

ST. EDMUND GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2024, 6:30pm

Attendees: Alessandra d'Amico, Sophie Belzile, Louise Cavaliere, Neil Dixon, Nathalie Duhamel, Mylene Gosselin, Brenna Jardon-Ellerton, Georgiana Laudi, Tessa MacLean, Marie-Josée Ricard, France de la Rochelle, Valerie Sembinelli Belland, Tina Simetic, Guylaine St. Georges, Karina Tarapore

Regrets: Ronnie Lawand, Christian Knudsen, Stephanie Myers, Courtney Paul

1. Call to Order (6:34pm), Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of the Agenda for October 24, 2024

Motion to approve: Guylaine St. Georges

Seconded: Sophie Belzile

3. Approval of the Minutes of September 25, 2024 (2024.09.25-GB_Minutes)

Motion to approve: Valerie Sembinelli Belland

Seconded: Alessandra d'Amico

4. Questions from the Public

No members from the public in attendance.

5. School Board Election: Ward 9 Candidates (Maureen BARON & Michael PAPOULIAS)

A. Maureen Baron was formerly an elementary school teacher and a lecturer at McGill for 10 years in integration of technology. Her focus, if elected, is on student success and she brings a pedagogical voice/voice of experience from an elementary perspective. She argued that MEQ is not as in touch with classroom life, which is what she can bring – shaping policies in practical terms. Visit her LinkedIn page for more information.

B. Michael Papoulias has recently retired from working at the school board as the assistant director of IT. This work has made him familiar with administrative duties. Looking to continue to promote synergy between the Council of commissioners and admin. Passionate about kids. Implemented policies that redistributed IT funds more equitably across schools. Part of the program to get laptops into classrooms. Doesn't accept the status quo- listens to needs and delivers accordingly. One top priority is addressing student hunger. Collected and distributed food to families in need.

C. Both participants were committed to attending as many of our GB meetings as possible.

6. Reports:

A. Administrator's Report

- i. The Terry fox run was a big success, raising over \$16,000. Teachers and Mme de la Rochelle were great sports and were pined in the face by students as a reward for the money raised.
- ii. Performance by Indigenous throat singer – students and staff were very impressed by this presentation.
- iii. BHS band performed for the students, and they will be bringing an improv group in the near future as well.
- iv. Reports cards coming up on Nov. 20th.
 1. No comments on the report card. Reason is that teachers are communicating daily, and it is time-consuming and repetitive to write the comment on the reports. It is the teachers' document and their choice whether to include

comments. France respects this, but there are continued discussions on this topic with staff.

1. Mme Guylaine – emphasized that they communicate in other ways that are more useful.
 2. Comment about the value of the memories of the comments on report cards.
 3. Parents are happy with daily communications.
 4. Tessa brought up the importance of students considering their summative assessments within a growth mindset, rather than merely a final number, which does not communicate much to young students about their progress. Comments provide a way for students to think about their overall educational growth trajectory. Even if that is happening formatively within the classroom, it is important for students to think about their educational “outcomes”(i.e. report cards) in terms of growth of skills.
- v. Taking Care of Maman: Grades 4-6 attended this play on Black history and culture
 - vi. Cross country – beautiful day of running. Our school did very well in terms of placements. One 5th grade student going to provincials.
 - vii. The semester is flowing well, no major issues to report.
 - viii. Halloween next week. Costumes – no masks or inflatables. Parents may send in candy to distribute, but only given at the end of the day so parents can decide what to do with the candy.
 - ix. Newsletter will come out at end of November

B. Commissioner (*see presentations from nominees above*)

C. Parents Committee

- i. AGA was held in October, with elections being held. Can find results on social media and the website.
- ii. Discussion held requesting greater communication about board elections – a list of candidates and their platforms being sent directly to parents.
 1. Suggestion – send home a paper with the students

D. Daycare

- i. Nothing major to report so far this year. Daycare afterschool is going well!
- ii. Activities – Champs for Life, Junior Jams, and karate have all started. Drama classes need to be approved.
- iii. There was an incident of a child who did not get on the bus home. This resulted from an issue with attendance taking. This process is being reviewed with daycare instructors, so they only release buses once everyone has been accounted for and students aren't allowed to go in and out of the class during this time.

E. Teachers

- i. Cycle 3: chess club – fewer members because there are so many lunch activities. Students are enjoying it! They are trying to find another date for chess, however with band sectionals and other events, there are a lot of conflicts. Report cards are coming soon.
- ii. Cycle 2: started a monster unit with children's literature, reading and writing activities. Field trip for grade 3s up for approval. Good energy in the building. Report cards – crunch time- kids are in good spirits. Field trip to radio Canada – went very well. At CBC, they took part in creating a podcast, interviews, and voice overs. Auditions for the play are complete and students will get roles next week. Mme Emma did a coding and robotics Halloween theme. Mme Sophie will do coding with Holiday theme in December.
- iii. Cycle 1: ProfDino come to do dry ice experiments, magic potions, etc. on Oct 27th. Nov 20th students are going to Salle Pauline-Julien Delphine Reve Toujours: indigenous story about a child who needs to find a tambourine, encountering animal spirits along the way.

F. Home & School

- i. For Approval:
 - 1. Grad committee's annual raffle: each grade 6 student needs to sell 5 tickets, and with each additional they get entered for a prize draw. Aim is \$5000 to cover festivities (DJ, food, animation, yearbook).
 - 2. 'Glow in the dark party, Nov 14th (in lieu of Hallowe'en dance). Tickets 7\$ each and if you bring in a non-perishable food item you get a glow stick. QR code on tickets – major fundraising initiative. Concessions, DJ, ticket printing, décor, and prizes (budget). 6-8pm. First come first serve, max capacity 400. Sells out fast. Animated by Nicole Hunt, who will lead some dances. Need volunteers – supervision and floaters will be particularly important.
Motion of approve: Georgiana Laudi
Seconded: Valerie Sembinelli Belland
- ii. Home and School fundraisers this year are being planned under 3 pillars: infrastructure (particularly the yard), teachers wish lists, and 'other'.

7. New Business

- A. Replacement for GB Member
 - i. Stephanie Myers was acclaimed
- B. Lunch & Afterschool Activities for Approval:
 - i. Field Trips & Fundraisers
 - 1. Kindergarten and K4 Skating – 4 times per year. 32\$ per student.
 - 2. Nov 20 – Salle Julien –grade 1 and 2, no cost to parents.
 - 3. Cycle 2: Nutcracker at Centre Pelideau - \$31 per student.
 - 4. Grades 2, 3, 4: Musée Pointe Calliere \$32. In February

5. Cycle 2 artist coming in painting/graphic design. \$22 April 28th
6. Biodome and planetarium Grade 3: ration 1-8. Covered by a grant that Mme Martineau has applied for, otherwise it is covered by culture and the schools.
 1. Mme de la Rochelle noted that some of these costs will be covered by grants, but need to make sure that the money is distributed amongst all classes.

Motion to approve all field trips: Marie-Josée Ricard
Seconded: Neil Dixon
7. Daycare activities; Cabaret kids. 6 weeks between November and December, Wednesdays at lunch. Registration is online at cabaret kids. Start with older students and if it works well, they will offer it with younger students.
8. Field trips: It is very expensive to take the bus on a PED day. Laurentian lanes bowling Nov 15th. 1-10 ratio. \$19.25 for the activity. \$11.25 for bus plus daycare fees. Total: \$35.25.
9. Nov. 29th going to see Moana 2 at the Collisée. \$45. Daycare fees are \$16 a day.
10. If parents don't want to send their kids, we have the opportunity to keep the kids at school, as long as we have at least 20 kids stay back.
11. Mme Valerie suggested renting a city bus. They pay the city bus fees. This will be investigated for the future.

Motion to approve 2 field trips: Mylene Gosselin
Seconded: Sophie Belzile

C. Emergency Preparedness Plan

- i. Binder provided by the school board, bus lists, class lists, daycare lists, etc. When there is a fire drill or evacuation, power outages, etc. Daycare, Mme de la Rochelle, and Miss Daniela all have access to their own binder and take it with them. Binder also includes Maps, parents' contact info, etc.
- ii. It's been updated and ready to go for 2024-2025.


D. Evaluation and Reporting of Student Learning

- i. Sent home in an email in September, how each subject is assessed/evaluated. This year, you will have noticed that certain competencies are not evaluated in the first term. Every competency needs to be evaluated twice in a school year. 3rd term, all 3 have to be evaluated. First and second term, teachers (per cycle) can decide which competencies they evaluate. Ex. Not evaluating writing in the first term.

8. Questions from the Public

A. None

9. Adjournment (8:00pm).


RONNIE LAWAND
GB Chair


Principal