

Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

Monday, June 14, 2021 | Meeting called to order by Mark Saracino
VIRTUAL GB Meeting due to COVID-19 and in accordance to government guidelines

In Attendance

Mark Saracino	Tony Campione	Verena Garofalo	Sandra Guerra	Felice Petraglia
Robert Panetta	Angelo Irrera	Arianna Holowka	Ms. Marotta	Nancy Cantini
Ms. Christina Voggas	Ms. Daniela Buttino	Mr. Andrew Martinez	Ms. Angela Di Lella	Ms. Graniero
Mme. Gaetane	Mme Elisa	Mario Pietrangelo	Merika Ramundo	Aileen Montesclaros

Welcome

- Mark Saracino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Welcome to Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, School Commissioner.
 - He thanked the GB members for their participation

Meeting Agenda & Meeting Minute Approval

- The agenda was approved by Robert Panetta and seconded by Sandra Guerra
- The minutes of last meeting were approved by Verena Garofalo and seconded by Angelo Irrera

Principal's Report

- Thank you to PE teachers and Ms. Veronica and all specialists for their hard work to ensure that Fun in the Sun was a success
- Review of 2021-2022 Budget and Fess
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve lunch fee increase (\$175 from \$150) by Sandra G, seconded by Verena G.**
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the Daycare budget, including the Representation Fees by Verena G, seconded by Sandra G.**
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the 2021-2022 school fees and budget by Robert P, seconded by Ms. Veronica**
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the Le Doral contract clause that states that on snow days or cancellation days, hot lunches will be donated by Tony C, seconded by Robert P.**

Vice Principal's Report

- No additional points

Teachers' Update

- Mme Elisa
 - Thank you to Mr. Vince who participated/introduced fun activities to students
- Mr. Andrew (in lieu of Mr. Peter)
 - June 18 will end the Force Four Activity - challenge to complete 90 minutes of activity per day
 - Fun in the Sun

- Took place over 5 days in order to respect bubbles
- All students had a great time
- Halo Run
 - This year HM did their own Halo Run
 - Each class and level had winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd place)
- We have new equipment ready for next school year
- Ms. Veronica
 - The videos for the Summer Concert were filmed as a station during Fun in the Sun
 - Recording will be sent via Google Classroom on June 22
- Ms. Angela
 - Everyone looking forward to graduation and Fun in the Sun
 - Hard at work on memory books
- Mme Gaetane
 - Did a Grade 6 fundraiser and thanked all parents who participated

Daycare Update

- Starting registrations for 2021-2022 school year

Central Parents Committee Update

- Introduction of the EMSB Chair Nick Katalifos
- Workshop session by teacher Dr. Jafralie
 - Issues on how to combat Racism
 - Teach Anti-Racism
- 3-Year Plan
 - How the numbers are derived
 - Process on the generation of the information.
 - This was not how or who decides if a school is closed, but on the information is assessed.
 - CPC response to the consultation.
- Motion for the EMSB to study the possibility of Grade 12.
 - Some Private schools offer Grade 12.
 - Possible issues were raised by Tony Campione (example Will Quebec students, who choose to attend Grade 12 will also have the same subsidies as the students who go to CEGEP? Other CPC members asked if CEGEPs be opposed to this as it may cause lower enrollment?)
- Anti-Racism
 - Provided a new toolkit.
 - Asked CPC Parent Reps to distribute the new reading material to Administration.

Home & School Update

- Looking forward to the student and staff BBQ on Monday, June 21!

Treasurer's Update

- No changes or updates to share.

Next Meeting Date(s)

- Adjourned until 2021-2022 school year

Varia

- Daniel Smajovits, EMSB
 - Spoke to GM members about marketing our school
- MOXO
 - Representatives from MOXO were present to discuss school uniforms
 - There will be in-person fitting available – more information will be sent via email
 - Colors: Navy pants & white or navy tops / PE will be yellow top and green bottoms
- ❖ **MOTION to sign new one-year contract with MOXO for school uniforms by Mr. Andrew, seconded by Tony C.**

OTHER

- Possibility to add green track pants as a PE uniform option
 - Ms. Sonia will discuss with the staff
- Ensure to add GM meeting minutes to HM website in a timely fashion, after they are approved

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Robert Panneta at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Ms. Veronica.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Robert Panneta'.

Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

Monday, May 17th, 2021 | Meeting called to order by Mark Saracino

In Attendance

Sonia Marotta	Mark Saracino	Arianna Holowka
Mr. Peter	Daniela Buttino	Angelo Irrera
Ms. Veronica	Robert Panetta	Tony Campione
Felice Petraglia	Arianna Holowka	Cristina Voggas

Welcome & Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Mark Saracino called the meeting to order.

- The agenda was approved by Tony Campione and seconded by Veronica.
- The minutes of the April meeting were approved by Angelo Irrera, seconded by Veronica Graniero.
- The email votes were attached to the minutes, motion to approve by Tony Campione, seconded by Veronica Graniero.

Commissioner's Report

1. Nothing to Update. Maybe will have something to add for the marketing report
2. Thanked HM, PdC and Dante for organizing the 1st responders' day

Principal's Report

1. Ms. Sonia Marotta extends the thanks for the First Responders Day. We weren't expecting such a big turnout, either by media or school board management. Special thanks to Sandra G and Nancy C for helping with the décor, Daniella for the food, Veronica for the music, and Isabelle for the artworks. And especially to the students. It was a very proud moment
2. Wanted to discuss MOXO for the uniforms. We do not lock in a contract for more than 1 year. We have been approached for renewal, and can discuss the proposal. Look to maintain the status quo for the terms, but not sure on any change of quality. That should be presented at the June meeting, but with time constraints we should probably hold votes on the school fees over email.
Angelo: I would like a 10-15 minute presentation to ask their plans for next year
Veronica: At Dante we had 2 companies present, and MOXO provided the best value for the requirements (namely colour). We can have the names of the alternatives.
Tony: We will continue with the same colors (white+ navy)? A: Yes
Tony (cont'd): A meeting with them will be valuable.
Ms. Marotta: This must be brought up with the teachers and pending their approval/concerns we can schedule the meeting,
3. For demin day we raised \$971.30, all donated to a cancer fund

Teachers' Update

1. Music (Ms. Veronica):
 - a. Starting to prep for end of year concert. When there's an update, we'll have it! Also been holding music classes outside lately 😊
2. Phys Ed (Mr. peter):
 - a. Nothing to report

Daycare Update

1. We are conducting daycare week so providing special treats for the kids.
2. Taking registrations

Home & School Update

1. We did obtain approval on purchasing 6 laptops for the school.
2. Planning to have an online vote to help the fun-in-the-sun day organized by Phys Ed.
3. Grad is planned for June 22.
4. Grad committee: Grade 6's are planning a spelling-Bee based fundraiser to raise funds for grad. They will be given a list of words, and find sponsors. Motion to approve: Tony C, Veronica seconded. Approved.

CPC Update

(Extracted from summary email sent by Tony Campione)

Covid Concerns:

- CPC Parents requested Data sheet from the Mask Suppliers. a response was given to the EMSB, however it wasn't the correct information. CPC parents want to know what is the chemical composition in PartsPerMillion (PPM) and if it falls under the legal recommended that Health Canada allows.

Anti-Racism

- Committee is formed and an outline has been tabulated.
- Books have been suggested and request for the GB to send this out to the HM/School Community.
- See Attached.

I have also omitted:

Virtual School continuation

- Some CPC Parents fear we may still have the same situation next year,
- Some CPC Parents would like the Virtual School to continue and be provided for Future Years to help those children who have Social/Physical/Immune issues or Anxiety being in a physical school environment.

Low Enrollment Alternate Meeting

- Adhoc Meeting to discuss some ideas to increase enrolment in the east end schools.
- Challenge is known due to demographics of certain area.
- Challenge to change Parents ideas to move their kids to French Private Schools.
 - EMSB should change the French format and increase it. While the EMSB has the highest Success rate, we should up the ante and be better than the Private French schools.

- oSome parents have kids in French Elementary and English Highschool and a Grade 3 French is the same as French (Langue Martenelle) Sec 1 is the same level. Children not engaged at full potential.
- oIssues in getting French teachers.

Treasurer's Update

No change.

Marketing Initiative

1. Suggest that next school marketing meeting we invite Daniel S. and Jordan S. They will create a report on the school based on our feedback (e.g., projects).
Tony C: are they looking at info to increase enrollment, or just what we do for the community?
A (Sonia): I will contact them and clarify what is expected.
2. Dino Sisto hosts a podcast, used to call play-by-play for the Canadiens, and will be in the EMSB Focus. He will also prepare a podcast about the area schools.
3. If you're on Facebook, go like the EMSB page
4. The long-range planning Francesco Croco, has the mandate for establishing the data for all our schools. Is preparing a report investigating where kids are attending schools by postal code, and this will allow us to quantify the number of eligible children who are attending private vs. EMSB.

Next Meeting Date

June 14, 2021, 6:30 pm over June

Q&A

none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Sandra and seconded by Angelo Irrera.



Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

Monday, May 17th, 2021 | Meeting called to order by Mark Saracino

In Attendance

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Mr. Peter	Daniela Buttino	Angelo Irrera	
Ms. Veronica	Robert Panetta	Tony Campione	
Felice Petraglia	Arianna Holowka	Verena Garofalo	Cristina Voggas

Welcome & Meeting Agenda/Minutes

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- The agenda was approved by Tony Campione and seconded by Veronica.
- The minutes of the April meeting were approved by.
- The email votes were attached to the minutes, motion to approve by Tony Campione, seconded by .

Commissioner's Report

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Principal's Report

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CPC Update

1. Meeting with student services, and received an update on professional services available (e.g., speech therapy). CPC parents felt there were not enough, so we will look at expanding these.
2. Masks took up a big chunk, and we pushed questions to the manufacturer about the levels of particulate matter, toxicity, etc etc. A parent requested an MSDS (or other such form) and we are awaiting it. Parents also contested the claim that the masks are manufactured in Canada
3. The anti-racism subcommittee has been formed. They provided books, and other materials for students, and I will ask GB about accessing these books
4. Addressed the low enrollment, as presented by Maria Corsi. One idea was a "grade 12" that some private schools offer. This will require coordination with the CEGEPS, government
- 5.

Treasurer's Update

No change.

Marketing Initiative

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Tony C: are they looking at info to increase enrollment, or just what we do for the community?
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Next Meeting Date

June 14, 2021, 6:30 pm over June

Q&A

none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Sandra and seconded by Angelo Irrera.

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The signature on the left is larger and more complex, while the signature on the right is smaller and more compact.

Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

May 2021 | *Email Approvals*

Governing Board Approval

Following the Governing Board meeting on April 12, 2021, we received two (2) motions to approve:

1. **Sent via email to all GB member on April 29, 2021: Cookbook letter and fundraiser**
 - Approval for the cookbook letter and fundraiser passed unanimously on May 2, 2021

2. **Sent via email to all GB members on May 5, 2021: Annual Denim Day Fundraiser for Cancer**
 - Approval for the fundraiser passed unanimously on May 10, 2021



Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

Monday, April 12, 2021 | Meeting called to order by Mark Saracino
VIRTUAL GB Meeting due to COVID-19 and in accordance to government guidelines

In Attendance

Mark Saracino	Tony Campione	Verena Garofalo	Sandra Guerra	Felice Petraglia
Robert Panetta	Angelo Irrera	Arianna Holowka	Joey Fazzari	Ms. Marotta
Ms. Christina Voggas	Ms. Daniela Buttino	Mr. Andrew Martinez	Ms. Angela Di Lella	Ms. Graniero
Mme. Gaetane	Mme Elisa	Mario Pietrangelo	Jennifer Uniat	Nancy Cantini
Enzo Capiro	Merika Ramundo	Maria Pinsky		

Welcome

Mark Saracino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, School Commissioner.

Meeting Agenda & Meeting Minute Approval

- The agenda was approved by Sandra Guerra and seconded by Ms. Daniella Buttino.
- The minutes of February 22, 2021 meeting were approved by Robert Panetta and seconded by Sandra Guerra.

Principal's Report

- Resolution for Ethics & Culture (ERC)
 - To be taught in French in Cycle 1, starting September 2021
 - This is due to a review of the distribution of French language minutes in bilingual and immersion schools
 - ❖ **MOTION** by Robert Panneta and seconded by Ms. Daniella Buttino
- Air quality in classrooms
 - The first air quality tests were conducted in three classrooms located in different parts of the building (one on the first floor and two on the second floor)
 - As we were a little over the baseline, there will be a second test, date TBC
- Toxic masks
 - The EMSB did not receive the masks in question and therefore these masks were not distributed to our school.
 - The EMSB masks are all made in Canada
- Social media and online video gaming
 - Cycle 3 students are coming to school will issues stemming from from social media and online video gaming
 - There is a cyber bullying seminar with a police officer scheduled for students, date TBC

Vice Principal's Report

- Grade 4 vaccines have been postponed to May
- Annual "I Love to Read" week went very well, even with the new virtual format

Teachers' Update

- Mme Elisa
 - Annual "I Love to Read" week went very well with lots of activities and virtual visits from authors, as well as a virtual play
- Mr. Peter (PE)
 - Thanked Ms. Daniella and staff for their ongoing support for all the outdoor activities
- Ms. Angela
 - Cycle 3 had a virtual anti-bullying magic show
 - Cycle 3 is working on an art mural with Mme Isabelle
 - Grade 6 received an Arts Inspire Grant of \$1500 and teamed up with a local artist for a four hour workshop (over two weeks) to create a puppet theatre
 - Thank you to Sandra for the Grade 6 pizza lunch
- Mme Gaetane
 - Grade 6 is working on a recipe book which will be sold
 - Grade 6 is learning about the environment ahead of Earth Day
- Mr. Andrew (Mr. Peter was absent)
 - Mr. Jeremiah is from McGill and is working with all grade levels
 - Due to the rise in variant cases since Easter, there is only one class in the gym, while the other class is taken outdoors

Daycare Update

- Continuing to work hard to ensure that the students are safe

Central Parents Committee Update

- Mask Wearing / Composition
 - Before the news came out that public health mentioned a possible toxic procedural mask, some CPC parents were concerned about the mask, manufacturing process and PPM output.
 - Post the news, many parents showed their frustration and have demanded the EMSB to provide the Data Sheets that are supposed to come with masks. I and a few parents mentioned even though the datasheet may be safe, we should be conducting our own tests via an independent laboratory and use the CPC funds to conduct them if necessary.
- Rapid-Covid Testing
 - With the Variant Covid Virus on the rise, some parents were wondering if the EMSB had any communication with the Governments about the Rapid Saliva tests that are currently in storage in Quebec warehouse to be used/deployed in schools in Hot zones.
- 2021-2022 Holiday Calendar
 - EMSB provided a proposed a holiday/Ped Day for the following year, some parents had suggested alternate solutions.
 - Most accepted was of having a board wide Ped date after Halloween (Nov 1)
- Anti-Racism / Discrimination
 - Discussion to create an Anti-Racism committee at the EMSB. (LBPSB has one).
 - Very emotional as we have CPC members of visible minorities explaining how they were discriminated, and do not want their children to go through the same experience.
 - Does the current EMSB Policies provide sufficiently address the issues of discrimination at our schools?
 - Address Issues of Discrimination and promote acceptance of diversity
 - Committee to help parents inform and explain Anti-Racism and how to help educate children.
 - Motion was approved
 - Asking visible minority parents of all Schools to join the Committee.

- WWW.LearnQuebec.ca
 - FREE Tutoring Services for Children/Students starting from Grade 2 and up.
 - Dates are from Monday - Thursday
 - 1 Appointment per child @ elementary level
 - 2 Appointments per child per subject @ high school level
 - Professional Learning Sessions for educators
 - Help Parents community members

- EPCA <https://ecccquebec.org/>
 - Started a Magazine with the French Equivalent.
 - Most surveys of EPCA and French Equivalent have the same concerns when asked the same questions, 99% of time.
 - EPCA Lobbying the governments for them to provide more time during consultation period and they provide too short and impossible timelines.

- Scholarship/Book Giving
 - Book Giving:
 - CPC will be giving out 2 books to a chosen student.
 - CPC is asking that either Delegate or Alternate are to give the book to this Student at the Final year.
 - Request the teachers to provide a few facts about the Student.
 - Scholarship
 - As for some funds to be raised to provide some students with a monetary or other scholarship for the Grade 6 students with exemplary Character.

- Virtual Parent Conference 2021
 - Scheduled for April 18, for the entire day. with Professional speakers on various topics related to Pediatrics, Covid, Online activity etc.
 - Breakout rooms on certain topics
 - I have subscribed, for most of the day.

- East End Marketing Committee
 - 3 Schools have already made their profile!
 - Is HM one of them?
 - WHAT MAKES HM Special!
 - What does HM provide to the Large Student Body that the other schools don't do?!?!?
 - HM should not be Vanilla; we should be Chocolate with brownies and chocolate sauce!

Home & School Update

- Possible school-wide activity, date TBC
- Possible new technology purchase
- Year-end BBQ for students and staff
- New co-president is needed as this is Sandra's last year
- Grade 6 dress down day raised \$1700

Treasurer's Update

- No changes or updates to share.

Next Meeting Date(s)

- Virtual meeting on Monday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.
- Virtual meeting on Monday, June 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Varia

- Garbage around the perimeter of the school
 - Suggestion was given to write a letter to the city to place garbage cans around the school and clean the area around the school
- HM Marketing Committee
 - First call date TBC
- Teacher strike
 - Virtual learning on April 14

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Tony Campione at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Robert Panneta.

Two handwritten signatures are present. The signature on the left is written in cursive and appears to be 'Tony Campione'. The signature on the right is also in cursive and appears to be 'Robert Panneta'.

Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

Monday, January 18, 2021 | Meeting called to order by Mark Saracino
VIRTUAL GB Meeting due to COVID-19 and in accordance to government guidelines

In Attendance

Tony Campione	Merika Ramundo	Laura Viglione	Ms. Marotta	Mario Pietrangelo
Mme. Gaetane	Mr. Peter	Angelo Irrera	Robert Panetta	Jennifer Uniat
Sandra Guerra	Tania Colaneri	Maria Pinsky	Ms. Elisa Infusini	Joanne Lacroce
Ms. Angela Di Lella	Ms. Daniela Buttino	Joey Fazzari	Felice Petraglia	Sonia Ranellucci
Verena Garofalo	Ms. Graniero	Arianna Holowka	Mark Saracino	Sabrina Dykes
Jonathan Cardillo				

Welcome

Mark Saracino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A special welcome to Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, School Commissioner, and HM's Spiritual Animator, Mr. Vince Lacroce.

Mr Lacroce introduced a new project:

- Mindfulness and Wellness Program will start January 19, 2021
- A new HM Room (Heart & Mind)
 - A place for students to step away and decompress
 - A place where students can refocus and meditate – have their own space when they need it

Meeting Agenda & Meeting Minute Approval

- The agenda was approved by Sandra Guerra and seconded by Robert Panetta.
- The minutes of the previous meeting, as well as for the two email votes, were approved by Tony Campione and seconded by Robert Panetta.

Principal's Report

- Educational Plan
 - Under the current circumstances and since there have been no exams or enough data collected, the educational plan will not be modified, and it will stay the same as the previous one.
- Back-to-School (Post holiday break)
 - The students are adapting will to the new mask guidelines
 - In PE skills are not high intensity therefore, wearing the mask is not bothersome
- PED Day, January 22, 2021
 - The EMSB has planned workshops for teachers focused on online learning
- Air Purifiers
 - Thank you to Mr. Mario Pietrangelo for advocating for the air purifiers
 - HM has received and installed air purifiers for all classrooms, except for a few classrooms, that were not deemed necessary as they had good ventilation.
 - However, teachers are still encouraged to open the classroom windows in order to circulate the air

Vice Principal's Report

- Virtual Open House
 - Wednesday, January 20, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (Q&A session)
 - Advertised on the EMSB and the HM websites
 - Registration is by appointment (sibling registration is January 25 and new registration is February 1)
- Budget Building Process
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the focus items for the budget by Robert Panetta, seconded by Felice Petraglia**

Teachers' Update

- Ms. Veronica (Music):
 - This year's Christmas concert went very well, and a special thank you to everyone that helped!
 - Students are now learning about various composers
- Mme Elisa (Grade 1):
 - Thanked H&S for the cookies and hot chocolate for the students before the holidays
 - Thanked Mr. Lacroce for his involvement with the various activities
 - Students have all adjusted week to the return to school post-holidays

Daycare Update

- Continuing to work hard to ensure that the students are safe
- Continuing to keep the windows in the classrooms open and bring the students outside as much as possible
- If/when daycare closes for quarantine – a credit will be given
- The Cookie Sale raised \$1750 for the Montreal Children's Hospital

Central Parents Committee Update

- Parents Conference will be on April 18, more information to come
- School enrollment:
 - High enrollment in the western part of the island
 - Low enrollment in the eastern part on the island
 - A task force has been created in order to draw most registrants to the EMSB
- Virtual learned
 - There will be a letter sent to the Commissioner and Director asking that guidelines be implemented regarding how many hours per day are needed for virtual learning

Home & School Update

- Christmas activity
 - Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Pancakes with Santa event was cancelled
 - This year the students received cookies and hot chocolate in their classroom
 - Thank you to Ms. Daniella and staff for support
- Graduation Committee
 - Thank you to Gallo Nero for their donation of a pasta lunch for the Grade 6 students on December 16, 2020
 - Thank you to the parents for the donation of branded HM Grad water bottles

Treasurer's Update

— No changes or updates to share.

Next Meeting Date(s)

— Virtual meeting on Monday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Varia

- Hand sanitizers?
 - Parents can send in creams or their own hand sanitizers for students that have sensitive skin or who are experiencing breakouts due to the hand sanitizers used in school. However, this should be addressed with the homeroom teacher.
- How will students catch up with the missed work this year?
 - There are many online programs available that can help
 - Parents are encouraged to contact the teachers to see if extra resources are available
- Two-week grade extension?
 - Schools were given an extra two weeks to finalize the grades for Term 1 and distribution of Report Cards is now on February 5, 2021
 - More information will be provided via email

Additional discussion:

- ❖ **MOTION to approve and submit the criteria for selection or appointment of a Principal by Tony Campione and seconded by Angelo Irrera.**

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Robert Panetta at 7:30 p.m. and seconded by Verena Garofalo.



East End Schools Marketing Initiative

We are pleased to inform that a marketing committee focusing exclusively on our East End schools has been launched. The members are: Commissioners Maria Corsi (Co-Chair), Tony Speranza (Co-Chair), Joe Ortona (EMSB Chair), Agostino Cannavino (EMSB Vice-Chair), Mario Bentrovato, Mario Pietrangelo, Sophie De Vito, Pietro Mercuri, Mike Cohen, Daniel Smajovits and Jordan Stoopler (freelance writer)

In recent weeks some exploratory discussions have taken place.

In order to proceed successfully, we need the full cooperation of school administrators and the respective Governing Boards.

Our initial ask is as follows. Can the subject of marketing be placed on the agenda of your next Governing Board meeting? Your commissioner will address the issue and explain what we are hoping for.

The former Save Our East End Schools Facebook page has been changed to Focus on East End Schools. It will promote the great things going on at our schools. We need everyone's help to boost our number of likes so please share the address with as many people as possible –present day parents, alumni and of course families with little ones who will be ready for school soon: <https://www.facebook.com/FocusOnEastEndSchools>

We will also be taking a closer look at each school's social media activities and see how we can help.

Certainly we are wide open for your ideas as well. These can be shared with your commissioner, who will bring them back to the committee level.

Step one would be for the Principal and/or Vice-Principal, Governing Board Chair and some members to be available for a video call. At this time we will ask the following questions:

- 1) How do you market your school?
- 2) How do you market open houses and registration?
- 3) Do you have any kind of promotional budget?
- 4) What do you see as your biggest challenge for enrolment?
- 5) Do most of your Grade 6 graduates remain with the EMSB?
- 6) Which school(s) do you see as your biggest competition?
- 7) Can you please help us find a few families that you know of who chose to send their children to a non- EMSB school (i.e. private or French)? We would very much like to communicate with them (no names will be published) to get their feedback as to why they did not choose the EMSB. This will be invaluable data for us to move forward.

Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

February 11, 2021 | *Email Approval*

Governing Board Approval

Following the Governing Board meeting on January 18, 2021, we received one (1) motion to approve – this was sent via email to all GB members on February 9, 2021.

1. Measure funds allocated to us by the Government and how HM will spend the funds.
 - The motion to approve the proposed date passed unanimously

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Mercier", is written over the text of the first list item.

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In Attendance

Tony Campione	Merika Ramundo	Laura Viglione	Ms. Marotta	Mario Pietrangelo
Mme. Gaetane	Mr. Peter	Angelo Irrera	Robert Panetta	Jennifer Uniat
Sandra Guerra	Tania Colaneri	Maria Pinsky	Ms. Elisa Infusini	Joanne Lacroce
Ms. Angela Di Lella	Ms. Daniela Buttino	Joey Fazzari	Felice Petraglia	Sonia Ranellucci
Verena Garofalo	Ms. Graniero	Arianna Holowka	Mark Saracino	Sabrina Dykes
Jonathan Cardillo				

Welcome

Mark Saracino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mark asked that attendees please turn on their camera when addressing the Governing Board, as well as to stay on Mute when not. He also reminded attendees that the Governing Board meetings were open to all parents/guardians in the Honoré Mercier community. Mark thanked all parents and the HM community for their continued support during the pandemic.

A special welcome to Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, School Commissioner, and HM's Spiritual Animator, Mr. Vince Lacroce.

Mr Lacroce introduced a new project:

- Mindfulness and Wellness Program will start January 19, 2021
- A new HM Room (Heart & Mind)
 - A place for students to step away and decompress
 - A place where students can refocus and meditate – have their own space when they need it

Meeting Agenda & Meeting Minute Approval

- The agenda was approved by Sandra Guerra and seconded by Robert Panetta.
- The minutes of the previous meeting, as well as for the two email votes, were approved by Tony Campione and seconded by Robert Panetta.

Principal's Report

- Educational Plan
 - Under the current circumstances and since there have been no exams or enough data collected, the educational plan will not be modified, and it will stay the same as the previous one.
- Back-to-School (Post holiday break)
 - The students are adapting will to the new mask guidelines
 - In PE skills are not high intensity therefore, wearing the mask is not bothersome
- PED Day, January 22, 2021
 - The EMSB has planned workshops for teachers focused on online learning
- Air Purifiers

- Thank you to Mr. Mario Pietrangelo for advocating for the air purifiers
- HM has received and installed air purifiers for all classrooms, except for a few classrooms, that were not deemed necessary as they had good ventilation.
- However, teachers are still encouraged to open the classroom windows in order to circulate the air

Vice Principal's Report

- Virtual Open House
 - Wednesday, January 20, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (Q&A session)
 - Advertised on the EMSB and the HM websites
 - Registration is by appointment (sibling registration is January 25 and new registration is February 1)
- Budget Building Process
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the focus items for the budget by Robert Panetta, seconded by Felice Petraglia**

Teachers' Update

- Ms. Veronica (Music):
 - This year's Christmas concert went very well, and a special thank you to everyone that helped!
 - Students are now learning about various composers
- Mme Elisa (Grade 1):
 - Thanked H&S for the cookies and hot chocolate for the students before the holidays
 - Thanked Mr. Lacroce for his involvement with the various activities
 - Students have all adjusted week to the return to school post-holidays

Daycare Update

- Continuing to work hard to ensure that the students are safe
- Continuing to keep the windows in the classrooms open and bring the students outside as much as possible
- If/when daycare closes for quarantine – a credit will be given
- The Cookie Sale raised \$1750 for the Montreal Children's Hospital

Central Parents Committee Update

- Parents Conference will be on April 18, more information to come
- School enrollment:
 - High enrollment in the western part of the island
 - Low enrollment in the eastern part on the island
 - A task force has been created in order to draw most registrants to the EMSB
- Virtual learned
 - There will be a letter sent to the Commissioner and Director asking that guidelines be implemented regarding how many hours per day are needed for virtual learning

Home & School Update

- Christmas activity
 - Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Pancakes with Santa event was cancelled
 - This year the students received cookies and hot chocolate in their classroom
 - Thank you to Ms. Daniella and staff for support
- Graduation Committee

- Thank you to Gallo Nero for their donation of a pasta lunch for the Grade 6 students on December 16, 2020
- Thank you to the parents for the donation of branded HM Grad water bottles

Treasurer's Update

— No changes or updates to share.

Next Meeting Date(s)

— Virtual meeting on Monday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Varia

- Hand sanitizers?
 - Parents can send in creams or their own hand sanitizers for students that have sensitive skin or who are experiencing breakouts due to the hand sanitizers used in school. However, this should be addressed with the homeroom teacher.
- How will students catch up with the missed work this year?
 - There are many online programs available that can help
 - Parents are encouraged to contact the teachers to see if extra resources are available
- Two-week grade extension?
 - Schools were given an extra two weeks to finalize the grades for Term 1 and distribution of Report Cards is now on February 5, 2021
 - More information will be provided via email

Additional discussion:

- ❖ **MOTION to approve and submit the criteria for selection or appointment of a Principal by Mark Saracino and seconded by Angelo Irrera.**

Adjournment


Motion to adjourn by Robert Panetta at 7:30 p.m. and seconded by Verena Garofalo.



Annex 1

Presentation by Enzo Caprio, Director of Clinical Laboratories at OPTILAB, McGill University Health Center Cluster, and **Aileen Montesclavos**, Clinical Nurse (Cardiology), MUHC

- Key factors in reducing the risk of COVID-19
 - COVID-19 is 100% airborne and proper ventilation is extremely important
 - Other school boards have been much more proactive regarding ventilation systems in their schools
 - Many activities can magnify the spread of COVID-19
 - These activities include running, signing, skipping, etc...
 - Wearing a mask is key, but it's important to remember that the eyes are transmission points as well
- Similar to the flu, there is a higher spread of COVID-19 in the winter
- Hospitalizations
 - First wave – mainly 70 years old + were hospitalized
 - Second wave – about 70% are under the age of 40 years old
- Long-term effects
 - CT Scans on people who have recovered from COVID-19 show enlargement of the heart muscle.
 - Heart condition may likely be a long-term effect of COVID-19; however, it will take 3-5 years to fully understand the effects.
- Testing
 - Recommendation is to wait 7 days after you have been in contact with/start to experience symptoms of COVID-19 to be tested
 - The way a test is performed may have an impact on the result
- Impact on Honoré Mercier
 - HM was one of the last schools to report a positive COVID-19 test
 - The administration really did a great job of preparing the school for the new reality and keeping the students safe.
 - The issue is with how the HM community behaves outside of the school and what is subsequently brought into the school.



Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 | Meeting called to order by Mark Saracino
VIRTUAL GB Meeting due to COVID-19 and in accordance to government guidelines

In Attendance

Tony Campione	Merika Ramundo	Mark Saracino	Ms. Marotta	Emily Gervasi
Mme. Gaetane	Mr. Peter	Aileen Montesclavos	Angelo Irrera	Robert Panetta
Sandra Guerra	Ms. Voggas	Maria Pinsky	Ms. Elisa Infusini	Enzo Caprio
Ms. Angela Di Lella	Ms. Daniela Buttino	Joey Fazzari	Felice Petraglia	Daniela Mercadante
Verena Garofalo	Ms. Graniero	Arianna Holowka	Nancy Cantini	

Welcome

Mark Saracino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mark asked that attendees please turn on their camera when addressing the Governing Board, as well as to stay on Mute when not.

He reminded attendees that the Governing Board meetings were open to all parents/guardians in the Honoré Mercier community.

Meeting Agenda & Meeting Minute Approval

- The agenda was approved by Robert Panetta and seconded by Angelo Irrera.
- The minutes of the October 14, 2020 meeting were approved by Sandra Guerra and seconded by Robert Panetta.

Principal's Report

- Welcome and a thank you to Enzo Caprio and Aileen Montesclavos for their in-depth review of the current COVID-19 reality (detailed in the Annex 1, page 5)
- **No changes from last year's Sexuality Education plan**
 - English, French and PE teachers will continue to collaborate
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve Sexuality Education Plan by Sandra Guerra, seconded by Robert Panetta**
- Last year's water led test
 - 14 drinkable water locations were tested, and report indicated that the sources in the hallways and in the staffroom are safe
 - School Board will install water filters on all of the school's drinkable water sources, they will also be responsible for upkeeping the filters
- An electrical water bottle filter will also be installed
- There will be updates made to HM's light fixtures
- Procurement Air purifiers
 - School Board has asked that HM put a hold on purchasing air purifiers
 - HM has asked that the EMSB issue a clear statement regarding what the next steps are
 - There are currently 2 schools in the EMSB that have procured new systems on their own
 - School Board is examining the possibility of replacing these systems across all schools in the School Board

- The cost, as well as each school's electrical system must be considered
- HM's current system is cleaned at the beginning of every school year
- COVID-19 updates
 - Mr. Tony and Mr. Vince are hard at work to ensure that to school remains clean and safe
 - Online courses are provided to students whose class in under quarantine
 - A student is not eligible for online courses if it is the parents' decision to keep the child home
 - If the student attends daycare, and may have come into contact with a positive COVID-19 case, online courses are not available
 - If a student has to quarantine after a trip, online courses are not available
- Additional PED days
 - An extra 3 PED days have been added to the 2020-2021 school year
 - These days are to be used by teachers for professional development
 - The EMSB has already stated that January 22 and February 12 would be PED days
 - The third day is at the discretion of the school and the Staff Council will determine the appropriate date

Vice Principal's Report

- The Parent/Teacher interviews will be done virtually on November 19
 - The booking system worked well
- Upcoming Book Fair
 - Virtual Book Fair
 - Detailed email will be sent soon
- Socks in a Box initiative with Mr. Lacroce
 - More information to follow via email
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve initiative by Angelo Irrera, seconded by Robert Panetta**

Teachers' Update

- Mr. Peter (PE):
 - The Halloween activity was a success and that the students really enjoyed it.
 - Thank you to Mr. Lacroce for organizing a successful Remembrance Day celebration at HM
 - \$1400 was raised for the 40 for 40 activity (Terry Fox Foundation's 40-year anniversary)
- Ms. Veronica (Music):
 - The Front-Line Workers Project was successful
 - Following the COVID-19 guideline, there is no signing in Music class
 - This year's Christmas concert will be virtual. Each class will be filmed and a video link will be provided.
- Ms. Angela Di Lella (Grade 6):
 - Agreed that the Halloween and Remembrance Day activities were well received by the students
 - There will be a virtual event on December 1 for Grades 4-5-6 with St. Michael's Mission
 - The Grade 5's honey is now ready and she is very proud of all that the students have accomplished. More info to come via email and sales will be open to the entire school this year.
- Mme Elisa (Grade 1):
 - The students enjoyed visiting with Mr. Lacroce and learning about the poppy
 - While the library is currently closed, the students have access to books in their class
 - They have been taking lots of walks outside

Daycare Update

- Continuing to work hard to ensure that the students are safe
- Continuing to keep the windows in the classrooms open and bring the students outside as much as possible
- Growing frustration with parents that do not respect the COVID-19 guideline
- If/when daycare closes for quarantine – a credit will be given

- ❖ **MOTION to approve the Daycare Handbook by Sandra Guerra, seconded by Angelo Irrera**
- Fundraiser – Basket Raffle and cookie sales initiative
 - Cookie from LaFrenais and individually wrapped
 - All proceeds go to The Montreal Children’s Hospital
- ❖ **MOTION to approve the initiative by Verena Garofalo, seconded by Sandra Guerra**

Central Parents Committee Update

- There are many new people in elected positions
- COVID-19 and school ventilation systems were the main topics at the meeting
 - The EMSB confirmed that they are looking into the ventilation systems
- Next meeting will be in early December 2020

Home & School Update

- Pumpkin Fundraiser update
 - About 212 pumpkins sold / \$411 profit
- Christmas activity
 - Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Pancakes with Santa event has been cancelled this year
 - This year the students will be getting cookies and hot chocolate in their classroom
 - Ms. Daniella and her team will be supporting
- Virtual Bookfair
 - November 30- December 11, 2020
 - The 3 Wednesday will be dedicated family nights which includes free shipping
 - 20% of the profit goes back to the school
- Carrying over funds
 - Due to COVID-19, the Home & School Association has allowed the committees to carry over funds.
 - H&S is speaking with HM administration about possibly purchasing Chrome books for the school
- Grade 6
 - Parents will have to purchase the Grad hoodie
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the Grade 6 dress down fundraiser by Ms. Veronica, seconded by Mr. Peter**
- MOXO Raffle
 - Funds raised by Grade 6 would go to Grad Committee funds
 - ❖ **MOTION to approve the MOXO Raffle by Verena Garofalo, seconded by Felice Petraglia**

Treasurer’s Update

- No changes or updates to share.

Next Meeting Date(s)

- Virtual meeting on Monday, January 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Varia

- When can we start our own fundraising for a new ventilation system? Are there reports that we can review regarding the state of HM’s ventilation system?

- HM's electrical panel cannot support a new ventilation system. Therefore, a new ventilation system would also mean a new electrical panel. All of this would mean a lot of construction work in and around HM.
- Can the Commissioner be invited to the next meeting?
 - He was invited to join this meeting, but had to attend his own Board meeting the same night
- Will we have a PJ day before the Christmas break?
 - Yes, it is being planned and more information will be provided via email
- Will HM allow the students to use the lockers this winter?
 - Yes, classes will be allowed to use the lockers at staggered times
- With the number of parents/guardians not respecting the COVID-19 restrictions, can the GB pen an open letter to the HM community asking for their support?
 - Yes
- How is HM addressing mental health awareness with the students?
 - HM is looking into the best ways to introduce this important topic with the students, including a possible virtual event. Mr. Lacroce is supporting this initiative and Ms. Dimitra practices mindfulness with the students.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Tony Campione at 8:30 p.m. and seconded by Felice Petraglia.



Presentation by Enzo Caprio, Director of Clinical Laboratories at OPTILAB, McGill University Health Center Cluster, and **Aileen Montesclavos**, Clinical Nurse (Cardiology), MUHC

- Key factors in reducing the risk of COVID-19
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Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

November 26, 2020 | *Email Approval*

Governing Board Approval

Following the Governing Board meeting on November 18, 2020, we received one (1) motion to approve – this was sent via email to all GB members on November 25, 2020.

1. Proposal for December 3, 2020 to be an “ugly sweater” dress down day

- Intention is to raise money for St. Brendan’s Church
- On December 3 a news crew will be at HM to interview staff and kids on the spirit of giving
- The motion to approve the proposed date passed unanimously

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of a board member.A smaller, more legible handwritten signature in black ink, likely representing a second board member.

Minutes

Honoré Mercier Governing Board

December 5, 2020 | *Email Approval*

Governing Board Approval

Following the Governing Board meeting on November 18, 2020, we received one (1) motion to approve – this was sent via email to all GB members on December 2, 2020.

1. **The EMSB has asked the school to agree on one additional PED day.**
 - HM school and Staff Council propose February 26, 2021
 - The motion to approve the proposed date passed unanimously

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is large and stylized, appearing to be 'CHRG'. The bottom signature is smaller and more cursive, appearing to be 'H. L. H.'. There are no printed names or titles visible.