



Souvenir Elementary School Governing Board Minutes Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Present: Jennifer Bell-Pierre, Krikor Bijian, Catherine Hervieux, Effie Kontakos, Peter Kountroumanis, Vicki Krawczyk, Elisa Mucciardi, Susan Reinblatt, Eugene Sakellaropoulos, Cheryl Smith, Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis

Principal: Eric Ruggi

Secretary : Cheryl Smith

Regrets: Jimmy Abraham

Guests: Ruby Kalamatianos, Beenish Malik, Polizoi Christodoulakis, George Foutrakis

0.0 **Verification of Quorum** – upon verification of quorum Eric. Ruggi started the meeting and explained the process of elections and composition of the G.B.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

GB-13/09#1: Krikor Bijian moved to approve the agenda and Effie Kontakos seconded the motion with the change of 10.2 (should read Grade 1) Unanimous Motion passed.

2.0 Elections

2.1 Secretary

GB – 13/09#2: Peter Kountroumanis moved and Jennifer Bell-Pierre seconded the motion to elect Cheryl Smith as secretary of the Governing Board. Unanimous Motion passed.

2.2 Chairperson

GB – 13/09#3 – Effie Kontakos moved and Eugene Sakellaropoulos seconded the motion to elect Jimmy Abraham as chairperson of the Governing Board. Unanimous Motion passed.

2.3 Vice-chairperson

GB – 13/09#4 – Krikor Bijian moved and Susan Reinblatt seconded the motion to elect Eugene Sakellaropoulos as vice-chairperson of the Governing Board. Unanimous Motion passed.

(At 7:15 pm Eugene Sakellaropoulos chaired the meeting)

2.4 Treasurer

GB – 13/09#5 – Peter Kountroumanis moved and Vicki Krawczyk seconded the motion to elect Krikor Bijian as treasurer of the Governing Board. Unanimous Motion passed.

3.0 Approval of minutes

3.1 June 21, 2017 meeting (Resolution)



GB – 13/09#6 – *Krikor Bijian moved and Susan Reinblatt seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 with the correction. – 7 yes & 3 abstain Motion passed.*

7.2.4. Top 3 ideas to report to the larger group. - After examining the top 3 schools in the inter-board agreement, the Souvenir GB has concluded that the main reason our students are leaving to attend these schools is due to the variety of specialized programs offered at other schools (not offered in our Laval schools). This is the main area of concern for our GB members.

3.2 Notes from August 29, 2017 General Assembly of Parents (Resolution)

GB – 13/09#7 – *Effie Kontakos moved and Krikor Bijian seconded the motion to approve the notes of the August 29, 2017 with the correction. – Unanimous Motion passed.*

Liza Michailidis nominated Effie Kontakos and was seconded by Gary Ersan. Effie accepts the nomination and was acclaimed.

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

Eric Ruggi explained the procedures for replacing a parent member vacancy as per the education act. The GB will go to the two candidates who were nominated but did not receive the greatest number of votes at the General Assembly of Parents as our two alternatives in case of a vacancy.

GB – 13/09#8 – *Eugene moved and Effie Kontakos seconded the motion to approach Gary Ersan & Dimitra Sideris as the alternative parent members in case of a vacancy – Unanimous Motion passed.*

5.0 Correspondence

6.0 Question Period for the Public (Discussion)

- A parent questioned the percentage of French being taught at SES as compared to other SWLSB schools. Subject-time allocation was explained and the time-line these decisions that take place each year.
- A parent asked about monies allocated for students with special needs. Eric Ruggi explained the various measures that are distributed to schools either on the centralized or de-centralized methods which are allocated for student success or special needs.
- A parent asked about the librarian position and when it would be filled. Eric Ruggi explained that our librarian has taken another position and that he hopes to find a replacement by the end of September.
- A parent asked for clarification about the procedures of paying on line and picking up books and encouraged a stream-lined approach. Eric Ruggi took note of the situation and it will improve for next year

7.0 Internal Rules & Procedures (resolution)



Eric Ruggi distributed the GB rules & procedures. The only change is the replacement of a parent member to reflect the new change to the law. We will add the procedure that we voted on to either point 2 or point 13. This item was tabled until the October meeting when we can vote on the amended document. *Motion tabled.*

8.0 Reports (Information)

8.1 Principal

During the last two years we have:

- Had a Remembrance Day ceremony by cycle with student participation
- Sung the national anthem at the start and end of every week
- Created the Chris Karigiannis Leadership Award in honor of a former student who sacrificed his life in Afghanistan
- Created a leadership program for students in grades 5 and 6 so they can learn important skills as leaders within their school and community

For 2017-2018, it is my intent to continue with the initiatives we started and to develop these further. As such, Martha (our behavior technician) in partnership with the leadership program at Laval Junior and Laval Senior Academy will be working on the following:

- Increasing student participation in our Remembrance Day ceremony so that students can lead the ceremony.
- Potentially host a pancake breakfast for veterans at school one week prior to the ceremony
- Have one teacher take on the responsibility of bringing the Canadian War Museum into your classroom with a Supply Line Discovery Box. This learning kit contains authentic and reproduction artifacts related to Canadian military history, along with everything you need to lead engaging hands-on activities and lessons with your students. More info at: <http://www.warmuseum.ca/supplyline/page/supply-line/>
- Send a small group of 5-6 students for a Leadership field trip to Ottawa for 2 days with Laval Junior Academy to attend the national Remembrance Day ceremony
- Increase the number of students who wear poppies in the days leading up to Remembrance Day.
- Have leadership students take on a project to install a Canadian flag in every classroom so that the national anthem can be sung in the presence of the flag
- Coordinate a group of students to practice singing the national anthem with a goal to sing the anthem before the start of an upcoming Laval Rocket hockey game at the Place Bell

Sports tournaments and activities:

The dates for the ice hockey tournaments at the Place Bell are on November 21, December 19, January 23 and March 20-21. There will also be the McCaig tournament in February and possibly another one in Montreal, also in February.

Other upcoming activities:



- Cross –country run in October
- Half-day sports tournaments within our sector with the French schools (we can host on ped days)
- Handball practices and tournaments
- McCaig flag football Oct. 10
- Practices for the ice hockey team and other teams
- Intramurals at lunch
- Terry Fox Run (date to be confirmed)
- The March 20-21 ice hockey tournaments will include a free skating outing for the whole school at the Place Bell like we did last year at the Chomedey arena

Leadership

- Training to begin soon for grade 5-6
- Christmas concert
- Food drive
- We Day

Recognition Program

- Working on setting up a recognition program for all students to celebrate good deeds, academic achievement, good behavior and successes.

8.2 Daycare

The GB welcomed to Natasha Turgeon-DeBonis.

- The new daycare opened on August 31st. There are 197 students registered.
- Ten educators have already been hired and one additional educator will be hired soon to help with students with special needs. The educators have had training sessions.
- The next Ped Day is September 22nd with Samajam.
- The additional \$25 that parents were asked to pay for activities will be used for materials and activities later in the year.

8.3 Home & School

- Effie Kontakos reported that the H&S sponsored the annual Corn Roast for the students on September 8th with good parent participation.
- There will be the ongoing sale of pizza (Tuesdays) and TCBY as fund-raisers
- There was a Bake Sale at Orientation Night
- H&S would like to host the Book Fair on November 15 & 16 to coincide with the Parent/Teacher Night
GB – 13/09#9 – Peter Kountroumanis moved and Krikor Bijian seconded the motion to have H&S organize and host the annual book fair on November 15 & 16.
Unanimous *Motion passed.*
- H&S would like to have Bake Sales at the two Parent/Teacher nights – November 16 and February 22nd.



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GB – 13/09#10 – Krikor Bijian moved and Susan Reinblatt seconded the motion to have H&S organize bake sales for November 16 & February 22, 2018.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

- H&S would like to organize the annual raffle in December – a lengthy discussion about the pros & cons of such a fund-raiser took place. H&S will discuss how the money is distributed.

GB – 13/09#11 – Effie Kontakos moved and Peter Kountroumanis seconded the motion to have H&S organize a toy raffle for December.

5 votes for – 5 abstentions

Motion passed.

- H&S will publish a calendar of events for the year.
- H&S has been approached by Enfants & Co. to offer additional Lunch-time activities for the children.

GB – 13/09#12 – Krikor Bijian moved and Vicky Krawczyk seconded the motion to have H&S work with Enfants & Co to organize lunch-time activities.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

- The Grad Committee has already met and will be planning the Grad for June 19th. There will be a fund-raiser for Cookie Dough in September & October.

GB – 13/09#13 – Krikor Bijian moved and Peter Kountroumanis seconded the motion to have Grad Committee organize a Cookie Dough fund-raiser for Grade 6.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

- As approved last year the H&S would like to have a Popcorn sale to raise money for the Peace Pantry (breakfast program) to add to the funds already collected by the Grad Committee from last year (\$145.00 already given)

8.4 Parents Committee – Effie Kontakos is the rep but no report yet.

8.5 Teacher Council – there is no Teacher Council rep on the GB but one of the GB teachers will get a copy of the TC report and present it each month.

8.6 Community Reps – We do not have a community rep at this point, a community rep is a non-voting member of the GB with no vested interest in the affairs of the school.

9.0 New Business

9.1 Annual Report to the Community (Resolution)

Eric Ruggi circulated the Annual Report that Jimmy prepared for the GB to be sent to the Board.

GB – 13/09#14 – Effie Kontakos moved and Krikor Bijian seconded the motion to accept the Annual Report to the Community as presented.

9 votes for – two abstentions.

Motion passed.

9.2 SWLSB consultation Elementary Programs of Studies (Resolution)



Eric Ruggi circulated three documents which outlined the Resolution CC-170628-ED-0111 regarding the policy for Elementary Program of Studies which is in a consultation period until October 12th. Please send any feedback to Jimmy Abraham and Eric Ruggi by September 30 so they have time to make a compilation of our comments for the board.

Motion Tabled.

10.0 Field trips & Fundraisers

10.1 Sports & Tournaments field trips (Resolution)

GB – 13/09#15 – *Effie Kontakos moved and Jennifer Bell-Pierre seconded the motion to accept the approval of five dates for hockey and other sporting tournaments that Cycle 3 students will participate in this year.*

Unanimous

Motion passed.

10.2 La magie de la pomme (Oct. 20, 2017) – Grade 1 –
We will need an e-vote when the information is available

10.3 Terry Fox Run –

We will need an e-vote when the information is available

10.4 Tubing / Sliding (Feb. 21, 2018) – whole school

We will need an e-vote when the information is available

11.0 Rentals

11.1 After-schol activities program (Resolution)

Eric Ruggi outlined the various groups who will be using the classrooms and gym in after-school activities and paying the GB approved rate for renting.

Greek School (M/W), Karate (M), Soccer (W/F), HipHop (T/Th), Basketball (Th), Hebrew School (Tues), Music

GB – 13/09#16 – *Krikor Bijian moved and Effie Kontakos seconded the motion to approve the rental to these groups for after-school activities using our standard rental agreement.*

9 votes for – 1 abstention

Motion passed.

11.2 La Troupe Folklorique Grecque Syrtaki (Resolution)

Eric Ruggi explained that the Greek Dancing troupe is the only group that does not yet pay the new standard rate for our rentals. This is their last year at the preferential rate. Their total for this year is \$3,155.63 tax included.

GB – 13/09#17 – *Elisa Mucciardi moved and Krikor Bijian seconded the motion to accept the approval renting the gymnasium to La Troupe Folklorique Qrecque Syrtaki for this special rate for the 2017-2018 academic year.*

Unanimous.

Motion passed.

11.3 Camp Academie Summer 2018



Eric Ruggi has started discussion with the summer Day Camp to rent our facilities again next summer.

12.0 Varia (Information)

12.1 Meeting Dates – Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 7:00pm

12.2 There was a discussion concerning the cafeteria pricing increase again this year (.25 this year and last year). Eric. Ruggi explained that this fits within the SWLSB norms and policy.

13.0 Adjournment (Resolution)

GB – 13/09#18 – Effie Kontakos moved and Jennifer Bell-Pierre seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:44pm.

Unanimous.

Motion passed.

E. Ruggi

J. Abraham

C. Smith