



Souvenir Elementary School Governing Board Minutes Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Present: Krikor Bijian, Jill Davey, Effie Kontakos, Peter Koutroumanis , Cheryl Smith, Maria Daklaras, George Foutrakis (substitute for Gary Ersan), Vicki Krawczyk, Peter Ferentinos, Alannah Ferreira Morris,

Regrets:, Gary Ersan, Jennifer Bell-Pierre, Julie Thibault

Guests: Polizoi Christodoulakis (substitute), James Di Sano

Principal: Eric Ruggi

Secretary : Cheryl Smith

Guests: James DiSanno, Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm

0.0 Verification of Quorum – Krikor Bijian confirmed the quorum – with the absence of one parent member, George Foutrakis was mandated to be an alternative voting member.

0.1 Appointment of Secretary

GB-20/3#1: Effie Kontakos moved and Maria Daklaras seconded the motion to appoint Cheryl Smith as acting secretary.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

GB- 20/3 #2: Peter Koutroumanis moved and Vicki Krawczyk , seconded the motion to approve the agenda with the following additions:

- 4.2 Phone call with SWLSB
- 4.3 Phone call from City of Laval

Unanimous

Motion passed.

2.0 Approval of minutes

2.1 February 20, 2019 meeting (Resolution)

GB – 20/3#3: Effie Kontakos moved and Alannah Ferreira Morris seconded to approve the February 20, 2019 , minutes with the changes:

p. 4 – Change name to Peter Ferentinos from Peter Foutrakis



8 for – 2 abstention

Motion passed.

3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Parent Workshop & Anxiety Prevention Program – E. Ruggi reported that the in-class workshops for students have been started and are being offered by Gail Griffith. Five groups are getting the workshop now and another 5 groups in a few weeks. We are getting good feedback from the teachers and students. Many of the groups are already using Peace Circles and empathy seems to be growing in the school. A parent workshop will be offered to the parents on the same subject in August or September.

3.2 Sexuality Education – Yearly Plan

The e-vote that was conducted in February was moved by Cheryl Smith, seconded by Effie Kontakos.

3 in favour – 6 against – 3 abstentions

Motion Defeated.

E. Ruggi asked for feedback from the GB and the involvement of kindergarten children was an obstacle for some members. Also, some kindergarten children were going to have the Sexuality Education program and others were not as it was up to the discretion of the teachers. The overall amount of hours that were presented seemed excessive to some members as they considered what the Ministry of Education was requiring. Others did not feel that the SES plan reflected the Ministry of Education plan.

3.3 Sexuality Education – Yearly Plan (Revised)

E. Ruggi presented the revised plan that he presented at the staff meeting last week. The hours have been adjusted but not the content. There is flexibility within the themes and activities and a framework of hours per cycle. Kindergarten is included in the plan and it will be for all the students.

GB-20/3#4: Effie Kontakos moved and Alannah Ferreira Morris seconded the motion to accept the revised Sexuality Education – Yearly Plan.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

3.4 Cafeteria Contract Renewal

E. Ruggi reported that although the cafeteria contract is not an issue for GB approval he has had a conversation with the manager and discussed the sustainability of the company with the declining enrollment at SES. This year the extra monies from the Daycare Snacks Program funding from the Ministry of Education has helped them. Parents asked that we encourage the decrease of juice and the promotion of milk at lunch time. Another suggestion was providing a monthly order form for parents like they have at other schools. The option of on-line orders was mentioned but would be very costly for a small business.

3.5 Visit from School Commissioner – James Di Sano



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Mr. Di Sano introduced himself as a recent graduate from Laurier Senior High School in 2014. He was recently elected onto the Council of Commissioners representing Chomedey. He is the Vice-Chair of Ped Services Committee. He explained some of the current priorities for the Board, including increasing our marketing strategy to address our declining enrollment, the importance of the pilot project involving more technology in the schools and specialized services for children with special needs. He welcomes our questions and comments.

4.0 Correspondence

- 4.1 Workshop on Budget & Fees – the invitation was sent out and GB members are encouraged to participate.
- 4.2 Conference call with Stephanie Krenn (Secretary General), E. Ruggi and Krikor Bijian took place on March 20, 2019 regarding the issue of the role & responsibilities of substitutes to GB. According to the Education Act the correct title for this role is a substitute and not an alternate. They are not allowed to speak or address the GB if they are not fulfilling the role of the substitute in a meeting. They can attend all the meetings but would be required to sit as the public unless they are called upon to sit as a substitute. They can address the GB during Question Period from the Public just as any other parent or community member can do.
- 4.3 Call from City of Laval – Krikor Bijian reported that he received a call from Aline Dib who will be coming to look at our parking and crosswalk situation next Monday or Tuesday at 7:30am. She will also make efforts with the city to deal better with snow removal next winter around the school.

5.0 Question Period for the Public (Discussion)

No questions

6.0 Reports

6.1 Principal -

- February 21 – WE Day at Theatre St. Denis
- February 25 – Teacher Council meeting, Report cards emailed home to parents
- February 26 – Participated in the Comité d’analyse Batir l’Espoir
- February 27 – Principals Professional Development, Parent-Teacher Night 4-7 PM
- February 28 – End of Term Assemblies
- March 4-8 – March break
- March 12 – Special Needs Committee Meeting, Staff meeting
- March 13 – Management & Principals meeting
- March 15 – Meeting with the director general, Dress down day St. patrick’s Day



March 18 – Gerry Mitchell ‘Do Respect’ and ‘One Voice’ assemblies for respect and anti-bullying, Participated in Professional Relations Committee meeting
March 19 – Leadership Summit at LJA, hockey tournament at Place Bell
March 20 – Ice hockey finals at Place Bell, Governing Board meeting

Upcoming

March 21 – Breathe Anxiety Prevention Program begins
March 22 – Conseil d’administration Sports Laval
March 26 – Teacher Council meeting
March 27 – TLE Story Time for Kindergarten, Grade 1 & 2, Grad pictures
March 28 – March Madness Basketball tournament at LJA
April 3 – Grade 6 – LJA Articulation Meeting

- E. Ruggi shared about the Ice Hockey finals and tournament which took place today. There was a good spirit of sportsmanship and team spirit.
- A letter from Ronald McDonald house was read to the GB as a means of appreciation for the recent fund-raising efforts.
- There will be two Pre-K groups for next year. We already have 30-35 registrations.
- E. Ruggi reported that he has submitted a Capital Projects request to the SWLSB for the addition of two washrooms in the basement – the request has been retained by the board and will be completed in 2020 hopefully.

6.2 Daycare

April 1, is our next ped day. I have called it Hopping into Spring. Students will participate in a variety of spring themed activities including arts and crafts, games and physical activities.

Theme for March was st-Patrick’s day. For April, the theme will be spring and Easter.

In September, I had applied for a grant through Metro’s Green Apple School initiative for cooking related activities in the daycare. I recently found out that we were one of the schools selected to receive a \$1000 grant to be used exclusively for cooking and health based activities, centred around fruits and vegetables.

6.3 Home & School

- H&S will be organizing a Family Fun Fest on Wednesday, June 12th and rain day for Thursday, June 13th. The committee would like to thank all the teachers that have volunteered for the event.



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- The H&S has had discussions on whether to stay with TCBY for next school year or change to La Diperie.
- It would be greatly appreciated if field trips were not organized on Tuesdays whenever possible so as not to conflict with Pizza Tuesdays and fundraising efforts.
- Comedy Night at the Palace Reception Hall on February 22nd was very successful raising \$5, 135 profit for the Graduation Committee.
- The bake sale on Parent Teacher Night raised \$475.
- The Graduation Committee would like to hold a freezie fundraiser on Friday, April 5th. The freezies would be sold at lunch time to grade 6 students for \$2.
GB-20/3#5: Alannab Ferreira Morris moved and Vicki Krawczyk, seconded the motion to hold a freezie sale on April 5th
In favour– 8 Against – 1 *Motion passed.*
- The next Graduation Committee meeting is on Monday, April 15th, 2019 and the next Home & School meeting is on Wednesday, April 10th, 2019.

6.4 Parents Committee

- . The new Elementary Parent Commissioner is Tara Anderson.
- Social Media Visibility for SWLSB – have Facebook but also on LinkedIn and Instagram.
- A presentation was given on Bill 12 (National Assembly of Quebec) and the Policy of School Fees Charges to Parents. Governing Boards are being consulted and have until April 10th to submit responses to the school board.
- Bill 12 amends the Education Act to clarify the financial contributions that may be required of students and their parents. (Clarify what is free and what can be charged.) This bill will come into effect on July 1, 2019. As a result, the Education Act will also be amended.
- The school board has a template for School Supply Lists wherein only items listed can be put on the school's supply list. It does not allow for any additions to be made at the school level.
- A presentation was given to explain the Educational Project. Every school has the obligation to create an Education Plan and have it published/ posted. The school identifies their challenges which helps outline their objectives for their Educational Project. The evaluation of the Educational Project must be done on an annual basis. The Governing Board must ensure the information in the that evaluation be communicated to the school community.
- Governing Boards are asked to complete the Budget Building Survey to give input on how to allocate resources and revenues. A response is required by Governing Boards by April 5th even if there are no recommendations.



6.5 Teacher Council

No report – next meeting will be held on March 26th.

6.6 Community Reps – no report.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Educational Project – 2019-2022

Eric Ruggi is working on a draft of the SES Educational project and will submit it to the GB in April.

7.2 Consultation Budget Building 2019-2020

Eric Ruggi distributed the public consultation document dated February 28th. Krikor lead us in a discussion on the questionnaire and we completed it as a GB. Krikor will send it in to the SWLSB.

GB-20/3 #6 : Effie Kontakos moved and Alannah Ferreira Morris, seconded the motion to accept the process of consultation as presented by the SWLSB.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

GB-20/3 #7 : George Foutrakis moved and Jill Davey seconded the motion proceed with the submission of the SES questionnaire as completed by Krikor Bijiian to the SWLWB.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

7.3 SWLSB Consultation Policy on School Fees

Eric Ruggi distributed the policy and explained the background of the changes necessary due to the recent class-action lawsuit in Quebec. The most significant change is reflected in section 6.1.9 of the document involving field trips. After discussion we do not have any changes to suggest to the proposed document.

GB 20/3 #8 – Alannah Ferreira Morris moved and Maria Daklaras seconded the adoption of the Consultation Policy on School Fees.

Unanimous

Motion passed.

7.4 Special Project School - Update

Eric Ruggi explained the progress and the timeline that has been made to date regarding the possibility of opening a 250 Special Project School in Laval. The proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Education.



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11.0 Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16th at 7:00pm

12.0 Adjournment (Resolution)

GB – 20/3 #9 – Alannah Ferreira Morris moved and George Foutrakis seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23pm.

Unanimous.

Motion passed.

E. Ruggi

K. Bijjan

C. Smith