

# Clearpoint Elementary School

## Annual General Assembly of Parents

**AGA – September 11, 2019**

Written by: Dov Bensimon

Location: Clearpoint Elementary		Date: September 11, 2019	Time: 7:07 p.m. – 8:12 p.m.
<b>Attendees Governing Board Members:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allison Saunders</li> <li>• Audrey Lambert</li> <li>• Carol Rabbat</li> <li>• David Estok</li> <li>• Dov Bensimon</li> <li>• Katherine Wiebe</li> <li>• Liz Lopez</li> <li>• Louise Sudia</li> <li>• Marie-Flore Gignac</li> <li>• Miranda Tubbeh</li> <li>• Sandra Fisher</li> <li>• Selina Catinelli</li> <li>• Tayba Huot</li> </ul>	<b>Attendees Parents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alberto Sanchez</li> <li>• Ayana Goin</li> <li>• Catalina Clavero</li> <li>• Daniel Trotto</li> <li>• Fay Vlasseros</li> <li>• John Sandelli</li> <li>• Linda Harbert</li> <li>• Marc Lucke</li> <li>• Maria Benavides</li> <li>• Mark Christiano</li> <li>• Rebecca Belmonte</li> <li>• Stuart Kemp</li> <li>• Tatiana Mendez</li> <li>• Wendy Mendoza</li> </ul>		

### Agenda

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| 1. Welcome                                 | 8. Election of Substitute Members                                |
| 2. Approval of the Agenda                  | 9. Election of Parent Rep and Alternate Rep                      |
| 3. Approval of Sept 2018 AGA Draft Minutes | 10. Motion to form a Parents Participant Organization (PPO)      |
| 4. Annual Report                           | 11. Date of the first GB Meeting for the 2019 – 2020 school year |
| 5. Governing Board Overview                | 12. Adjourn  |
| 6. Election Procedure                      |  |
| 7. Elections of new Members                |  |

#### 1. Welcome

Katherine welcomed all to the meeting and introduced herself as the chair of the Governing Board (GB).

#### 2. Approval of the AGA Agenda

The agenda for the AGA was approved on a motion by Tayba and seconded by Marie-Flore. All were in favour and none were opposed.

#### 3. Approval of the Minutes September 2018 AGA Governing Board

It was moved by Carol and seconded by Liz that the minutes be adopted as is. All were in favour and none were opposed.

#### 4. Annual Report

Katherine presented the annual report to the GB. It included a list of field trips, school activities and consultations, as well as rentals and workshops. It was mentioned that the activities for boys should be entitled “Boys R Us”, which Dov will change in the annual report. Katherine thanked the staff for all their hard work, Home & School for the multitude of fundraisers and activities they organize, as well as Tassie for after-school activities. She mentioned that after acting as chair for the last two years, she will be stepping down from that role. A new chair will have to be elected at the October meeting of the GB. A motion to approve the annual report was moved by Louise and seconded by Allison. All were in favour and none were opposed.

#### 5. Overview of Role and Function of the Governing Board

Katherine presented an overview of the GB, which plays a decisional role in schools. It is responsible for issues involving school life including the school’s educational project, the annual budget and the development of school policies.

Clearpoint’s GB consists of a maximum of 14 members: 7 parents, 7 staff members, and daycare with 2 seats reserved for the community representatives. The principal takes part in the governing board meetings, but does not have a voting role. The meeting was reminded that it is the role of the GB to always make decisions that are in the best interests of the students.

Governing Board meetings are also attended by a School Board Commissioner.

The GB meets monthly in the evening, at specific dates and times determined by the GB. Half of the parents need to be in attendance for quorum to be met.

The GB Chair runs the meeting and is responsible for finding someone to substitute if s/he cannot attend. They are also responsible for all correspondence (clarifications, etc.). In event of a tie during a vote, the chair is considered the tie breaker.

#### 6. Election Procedure

The meeting was informed that 5 GB members have now finished their two-year terms. Parent representatives are voted in for two-year terms, as per the [Education Act](#) of Québec, except for the first year of a board’s existence, when half the members are voted in for one-year terms. For historical reasons at Clearpoint, this balance is not currently in place. In order to remedy this, it was proposed to elect one parent representative for a one-year term, and the 4 others for two-year terms. As a result, two separate votes were held.

#### 7. Election of New Members

Candidates for a one-year term presented themselves. The counting of votes for the election of a one-year term was done by David Estok and Marie-Flore Gignac. The result of the vote indicated that **Dov Bensimon** was re-elected as a parent representative. A motion approving this vote was put forward by Carol and seconded by Tayba. All were in favour and none were opposed.

Candidates for a two-year term presented themselves. The counting of votes for the election of a one-year term was done by David Estok and Tayba Huot. The result of the vote indicated that **Rebecca Belmonte, Marie-Flore Gignac, Stuart Kemp, and Marc Lucke** were elected as a parent representatives. A motion approving this vote was put forward by Liz and seconded by Katherine. All were in favour and none were opposed.

A motion to have the ballots shred by David Estok was put forth by Allison and seconded by Mark. All were in favour and none were opposed.

#### 8. Election of substitute parent members

The meeting was informed that the GB has substitute parent members in case regular parent representatives are not able to attend a meeting. The substitute members are then called upon to vote in lieu of the regular representative they are replacing. The Clearpoint GB can have up to 7 substitute members. The following were chosen as substitute parent members: Maria Benavides, Catalina Clavero, Tayba Huot, Audrey Lambert, Tatiana Mendez, Wendy Mendoza, and Danny Trotto.

#### 9. Election of Parent Representative and Alternate Representative members

A description of the Parents' Committee (PC) representative was given to the meeting. These individuals represent not only parents of the school but also parents of community of the school. The [Lester B Pearson Parents' Committee](#) is comprised of representatives from each school in the board. This representative has voting rights. An alternate representative is also sought. The alternate does not vote, unless the main representative is absent. The alternate member is expected to attend meeting with the main representative. This committee offers a viewpoint on what is happening at the board level as well as at the government level. The [Major School Change](#) initiative is currently being heavily discussed at the PC. PC meetings are open to public and are usually held on Thursdays.

Following an enquiry into interest in this position, **Mark Lucke** was acclaimed as the main representative and **Liz Lopez** was acclaimed as alternate.

#### 10. Motion to form a Parents Participant Organization (PPO)

Katherine explained that although there is typically a vote on a PPO, there has never been a PPO at Clearpoint. This is mainly due to the fact that Clearpoint benefits from a very active and engaged Home & School association, which serves many of the functions that a PPO would be responsible for. Since there was therefore no support for a PPO expressed at the AGA, it was motioned by Carol and seconded by Katherine not to have a PPO for the 2019-2020 school year. All were in favour and none were opposed.

#### 11. Date of the first GB Meeting for the 2019 – 2020 school year

It was proposed to have the first meeting of the 2019-2020 school year on Wednesday, 9 October 2019. It was noted that Home & School meetings will take place on the second Tuesday of every month, in the evening. Staff council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, in the daytime. The GB was invited to consider this when deciding the dates of subsequent GB meetings, which will be decided in October.

The date for next GB meeting was set for Wednesday, 9 October 2019. As usual, it will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.

## 12. Adjourn

GB members were asked to send a short biography of themselves to Mr. Estok. This will then be posted to the school's [GB web page](#).

David Estok thanked Katherine for her work as Chair of the GB over the last two years, since she announced that she will not be returning to the GB in this capacity.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was put forward at 8:12 p.m. by Louise, seconded by Tubbeh. All were in favour and none were opposed.