



ST. EDMUND GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 24th, 2025, 6:30pm

Attendees: Alessandra d'Amico, Maureen Baron, Sophie Belzile, Laura Campanelli, Patricia Carroll, Louise Cavaliere, Neil Dixon, Nathalie Duhamel, Ronnie Lawand, Tessa MacLean, Tina Simetic, Amy St-Amour, Guylaine St. Georges, Karina Tarapore

Regrets: Mylene Gosselin, Georgiana Laudi, Stephanie Myers, Bessy Prillo, Marie-Josée Ricard, Valerie Sembinelli Belland

1. Call to Order (6:35pm), Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of the Agenda for April 24, 2025

Approved: Guylaine St. Georges

Seconded: Neil Dixon

3. Approval of the Minutes of [March 27, 2025](#)

Approved: Alessandra d'Amico

Seconded: Guylaine St. Georges

4. Questions from the Public

-no business arising

5. New Business

a) For Approval:

i. Field Trips & Fundraisers

- grade 5s will visit Upper Canada Village on May 23rd. Not covered by 'culture in the schools' grant, so they are inquiring with H&S about the \$500 cycle fund. Currently \$50/ student. Attending: 3 grade 5 teachers, 1 aid, and 6 parent volunteers.
- Grade 1s and 2s - In school art workshop. 1 hour each class. No cost to the students. Marylène Ménard - using recycled items to create mosaics



- Dragon boat - May 30th (full day). Will be travelling via STM bus, as it is less expensive than the school bus. 5\$ per student. Grad committee will pay the complete amount. Water activities have to be approved by the regional director and require proof of certificates of lifeguards. There will be a beavertails truck. 3 activities including kayaking and dragon boating. All students are required to wear life vests, even when they are on the dock. They require more parent volunteers than last year.

Motion to approve all field trips in 5.a.i (on the condition that there are adequate numbers of parent volunteers for the Dragon boat activity, as per new school board regulations).

*Approved: Karina Tarapore
Seconded: Nathalie Duhamel*

ii. Lunch & Afterschool Activities
nothing to approve

iii. Educational Project

- Staff committee made a few very small alterations from last year's draft of the educational project
- Mrs. Baron informed that stated goals must be numerically measurable

*Approved: Guylaine St. Georges
Seconded: Amy St-Amour*

iv. Calendar (2025-2026)

- 3 school PED days : Nov. 28th will be a PED day on a Wednesday. Goal is to try and spread out with the specialists (so students don't always miss their music/gym/English class, etc). PT interview on evening of Tuesday the 27th. Also April 24th and June 5th.
- August 27: Kindergarten 'Meet the Teacher' (Administration is trying to move to the 28th and make it a school-wide orientation - all grades).
- Parent suggestion to add "daycare closed" to appropriate days on the calendar to clarify for parents. Louise reminded us that we can also see this on the daycare rules and regulations document on the website.

*Approved: Sophie Belzile
Seconded: Neil Dixon*



b. Dress Code Policy

- New proposal from administration for 2025-2026: Students will be required to wear school tops (shirts and sweatshirts with logo), but they can wear any colour for bottoms.
- Reasoning (summarized from staff and administration comments):
 - Student safety: by wearing a shirt with the school logo, students are more easily identified than by a colour only.
 - Equity: requiring a school shirt provides a greater reduction of invidious comparisons in students' clothing, as compared to a colour code. It also reduces the need to 'shop around' for appropriate clothes in school colours, without logos or accents, which could be a difficult and time-consuming task that places a greater burden on single parents and lower income families.
 - Self expression: removing the restriction on the colour code for the bottoms, students are provided space for self-expression.
 - School spirit: school shirts aim to foster students' pride in their school.
 - Lessening administrative burden: policing the colour code (percentage of accent colours, etc.) was a time consuming task for Miss Daniela and the administrative staff. The shirts provide a clearer regulation for easier enforcement.
 - Preparation for high school: this policy is in direct alignment with the dress codes at local LBPSB high schools.
- Tessa raised a question from last year's LBPSB Parent Committee meeting about legal issues with requiring shirts with logos and only sourcing from 1 supplier. The Administration will look into this with the board and ensure they follow proper protocol.
- Tessa also responded that while a dress code might still teach students that community is based in uniformity, rather than in diversity, that the new policy offers stronger reasoning than the previous code, that better supports an equitable school environment.
- Laura raised a suggestion to create a "thrift shop" of school clothing that is lost/outgrown. This will support environmental practices of reuse, and support lower income families.
- Suggestion also raised to offer a few new free shirts to families in need.



- Maureen Baron noted that dress code policies of this nature can ease morning school preparations, and that her own children greatly appreciated their dress codes for this reason.

Approved: Tina Simetic

Seconded: Neil Dixon

Motion was carried unanimously.

6. Reports:

a. Administrator's Report

- Postponed until the next meeting.

B. Commissioner

- Mrs. Baron looked into possibilities for using Home and School budget to cover book budget, and allocated book budget to a second day for Ms. Kelly to come into the school. She was told this is impossible as the book budget is a specific grant and part of the education act.

c. Parents Committee

- Postponed until next meeting

d. Daycare

- PED day - May 9th - Samajam (percussion workshops). Daycare is contributing to this event to reduce cost. \$25 for the activity, plus \$16 daycare fee.
- Lunch clubs will continue for the next 3 weeks: soccer, cartooning, chess.
- May 12-16: Daycare week. Louise thanks daycare staff on that week and they showcase what the daycare has been doing by sending something into the school board.
- Brault & Bouthillier toy shop has a red carpet event coming up where daycares can purchase new toys at reduced costs. Old toys get donated to a school in need.
- Pizza day in June: Daycare will provide pizza for the whole school. Date TBD.



e. Teachers

- Qui lira vaincra: Students came in 2nd in the finals, which had extremely difficult questions. Well done!
- Students participated in the grade 6 dance competition and came in 2nd. Bravo!

f. Home & School

- Hamster Vaudreuil - modification to the contract. They are no longer offering pick up at schools, delivery only (or perhaps also pick up at Vaudreuil location). If it is over 100\$, it is free delivery. If not, it's \$15.
 - School supply lists will be reviewed at the GB meeting on May 15th.

7. Questions from the Public

-none

8. Adjournment

Next GB Meeting - Thursday May 15, 2025 @ 6:30pm

Signatures:

France de la Rochelle, Principal

Ronnie Lawand, Governing Board Chair