 8 for, and 1 abstention. Motion carried

3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes: None.

4.0 Correspondence: Souvenir received posters for bicycle safety from the SAAQ, Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec. SAAQ announced in a letter they are having a safety campaign to promote bicycle safety. There is an agreement with local enforcement to encourage police to come into schools to promote bicycle safety. Souvenir has been promoting this in the school for the last few years, usually grade 5.

5.0 Question Period for the Public: Question was asked regarding what is the policy for snow days since we had 3 this year. On an annual basis the school has two floating PED days placed by the school after March 31. This year the first two school closures resulted in the loss of the two floating PED days in June. With the third school closure due to inclement weather on April 16, Souvenir will not be losing another PED



day. On the PED day of April 27, workshops have been scheduled, so if that PED is lost, it will create difficulties. Schools will be looking at other alternatives. Most likely an application will be made to the Ministry for exemption to accept this school year with 179 school days as opposed to the required 180 school days.

Second question was asked regarding the online survey to be sent to parents to assess which workshops they are interested in having offered at Souvenir. Jimmy Abraham replied it will be ready by next week.

6.0 Reports:

6.1 Principal:

- Mar. 21 – Governing Board meeting
- Mar. 23 – Musée des Enfants field trip for Kindergarten
- Mar. 27 – Staffing meeting with Human Resources department
- Mar. 27 – April 3 – Bus Safety Workshops for all grades
- Mar. 29 – March Madness basketball tournament at LJA
- Apr. 3 – Practice lockdown staff meeting
- Apr. 9 – Special Needs Committee meeting
- Apr. 10 – Teacher Council meeting, Grade 4 vaccinations
- Apr. 11 – Wacky Wednesday Fundraiser for Me to We organization. Raised \$762.93.
- Apr. 12 – Jersey Day for Humboldt Fundraiser. Raised \$909.50. Go Fund Me ended today. Funds raised will be donated to the benefit the Humboldt victims / community.
- Apr. 16 – School closure due to inclement weather
- Apr. 18 – Governing Board meeting

Upcoming...

- Apr. 25 – Administrative Professionals Day
- Apr. 27 – Ped day
- Apr. 30 – EcoMuseum field trip for Grade 2 & S2/3
- May. 1 – Aladdin Jr. play for Grade 5 at LJA
- May 25 – Kindergarten orientation

6.2 Home & School

- Elections will be held at the May meeting to elect the Executive members for Home & School for 2018-2019. An email will be sent to all the parents and guardians to invite them and encourage them to attend the meeting.
- Home & School would like to have Ice Cream Day on Friday, June 8. Students will be treated to a free soft vanilla ice cream cone and students with allergies will be treated to a free slush.
- We would like approval to hold a chocolate fundraiser with Lamontagne in October 2018. The Laura Secord chocolate bars were chosen, selling at \$3 each, with 30 per box. The breakdown is 8 milk chocolate, 7 chocolate crisp, 7 chocolate mint, 5 chocolate caramel sea salt bites, and 3 chocolate maple bites. There will be one box per student, with a maximum of two per family, unless they wish to sell more, as per previous fundraisers. The profits will be 50% of the sales. The profits



from the grade 6 students will be allocated to the Graduation Committee for the expenses of the Graduation for 2019.

GB-180418-03: Effie Kontakos motioned to approve the Laura Secord chocolate campaign for October 2018, Krikor Bijian seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

- The Laura Secord chocolate fundraiser went well for the Graduation Committee. More details will be provided for the GB meeting in May.
- The next Graduation Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2018.
- The next Home & School meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 7pm.

6.3 Daycare:

- The Minds in Motion Pre-Kindergarten program has unfortunately been cancelled. There were only 4 registrations and the minimum requirement was 8.
- There are 12 students registered for the Ped day. Small mini pizza making workshop will be held.

6.4 Parents' Committee:

- The Building Process Survey was discussed.
- Procedures for the examination of complaints from students or their parents was reviewed and approved.
- There was a Town Hall meeting on April 4, 2018, regarding the Commitment-to-Success Plan 2018-2022. Some objectives highlighted were Equity, Educational Path, Graduation and Qualification, Language Proficiency, and Living Environment (school building).
- Also, at the Town Hall meeting, the School Board and Council of Commissioners asked if stakeholders would support opening a new high school in Laval which would be a "Special Project" school, or "240" school (Education Act, Section 240). This may be a solution to address the recent increase in the loss of students from SWLSB to other schools in Montreal. (70% of students not returning in Sec 1 is in Laval). If parents give SWLSB a mandate, then SWLSB can put an application to the Ministry in June.
- The next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 3, 2018.

6.5 Teacher Council: No report. Calendar for next year was discussed at Teacher Council.

6.6 Community Reps: Peter Koutroumanis attended the Town Hall meeting on April 4, 2018 at Laval Junior Academy regarding the Commitment to Success Plan. The SWLSB objectives were discussed and attendees were asked to place the objectives in order of importance. Results were as follows:

- #1 – Ensuring high quality teachers and administrators were hired.
- #2 – Digital citizenship (awareness and education), Health, and Programs (curriculum to support student success, technological proficiency, and digital literacy).



- #3 – Ensure our schools are the centers for learning.
- #4 – Effective and transparent communications.
- #5 – Responsible management and efficient use of local and provincial funding.

Proposed a Special Project School, also referred to as a 240 school, for SWLSB. Discussed providing programs that are of interest to parents – Math and Science – to address the loss of students in our school board. STEM for Secondary 3, Laval Senior Academy will have a Science Concentration. Lost 436 students from SWLSB which equates to a loss of 8 million dollars and 70% of the loss of students was in Laval.

7.0 New Business:

7.1 School Calendar 2018-2019: Calendar has not been finalized. Calendar will be presented at next GB meeting. A draft was presented at Teacher Council. The usual procedure is school receives the calendar from the school board and adds 5 more PED days, 3 can be placed anywhere but two will be placed after March 31, Parent Teacher Nights are selected for August, November, and February, and start and end of terms are determined.

7.2 Workbooks and Fees for 2018-2019: The cost of workbooks and fees will be brought to the next GB meeting in May.

7.3 Start time for 2018-2019: The Director of Transport, City of Laval Representatives, and the police evaluated Souvenir’s bus operations, drop-off zone, and the flow of traffic. They determined the bus operations were extremely safe (we have our own bus lane on Bertin street), and along with drop-off area, was running smoothly. All positive feedback. They recommended to eliminate the existing entrance to the schoolyard and move it further down to an area where we presently have the fence.

They noted there was traffic congestion in the morning in our neighborhood. The buses that service our school have another school that they service afterwards, and because of congestion, the buses are not arriving on time at the next school. To address this issue, for next year we may have an earlier start time of 7:50 am and dismissal at 2:30. Waiting for official confirmation of this change. This is a point of information for Governing Board – GB is not consulted on this matter and this matter does not require GB approval.

8.0 Field trips & Fundraisers:

8.1 Aladdin Jr. at LJA (May 1, 2018): E-vote emailed on March 28, 2018.

Field Trip:	Aladdin Jr. School Play				
Location:	Laval Junior Academy	Date:	May 1, 2018	Time:	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Grades:	Grade 5 & Split 4/5	Students:	Approx. 75	Transportation:	Subsidized by SB
Organizer:	LJA	Ratio:	within guidelines	Total:	\$5

GB280318-EV01: Motioned by Jennifer Bell-Pierre to approve, seconded by Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis, 10 votes in favor, 2 abstentions (non-votes). Motion carried



8.2 Jersey Day for Humboldt (April 12, 2018): E-vote emailed to GB members on April 10, 2018. A jersey dress-down day was requested for Souvenir to join the campaign to have Canadian kids wear their hockey jerseys to school on Thursday, April 12, as a show of support for the Humboldt crash victims and their families. Souvenir will collect a \$2 donation, 100% of which will go towards the GoFundMe campaign to support the Humboldt victims.

GB100418-EV02: Motioned by Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis to approve Jersey Day, seconded by Elisa Mucciardi, 10 votes in favor, 2 abstentions (non-votes). Motion carried

8.3 We Day Field Trip Feb.21, 2018: E-vote emailed to GB members on February 8, 2018.

Field Trip:	WE Day Event				
Location:	Theatre St. Denis	Date:	February 21, 2018	Time:	7:30 am-2:30pm
Grades:	Leadership Students gr. 5 & 6	Students:	13	Transportation:	No cost
Organizer:	Ms Martha, (WE organization)	Ratio:	1:7	Total:	Free

GB080218-EV03: Motioned by Jennifer Bell-Pierre to approve, seconded by Vicki Krawczyk, 10 votes in favor, 2 abstentions (non-votes). Motion carried

8.4 Blue & Gold Revue Feb. 22, 2018: E-vote emailed to GB members on February 15, 2018.

Field Trip:	Blue and Gold Revue				
Location:	Laval Senior Academy	Date:	February 22, 2018	Time:	9:00 am – 11:30 am
Grades:	Grade 5, S5/6, & S4/5	Students:	Approx. 100	Transportation:	\$0
Organizer:	Ms Martha, Mr Ruggi	Ratio:	Within guidelines	Total:	Free

GB-150218-EV04: Jimmy Abraham motioned to approve, seconded by Vicki Krawczyk seconded, 11 votes in favor, 1 abstention (non-vote). Motion carried

8.5 Special Raffle April 3, 2018 for Montreal Canadiens Tickets: E-mailed to all parents on March 29, 2018. Souvenir received a generous donation of two tickets to watch the Montreal Canadiens vs. the Winnipeg Jets on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at the Bell Centre. The tickets were in section 410 Row A and a value of \$188. Students who brought in \$5 on the morning of April 3rd, had their name entered in a draw to win these tickets. Maximum of 1 raffle per student. The proceeds raised from this special raffle would be used to purchase prizes for Souvenir’s monthly Student of the Month awards.

The Governing Board members support Mr. Ruggi’s decision to raffle off the “last-minute” hockey tickets to have a student win them in time to see the hockey game

9.0 Rentals: None.



10.0 Varia:

10.1 STEM: There was a request made for the Governing Board to be update regarding the STEM program, what will be the curriculum for it, and whether it would be advertised. Souvenir will be working with the school board to develop STEM program and how to integrate modules in class for September. Teachers have volunteered to take part in STEM training and want to have the materials (tech needs) required. Mr. Ruggi stated that the STEM program will be advertised. It is not yet determined if STEM materials, i.e. programming modules, and workbooks will be included in school fees or paid by the school.

A suggestion was made to make changes to the present evaluation criteria. There needs to be a competency in the report card for STEM

11.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 7pm.

12.0 Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

GB-180418-04: Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis motioned to adjourn the meeting, Vicki Krawczyk seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

Eric Ruggi
Principal

Jimmy Abraham
Chairperson

Effie Kontakos
Secretary