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Clearpoint Elementary School Governing Board Minutes of Meeting

Written by: Amanda Blackburn

Location: Zoom	Date: Wednesday, January 24 th , 2024, Time: 6:30
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Attendees Governing Board Members:		Attendees GB Substitutes	Attendees Parents' Other:	Absent:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Pan • Dominique Bensadoun • Tassie Fyon • Amanda Blackburn • Dahlia Singh • Vaughn Peters • Suzanne Larkin • Loretta Kao • Miranda Tubbeh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susannah Riley • Marc Lucke • Rebecca Belmonte • Wendy Mendoza • Marilyn Boyer • Jennifer Yates • Melanie Flores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rean Sayegh • Tatiana Mendez 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 19 participants attended the meeting, including those explicitly listed here. • Tayba Huot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Palmer • Amy Wong • Liz Lopez

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 6. New Business 7. Field Trips, Fundraisers, & Activities 8. Reports 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Varia 10. Correspondence 11. Date of the next meeting 12. Adjournment

1. Welcome and Territorial Land Acknowledgement: Dominique started the meeting at 6:35pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve by Ms. Dahlia and seconded by Marc.
3. Approval of Minutes from December 4, 2023: motion to approve by Ms. Tassie and Mme. Suzanne.
4. Public & Member Question Period:
 - Canvax program – is this in response to parents asking more about vaccines? This came from the ministry, but we don't know what the impetus of this is.
 - Parents didn't find out until after that Ms. Kimberley was switching class, and parents are concerned about the communication. It was her choice to not tell parents until everything was in place, and she was



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involved in the transition and looked at all the seesaw messages. Formal announcement was made once we had a full-time teacher taking over the class.

- Cycle 3, it was nice to have heads up when nurse is coming to talk to children about the sex ed program, and parents would like resources afterwards to discuss this with their children. Which the nurse plans to provide.
- Many workbooks come home empty and not used. Agenda has not been used for 2 years. The Zigzag book and science book. Worried that we are buying things we aren't using. Is there something can be done that whatever we are buying, that we use the majority of the book throughout the year? This conversation only happens in March, this is about the budget for the next year. Photocopies throughout the year eats into our budget. This is something we are having continued conversations about.

5. New Business: None

6. Business Arising:

6.1. Pink Shirt Day: Feb 28: Presentation by AMEN (2 sessions):

- Ks to Grade 2 for session 1 for 30 minutes: tentative from 9:15am to 9:45 am.
- Grade 3 to 6 - 1 hour: time: tentatively from 8:10 am to 9:10 a
- To kickstart pink shirt day we invited speaker Amen, who worked with us for boy'r'us last year.
- It means that previously approved Tracking Black Canada by Overture of the arts would move to February 21st from 8:45-9:45.
- Motion to approve by Marc and seconded by Ms. Tassie.

6.2. Clearpoint Budget 2023-2024

- We have budgets for students' success: which includes getting kids moving, IEP release, Meeting with K4 parents, Cultural outing that has been approved by the ministry, anti-bullying program.
- \$60/student for furniture – many teachers will be getting updated chairs and tables. Have a list of teachers who need updates but weren't able without going over budget.
- Base Operating budget \$79/ kid for a total of \$33,812
- Increased budget for library above the ministry spending.
- Last year we had deficit of \$11,761, asking to use less than the \$33,812 this year, so we can balance our budget.
- Goal is to get to \$0, but parents value the school's success over working on deficit. If we only pay half of the deficit, it would still be seen as a positive move.
- Revenues of \$470,190 and expenses are \$470,190 for a net 0.
- Budget Resolution was read.
- Motion to approve by Rebecca and seconded by Mme. Suzanne.



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- 6.3. LBPSB Hit the Stage Dance Off:
- Tuesday, April 23rd from 5:30-8:30pm at PCHS for Grade 5 and 6 students.
 - Cost \$3 per child.
 - New program to learn dances and groups will have a competition.
 - For children who want to participate.
 - Transportation based on parent volunteers.
 - Motion to approve by Ms. Tassie and seconded by Mr. Vaughn.
- 6.4. Anti Bullying Anti-Violence Plan Summary:
- Give parents a summary of the ABAV plan and provides a list of steps to take with timeline.
 - This will be on all school websites.
 - We requested a digestible document that would be easy for parents to access, and we are happy to see our suggestions implemented.
- 6.5. School Survey from January 29 to February 9 along with a student committee to analyze the results and recommend actions.
- Annual our school survey from January 29 to February 9. This year what is different we are asking to have a small student committee. Show students results and ask them to come up with one or two actionable things we can do improve our school. Kids have great answers, and important to give them a voice and empower them to have agency over their schools.
 - Our School Program coming from a company called learning bar, where statisticians analyze the data, but they do not have one for adults.
 - During discussion for Success plan with the commissioners, it was brought up that we asked if there was something for parents, this is something that will be looked at in the future.
- 6.6. Open House on Wednesday evening January 10th, went quite well.
- 6.7. Principal Selection Criteria for the 2024-2025 school year:
- Ms. Pan left the meeting for this item, returned once completed.
 - Read 2023 Principal's criteria and would like to keep all the points we already have.
 - Additions we would like to propose including promoting bilingualism within the school.
 - Approval for amendment to principal criterion. Motion to approve by Mme. Suzzane and seconded by Ms. Dahlia.
7. Field Trips, Fund Raisers & Activities
- 7.1. Grade 6 Grade Committee
- Add a Domino's pizza night, did it a few years back, but would like to try this approach. Three options using promotional code, where \$5-\$10 would be donated to grad committee. And the menu ranges from \$18.99-\$31.99 for packages.
 - Three dates up in the air and grad will pick one of them. Wednesday March 13, Tuesday March 19, or Wednesday March 20th.
 - Order pizza at home with these promotional codes, anyone who uses the code will donate part of it to Clearpoint.



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- Location on Hymus in Pointe Claire, so there may be a delivery radius that Domino's could not deliver to.
 - Approved by Wendy and seconded by Susannah.
- 7.2. Babysitting courses:
- Red Cross first aid and babysitting workshop for grade 6 students.
 - February 9th from 9am – 4pm, \$80/ student, which included babysitter's manual.
 - Motion to approve by Wendy and seconded by Rebecca.
- 7.3. Downhill Ski for Grade 5 and 6:
- Senior ski trip for grade 5 and 6 at Morin Heights on March 14th. 8am leaving school return at 3:30
 - Parents would need to do pick ups would need to pick up because we arrive back at 3:30 past buses.
 - March 14th
 - \$55-\$75 based on equipment rental, and ski lift.
 - Need to pass bunny hill before being allowed to ski to go up on the chairlift. Safety is number 1 priority.
 - Motion to approve by Susannah and seconded Miranda.
- 7.4. School yard embellishment project:
- Started with Mr. Estok and Kindergarten teachers to get a play structure for the younger kids.
 - To get the grant we would need to take on a larger project, for all school. So, we are looking to approve the yard for everyone.
 - Put in grant application for Measure 50530 based on a point system awarded points. We have extra points for having a committee and having backers for at least 10% which we have from home and school.
 - Point Claire is in an affluent community – so we are not able to get 2 points towards this. School Board suggested applying for placeholder grant and next year the government may provide any school who already applied get an extra 2 points next year.
 - It will benefit whole school, and it is needed to improve for everyone.
 - Motion to approve submission of this grant by Ms. Yates and seconded by Wendy.
- 7.5. Math Centrum:
- Grade 4, 5, and 6.
 - There was a \$10 charge per child which covers registration, and an ice cream party.
 - Competition in April during school hours, takes place across Canada and many schools compete, and we are starting to practice next week.
 - Meet at lunch and practice the math centrum curriculum.
 - 1 winner chosen from every grade level with highest average.
 - Kids love it and it is a relaxed environment.



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- Motion to approve by Ms. Suzzane and seconded by Loretta.

8. Reports:

8.1. Principal:

We have had quite an unusual month due to the ongoing Transco bus strikes and the recent week long common front strike that took place from December 8th til the 14 inclusively.

Despite such an interruption, holiday events still took place!

We kicked off the month with a few H&S events:

1. We had a wonderful Holiday Fair organized by our incredible Home and School. We had close to 30 vendors along with a Games Room managed by our Grade 6 class! A great event to do your holiday shopping but to simply bring the community together! A big thank you to all H&S parents.
2. Cabaret Kids is a drama group that has been brought in by H&S as a lunch activity and they culminated their efforts in an evening show. Cabaret Kids performed a version of “SING” earlier this month. A great turn out!
3. Once again we had the Budding Artist campaign where several parents bought presents that featured their child’s artwork! Thank you to Jenn Donaldson for organizing this!
4. At the end of the month, H&S graciously volunteered to organize a holiday breakfast for all our kids! Thank you!

At school level, we had our Annual Rainbow Food Basket Drive where we collected money to buy gift cards for our needy families. Again we thank once again our H&S for helping us purchase the gift cards with the money collected. (We collected a total of 1275\$!)

As well on Monday December 18th, Clearpoint put on the “Global Rhythms of the World” Holiday concert. Performing to a packed gymnasium, the students danced and sang showcasing international songs and dances that they had learned throughout the year! A huge thanks to all staff who helped to make this happen. As well, a special thanks to Aline Lajoie and Erin Berry for putting on a wonderful show!

In the final week of school before the holidays, we had Holiday Spirit Week. And the last day of school was a regular one ending at 2:30 pm. Daycare services were shortened though ending at 4:30 pm.

Thankfully, we began this day with a full school Holiday breakfast organized by the H&S.

Looking ahead to the new year! We have our Open house coming up. The dates are:

- Wednesday, January 10th from 6:30 pm till 8 pm
- And again on Thursday, January 11th from 9:30 am till 11 am

We have started advertising this on our website. The board will be promoting this on their website and social media along with radio ads announcing other LBPSB open houses during the week of January 10th till the 25th. We are looking forward to seeing a large turnout.

Also coming up will be our IB Exhibition Summit taking place on the morning of January 16th where this year’s topic will be “Sharing the Planet”. We will have our region Director, Debi Dixon, kick off the event as our keynote speaker, along with a host of several speakers that will present to our Grade 6 classes. A great way to ignite the start of our Grade 6 Exhibition projects of 2024.



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8.2. Teachers:

Cycle 1:

- Wrapping up our unit on mapping and geographic tools. The children have created their house floor plan maquettes, including mini-furnishings. Inside of these maquettes, each group has hidden a gemstone. In groups, this week, students will do a rotation of all of the projects, taking turns to follow the written directions to see if they can locate the hidden gemstones.
- Cycle 1 has also drawn geographically accurate maps of our school yard.

Cycle 2:

- Cycle 2 is working on a unit on space. We are going to the Biodôme this week and have a few parents volunteering to speak to our classes.
- Grade 3 is finishing up our Iroquois study and moving into the algonquiens. They are working on a joint Iroquois model Village as a wrap up.
- Grade 3 have been discussing term goals. Similar to a resolution they have chosen a word to describe their goal. We made bracelets with the name of the goal that they wear in class as a reminder of what they are working on.

Cycle 3:

- The process of putting together Exhibition 2024, which will take place on April 18th, is well on its way! This was launched last week with our annual Summit, in which guest speakers were invited to speak to the Grade 6 students on a range of topics such as Climate Change, Systemic Racism, Artificial Intelligence and much more. They absolutely loved them! These presentations, including other topics of personal interest, helped guide the students to be clear on what they would truly like to know about. This all falls under the Transdisciplinary Theme of 'Sharing the Planet'. The next 2 months will be a rigorous process for all students and staff involved. We are looking forward to it!

Phys. Ed.:

- We are introducing Omnikin to cycle 2 & 3. Followed by polo/hockey/ringette to cycle 1/2 & 3 respectively. Ice skating once a week for cycle 2 & 3 at Clearpoint park at the rink weather permitting for the month of February. The junior ski club has also begun.

8.3. Primary Years Program (PYP) Update:

Focus over the next few weeks is working on “Self-Management” (one of the “PYP-Approaches to Learning” skills)

- Self-management was discussed at the assembly
- Challenge: Set a goal for 2024 by coming up with a “One Word” focus. Return any completed templates to my box. (Optional)
- Resources: [Video](#)
- Template ([bilingual](#))
- Please see Ms. Pan’s weekly announcement slides, for more optional discussion questions/activities about self-management

Journey to Exhibition has begun!



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- There was a parent-info session for grade 6 parents about exhibition on Jan. 11
- Summit was Tuesday, Jan. 16th (in-person)
- Exhibition will be held on April. 18th (portfolio night)

Clearpoint takes action!

- Pride tags were distributed at the last assembly to those students who had taken action from Sept - Dec.

8.4. Daycare:

K4& K5:

- Working with the winter theme, the children are making penguins, step by step over a few weeks. While outside they are enjoying the toboggans and sliding on the hill.
- Snowman crafts : Monday- play dough snowman, Tuesday- building snowman outside, Wednesday- paper puppet snowman, Thursday- class choice activity and Friday - snowman colouring pages. These activities will help building kids fine and gross motor skills, cognitive skills, creativity, social skills development.

Grade 1:

- step by step drawing, as well, starting to do so yoga to learn how to relax our mind and body.
- making an album that will include the 12 calligraphy papers we did during the first semester. they will make a portfolio by sewing to cardboard with plastic thread. then decorate it. Also, introducing musical instruments like triangles, claves, rain sticks, maracas, and others.

Grade 2:

- This month we are working on sock puppets, swishie paint name plates, watercolor penguins and design your own hot chocolate shop. The children also continue to enjoy making various things with wool
- The students are doing corking, knitting and they will make the craft of their choice: headbands, hearts ,scarves etc. Also they will make snowflakes.

Grade 3:

- we are introducing different instruments (hand drum, shaker, keyboard) to our Musical Mondays, where they get to practice what they have learned in music class. The children will also get to make and decorate their own corker (French knitting) and make different crafts of their choice such as butterflies, flowers, snails, carpets, etc.

Grade 4:

- We are learning to get to know each other, what we enjoy doing, our strengths and weaknesses, and how to find a balance between them. We explore all activities, physical, intellectual, arts and crafts, critical thinking, sensory, communication, and many more.

Grade 5:

- Currently a group is working on a dnd campaign (dungeons and dragons). Next week we will be starting to learn storyboard and organize the structure of writing a story for either writing a book



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or for creating more in depth stories for their role playing games. We are making bookmarks for the craft this week.

Grade 6:

- We are currently learning geography, Canadian; provinces, time zones, oceans, great lakes, hydro dams, and directions (North,South,EW) & a little European geography. Also, longitude & latitude, the prime meridian & the earth's rotation. The students also want to play gaga ball a few more times and more net sports during gym, badminton & volleyball. I've also begun lightly talking about high school; subjects and organization methods.

8.5. Home and School:

- Comedy Night for Feb 9, cash bar \$5/drink \$20/bottle wine. \$2 for non-alcoholic drinks and snacks. 50-50 raffle (ticket prices) 1 for \$1, 12 for \$10 and 25 for \$20.
- staff get in for free.
- Sunday we are making 500 sandwiches for the unhoused with Bread and Beyond, from 10-12 and we need people to make cookies as well.
- Pink shirt day: order forms are available online. Checks should be made to Clearpoint Home and School.
- Teacher appreciation week March 18.
- Motion to approve comedy night drinks, snack and raffle tickets by Marc and seconded by Susannah.

8.6. LBPSB PC Rep

- Discussed Transco strike which is ongoing.
- Positive news that most agreements are going forward with government and unions.
- Presentation from Mathieu Canavan, on "Our School" survey, which is a North American survey for sense of belonging in school and is bullying survey. 15-year-old survey that provides intra-provincial data. Concern is that it seems like students in Quebec has one of the lowest rates of sense of belonging to community compared to the rest of Canada.

8.7. Commissioner

- Bus strike: will be some money given back to parents still affected by the strike. As of last Wednesday, we did not have exact amount. Working on how they are going to refund parents. Look what else they can do for remainder of the strike.
- Approved annual reports.
- Great graduation rates.
- Budget consultations went out January 12th, but due March 28th.
- Glad that our feedback does get listened to, and we were able to have a digestible summary for ABAV plan.
- Policies sent from governing board got approved.



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9. Varia: Kids had a lot of fun with the obstacle course, and hoping it will continue every year, thank you to the teachers for putting it on
10. Correspondence: email from potential parents who visited during open house. She wanted to thank staff and knew as soon as she walked into a building, that this school is where she could feel part of the family.
11. Date of next meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 6:30 on Zoom.
12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm. Motion to approve by Marc and seconded by Ms. Tassie.