



2018



2019



Clearpoint Elementary School Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

Written by: Dov Bensimon

Location: Clearpoint Elementary School		Date: Wednesday, January 16, 2019	Time: 6:30 –8:27 p.m.
Attendees Governing Board (GB) Members:	Attendees GB Substitutes:	Attendees Parents/other:	Absent:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allison Saunders • Carol Rabbat • David Estok • Dov Bensimon • Katherine Wiebe • Liz Lopez • Louise Sudia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miranda Tubbeh • Sandra Fisher • Susan Lariviere • Suzanne Larkin • Tassie Fyon • Tayba Huot • Wayne Clifford 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danny Trotto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audrey Lambert • Bill Mang • Garry Saunders • Helen MacTaggart • Janine Von Bauer • Linda Harbert • Marie-Flore Gignac • Marc Lucke • Mark Christiano • Patricia Beach • Tatiana Mendez • Wendy Mendoza 			

Agenda		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome 2. Approval of the Agenda 3. Approval of the Last Minutes 4. Public & Member Question Period 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Business Arising <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Proposed GB Budget 6. Follow Ups New Business 7. Field Trips, Fundraisers & Activities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Reports 9. Varia 10. Correspondence 11. Date of next meeting 12. Adjournment

1. Welcome
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - A motion to accept the proposed agenda was initiated by Suzanne, seconded by Louise and approved by all unanimously.
3. Approval of the Minutes from Tuesday, December 11, 2018
 - It was pointed out that the mention of Exhibition was listed as being for grade 5, but this should have been for grade 6. Dov will correct this in the minutes. The minutes from the last meeting were unanimously approved by all pending this change, after a motion by Susan which was seconded by Miranda.

4. Public questions

- Liz asked about Spanish lessons being offered after school. David will send out a note seeking to assess interest and if there is enough interest, registration would proceed the same way as last year.

5. Business arising

- In the context of the Clearpoint budget review, Liz proposed that the \$450 allocated to the GB be spent on taking 20 people out to dinner in June for the year-end GB meeting, or to have this amount being spent on coffee and babysitting fees for GB members who need to get babysitting in order to attend the GB meetings. This would apply to GB members and substitutes only. Liz proposed to leave \$50 for babysitting services in case it's needed, but if it goes unused, it can be applied to the end-of-year supper. Allison mentioned that it is important to mention that it's available. It was suggested that it be offered as an occasional measure, but not a permanent one and that it be on a first-come, first-serve up to a maximum amount per year. Katherine moved to approve the budget for \$50 for babysitting and the remainder for the dinner. This motion was seconded by Carol and unanimously approved by all.
- Katherine informed the meeting that a memo about children changing after gym time was sent out to parents today. One of the parents who was concerned about this topic expressed thanks to the GB via Carol.

6. New Business

- Consultation for new budget: Katherine suggested that it be moved to the next meeting.
- Allison informed the meeting that the Ministère de l'Éducation et Enseignement Supérieur (MEES) wants to know what parents think of school fees and have launched a [survey on their website](#). She invited all to fill out the survey. This survey is open to all taxpayers in Quebec.
- Handwashing: it was suggested that the school ensure that students have time to wash their hands before eating at lunch. David informed the meeting that this is helpful for many reasons, including limiting diseases like chicken pox. The students are reminded about this in announcements. How the soap dispensers are filled at school will be changing soon: rather than using cartridges as is the case now, the new dispensers can be filled with liquid soap. There will be an initial expense for new dispensers, but this will be more economical in the long run, since soap in the cartridges ends up getting wasted. David asked that a sink be put into the classroom that has none, to make washing easier in that class.
- Principal Consultation Launch – comments on this topic are due at end of February. Katherine indicated that a response will be formulated at the next meeting.
- Clearpoint Budget Review – The proposed budget for the balance of the current year as compared to the previous year was reviewed and discussed by the Governing Board. A motion to approve the budget was moved by Suzanne and seconded by Sue. All approved and none were opposed.
- Daycare budget – 213 students in daycare now. Total of 418 students in the school. The budget for the Clearpoint Daycare was reviewed and discussed by the GB. David recognized Tassie for the work she did to ensure she was able to get an assistant to help with the daycare, based on the fact that there are over 200 students. A motion to approve the budget was moved by Carol and seconded by Tayba. All approved and none were opposed.

7. Field Trips, Fundraisers & Activities

- Junior Leadership Day at will be McDonald High School on Friday, February 8th, 2019. Jamie Brasseur has agreed to take 12 students, from both grade 5 and 6, to that activity. That is the limit of how many can go. It will have to be decided how to choose the kids who participate. In the past, the teachers chose the leaders in the class.
- Carnaval at daycare – it is hoped to have it on Thursday, June 20th, 2019. This will involve two inflatable games and lots of music. Dynamix will be invited to come that day. That is the same day as grad night, but the date was suggested to not conflict with other end of year activities.
- A motion to approve these activities was moved by Suzanne and seconded by Carol and unanimously approved by all.

8. Reports:

- a. **Commissioner's Report:** The full report is included as an annex to the minutes of this meeting.
- b. **Principal Report:** The report from the principal was presented next and is included as an annex to the minutes of the meeting.
- c. **Primary Years Program (PYP):** Exhibition preparations are underway. Action is the starting point of the exhibition: what do you want to do about this issue? Various groups are organized around different themes. The discrimination group will be presenting on gender inequality. The pollution group wants to reduce the amount of garbage: they propose to measure the amount of garbage produced in school, announce it to kids, and re-measure after techniques are put in place to reduce waste. Another group will be teaching on how to not bully. The bees and wasps group would like to present on this topic and want to go to McDonald farm. There is a hunger group who wants to have a food drive at the spring concert and they will go to the Montreal Mission. The mental health group wants to use gym to help kindergarten kids build their self-esteem, especially helping kids that are alone at recess. Recycling efforts will also be made and money will be donated to children's hospital. The homeless group wants to do a clothing drive and fundraise for this. They want to collect socks and give to an organisation called "Toe2Toe". The child labour group will visit St. Anthony school. The poverty group will volunteer in homeless shelters and will be accompanied by Susan Lariviere and another parent. The exhibition will take place on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at a time to be announced. A motion to approve these fundraisers and field trips – food drive, clothing drive, pollution collection, visit to St. Anthony, welcome mission hall, McDonald Farm – was moved by Carol seconded by Liz. All approved unanimously.
- d. **Teachers:**
 - **Kindergarten** – holiday celebrations were discussed. Now the topic is hibernation and adaptation.
 - **Grade 4:** Miranda explained that they are working on the explorers unit. The students have to come up with ideas of what they need to be explorers. Math club is being run by Miranda: grades 4, 5 and 6 will be participating in a math competition. Miss Kelly will run grade 5 and Miss Michelle runs grade 6 for the math club.

- **Grade 3:** Sandra finished rocks and minerals unit. A geophysicist came to speak to the kids – one of the parents. Spoke of damage to environment. Colin’s mother came in with gemstones and minerals. Rocks were sold for a total of \$440. This will be donated to St. Mary’s hospital. The next unit is on leaders. Note: it was announced that Sandra will be leaving Clearpoint on Monday January 20th, 2019, the halfway point of the school year.
- **Grade 2:** student are learning about how people express feelings. They will be doing next assembly and will be singing the “Grade 2 blues” at that event.
- **Grade 5:** they are learning about natural disasters. Dov came to give a presentation to all the grade 5 classes on January 14th, 2019. In English, the students are writing a story and in French, they are learning about writing as well.
- **Grade 6:** students are working hard on the upcoming exhibition and are finishing a world religion unit.
- **Grade 1:** students are working on the water cycle unit. Dov is scheduled to come to speak to the students on this topic in the coming days.

e. **Daycare:**

- Corking has started again at daycare.
- Champs basketball is being looked into as of February 1st on Fridays. It will go for 10 weeks and registration will be online. Parents can pay online too if they wish.
- The next pedagogical day will be Friday, February 8th, 2019, in which the kids participate in the Canada winter games.
- Louise Sandosky will be offering drama dance for the kids to get involved with. This will be done with each of the groups for 45 minutes. The cost will be partially funded by daycare.
- Katherine asked about homework time. Chromebooks are assigned to groups in daycare to work on homework. There are some days where they may be less time for homework, but Tassie aims for a balance of homework time and activity time. It was mentioned that students in LBPSB high schools have to do volunteer time in the community – it may be helpful to have high school students come in and help Clearpoint students with homework.
- A motion to approve Champs basketball and the February 8th ped day was moved by Allison and seconded by Sue. All approved unanimously.

f. **Home and School:**

- Comedy night will be held on February 1st, 2019.
- Scholastics confirmed that the school has a balance of over \$6000. This amount can be spent on wish lists from teachers and almost the whole Scholastics lineup is available. With 25 teachers in the school, each one can spend \$230 plus shipping fees.
- Maple syrup, lunch activities, staff and daycare appreciation and school supplies will be discussed in March for approval.
- Hockey raffle – an email went out today to all parents for tickets to a game which will take place on Sunday, February 3rd, 2019 at 2 p.m.

g. **Clearpoint Parent Representative to LBPSB Parents’ Committee:**

- No meeting of the LBPSB Parents' Committee was held in January: the scheduled meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will take place on Thursday January 24th 2019 for the sub-committees of the LBPSB Parents' Committee.

9. Varia

- None

10. Correspondence

- None

11. Date of next meeting

- The next meeting of the GB will be held on Wednesday February 13th, 2019, at 6:30pm in the library.

12. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by Carol and seconded by Tassie at 8:27 p.m. All were in favour and none opposed.

Annex A – Report of the Commissioner

Commissioner's Report – January 2019



News from the December 17, 2018 Meeting of the Council of Commissioners

The Chair and the Director General, in their monthly reports to Council expressed gratitude for the hard work of all staff, students and administrators and best wishes for a restful and enjoyable holiday.

An administrative staffing change resolution was passed naming Jonathan Ste-Marie as a Coordinator of the Human Resources Department, probationary status effective January 21, 2019 in anticipation of an imminent retirement in that department.

Correspondence: a letter dated December 4, 2018, from Diane Lamarche-Venne, Chair of the Commission Scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeois regarding the overcrowding of CSMB schools and asking our Board to explore possible avenues for pupil placement within LBPSB, and another letter dated December 12, 2018, from Jean-François Roberge, Minister of Education and Higher Education regarding the implementation of compulsory Sexuality Education for elementary and secondary students were acknowledged.

Board committees which had met since November gave their reports.

Resolutions: Because the School Board must consult with Governing Boards and the Parents' Committee and take into account the recommendations of the Resource Allocation Committee (the ARC) to establish objectives and principles governing the allocation of subsidies, school tax proceeds and other revenues a resolution was adopted to launch the consultation on the document entitled Budget Consultation 2019-2020 be distributed to the consultative partners of the Lester B. Pearson School Board during the week of January 7, 2019, in order for the community to provide input on the allocation of subsidies, school tax proceeds and other revenues of the School Board, with responses to be returned to the Secretary General no later than March 29, 2019.

As Commissioners' Local Travel, Conference and Other Expenses Policy had been reviewed, the amended policy was approved.

The next regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners is scheduled for Monday, January 28th at 7:30 pm. and, as with all Council meetings, are webcast live and archived on the board website. Minutes of the prior council meeting also will be published on the board website following approval at the subsequent council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Clifford
Commissioner – Ward 12

Annex B – Report of the Principal



January 16, 2018

Governing Board Principal's Report Respectfully submitted by David Estok

-Early Literacy Intervention: We are extremely pleased and proud of the results of our first round of early literacy intervention which took place over 8 weeks from the end of October until just before school ended in December. All students in cycle 1 were regrouped based on reading ability; the groups were kept as small as we could make them – about 15 students per group – based on the number of people we had teaching the groups. The groups were named for animals so that the students wouldn't associate their group with low or high ability. The instructional period took place for 30 min every day during the 8 weeks. The results have been phenomenal. Using a number of markers, between 80-90 % of our students in cycle 1 showed significant gains (sight words & vocabulary; decoding; comprehension).

I want to commend our teachers for their outstanding collaborative effort. This project, which has had critical benefits for our students would not have happened without their flexibility, commitment, and high professional-pedagogical standards.

-Open House & Registration: We are gearing up for our annual Open House for kindergarten parents on Friday. Our format will essentially be the same as in past years with a presentation in the library about the school, programs, policies, etc. The K teachers will present their program, and I, Sue and Tassie will present as well. Linda, our H & S president will speak briefly, and parents will have guided tours of the school offered by grade 6 student ambassadors. There will also be a Q & A period.

-Carbon Monoxide: Our school was already equipped with a CO detector in the furnace room; a second one was added by the school board today. The furnace is inspected twice annually, including the boiler, and exhaust ducts – most recently on Dec. 12. According to the information I have these most recent inspections do not recommend any corrective measures for our school. The school board is also in the process of implementing a longer term plan which will have CO detectors installed and connected to a central monitoring system.

-Junglesport - Junglesport is happening again at Clearpoint, and as you know Mr. Bill and Ms. Yates are offering the parent session this evening. I want to thank them both for their work in offering this activity to our students and parents.

-Japanese Students – In association with the McGill School of continuing studies, Clearpoint will again be hosting a group of international students, this time from Japan. These students are attending McGill as ESL learners. As part of their program, they will visit our school and do presentations that reflect an aspect of their culture, but which are also connected to our units of inquiry. This has been done in the past here at Clearpoint, and the relationship that exists with the McGill School of continuing studies was established through one of the parents here at Clearpoint – Ms. Louise Kyrtatas – who has a daughter Claire in grade 4. Ms. Kyrtatas works in the department at McGill.



2018



2019



-Technology Plan – Our plan for technology use was reviewed with the staff in the fall. Based on our discussion, our plan to have 1:1 ratio of student to device has now been put into effect for grades 3-6 (using chromebooks). We have a slightly different plan for grades k-2 using ipads, but our goal at present is not to create a 1:1 ratio of student : device, but to ensure that technology will be available in increased quantities at the lower grade levels.