



ST. EDMUND GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 25th, 2024

Attendees: Valérie S. Béland, Sophie Belzile, Louise Cavaliere, Alessandra D'Amico, Neil Dixon, Nathalie Duhamel, Mylene Gosselin, Brenna Jardon-Ellerton, Bessy Katakis, Christian Knudsen, Ronnie Lawand, Tessa MacLean, Courtney Paul, Marie-Josée Ricard, France de la Rochelle, Tina Simetic, Guylaine St-Georges, Karina Tarapore

Regrets: Corinna Graham, Amy St-Amour

1. Call to Order (7:06 pm), Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

2. Adoption of the Agenda for September 25, 2024

Motion to approve: Guylaine St-Georges

Seconded: Mylene Gosselin

3. Approval of the Minutes from June 11, 2024

Motion to approve: Guylaine St-Georges

Seconded: Valérie Béland

4. Adoption of the 2023-2024 Annual Report

Motion to approve: Christian Knudsen

Seconded: Tessa MacLean

5. Round Table Introductions

6. Nomination of Chair for 2024-2025

Ronnie Lawland was elected by acclamation to continue in the position of chair for the 2024-2025 year.

7. Nomination of Secretary for 2024-2025

Tessa MacLean was elected by acclamation for the position of secretary

8. Questions from the public

- Question from GB members re: changes to the ways in which the library is being run this year. Asking for clarifications about reasoning for the change, possibilities of parent volunteers, and whether students might see a return to weekly library visits.
 - Mme. de la Rochelle explained that there is a new librarian at St Edmund this year, Kelly Meehan. The previous librarian had expressed concerns in the increased workload faced by the librarians when parent volunteers incorrectly scanned/filed books.

- Kelly would like to train a group of parent volunteers to continue to support the library functioning. Volunteers will be required to work a morning or afternoon shift, which may not align with their child's class. (Previously, parents signed up in 1.5 hour shifts that aligned with their child(ren)'s library time.)
- Mme. de la Rochelle is hopeful that once parent volunteers are in place, they can open a second library day, giving students the ability to visit the library each week.

9. Reports

a. Administrator's report

- Mme de la Rochelle expressed that curriculum night had a great turnout and was a success overall.
- Students are enjoying Frosty Fridays!
- They have had 2 fire drills so far, and there are 2 more to occur before the arrival of winter. The fire department has informed Mme. de la Rochelle that they will also do a surprise visit sometime this fall.
- Student gardens were tended by parents/families over the summer and students were able to harvest in September. One class from grades 2, 3, and 4 each had a chance to discuss the gardens and planted a second crop of peas and lettuce
- The playground has a rabbit family living under the play structure, and there have been some difficulties removing them, one of which died and was noticed by students. Options are being explored.
- The relaxation of the new dress code rules were well received, and Mme. de la Rochelle is looking at revisiting the dress code again this year, with the possibility of its removal.

b. Commissioner:

- Michael Besner not present at this meeting

c. Parents Committee

- PC meets for AGM on Thursday Oct 10th.
- Reminder to check registration on English School Board voting list for the upcoming elections.
 - Election will be formally announced on September 30th - information on voting to follow

d. SNAC

- Amy St-Amour is attending the first meeting of SNAC this evening.
- Issues regarding membership last year have been resolved for this year, and Amy is a voting member.

e. Daycare

- Louise is filling in while Mme de la Rochelle is in search of a replacement for the SEED & Lunch Programs Coordinator. Louise is a former SEED director from St Edmund, and has a wealth of experience. She will be moving to 4 full days at St Edmund and is supported by Miss Sharon.
- St Edmund has one of the largest daycare programs in the school board at 247 students this year.

f. Teachers

- Mme. Guylaine thanks Mme de la Rochelle for establishing a great atmosphere. Staff are appreciating the open and responsive communication.
- The spirit rally was extremely successful at promoting school spirit
- St Edmund performed to a high athletic standard at the recent Grade 6 Ultimate Frisbee tournament. They all had fun, and it was clear that Miss Carroll had prepared them well to compete!
- Orange shirt day coming up on September 30
- Lots of other events happening: Visit from BHS, cross-country run, Terry Fox.
- There is a positive vibe in the school, and routines are becoming well established as we near the end of September.

g. Home and School

- Over 80 members registered, with 40 members attending the first Home and School meeting last week.
- Carnival is a go for Thursday, Sept 26th (hopeful the rain will be over in time!). Next year the plan is to hold the carnival earlier in September.

10. New Business

- a. Timing of governing board meetings: Proposal from Mme. de la Rochelle that meetings be moved to 6:30pm. Target length of meetings is 1 hour. After 1 hour and 15 minutes there will be a vote required to extend the meeting.

Motion to approve: Karina Tarapore

Seconded: Nathalie Duhamel

- b. Corrina Graham is unable to continue as a member of GB this year. There will be a vote at the next meeting for an alternate to run for a full position on the board.

c. Approvals:

i. Field Trips & Fundraisers

- Grade 4: Radio Canada visit on October 1. Bus leaves at 8:15am, returning at 2pm. Cost covered by the Culture a l'ecole.

Motion to approve: Guylaine St-Georges

Seconded: Mylene Gosselin

- Prof Dino will visit cycle 1 at the end of October - Mme Nathalie has grant (no approval necessary)

- Blanket approval for short neighbourhood excursions (all grades).
 - Parents will be informed prior to any off-grounds excursions.
 - Parent volunteers will accompany when necessary.
 - Follows safety protocols (1-10 teacher to student ratios for grades 1-6; ratio of 1-5 for K4 and K5).
 - Examples of locations: Briarwood park, singing at senior's residence.

Motion to approve: Karina Tarapore

Seconded: Tessa MacLean

ii. Lunch & Afterschool Activities

- Champs for Life basketball: grades 1-3 Mondays at lunch, 10 weeks, \$120. (other grades will have option in winter/spring terms)
- Junior Jams: Thursdays at lunch K4 & K5 (open to everyone); Grades 1-3 Mondays after school (daycare kids only), price not yet established.
- Karate: K-Gr 6: Tuesdays after school 2:45-3:30, Oct 8-Dec 3, \$200. Max 40 students.
- Randy's Cabaret Kids drama program: 8 weeks, \$200. Schedule TBC.

Motion to approve all proposed SEED & Lunch activities:

Marie-Josée Ricard

Seconded: Alessandra D'Amico

11. Questions from the Public

- Mme. de la Rochelle noted that she is working with the school board lawyer re: parking in the church parking lot. There is ongoing disagreement with the church warden and the lawyer is looking to establish an amicable solution, in writing.
- It was clarified that parents are asked to please not park against the church in marked parking spaces.

12. Schedule of GB meetings for 2024-2025

- Motion to alter the date of the November meeting so it does not fall on the same week as parent/teacher interviews.
- New schedule: Thursday Oct 24th, 2024; Thursday Dec 5th, 2024; Thursday January 30th 2025; Thursday February 27th, 2025; Thursday April 17th, 2025; Thursday May 15th, 2025; Thursday June 12th, 2025.

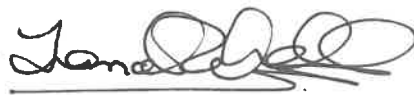
Motion to approve: Neil Dixon

Seconded: Tina Simetic

13. Adjournment



RONNIE LAWAND
GB Chair



France de la Rochelle
Principal