

MINUTES

Honoré Mercier Home and School Committee

Tuesday, April 09, 2024

Meeting called to order by Maria Scicchitano at 18:04.

In Attendance

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| Maria Scicchitano, 5A/6A (Co-chair) | Merika Ramundo, 6 | |
| Aileen Montesclaros, 5A (Secretary) | Marysa Crisci | |
| Arianna Holowka (Treasurer) | Nadia DiPaola, 6A | |
| Patrizia Tummillo (Principal) | Lisa Ida, 6A | |
| Ms. Angie Dilella (Teacher) | Terri Valentino, 5A/5B | |
| Mme Elisa Infusini (Teacher) | Diego Di Stefano, 6B | |
| Scott Pinsky, 5A/6A | Emily Gervais, 6B | |
| Marilena Carciro, 6A | | |
| Sonia Varrone, 6B | | |
| Adriana Giannini, 3 | | |
| Antonella Scalia, 6B | | |
| Julia Avanzato, 6A | | |

Regrets from committee: Nancy Cantini (co-chair)

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Agenda approved by Lisa Ida & Terri Valentino.

Approval of Minutes from last meeting (January 30, 2024)

Minutes delayed, to be sent out to membership ASAP.

Principal's Report

- EMSB storytelling event was held today at Honoré-Mercier as host school. It was a success.
- Science Fair, Principal Tummillo requested feedback from Mme Elisa:
 - The science fair was done in French and participation was voluntary.
 - About 30 projects were submitted.
 - Winners are yet to be announced. The event was a success and everyone who participated is a winner.
- Sensory room equipment purchased & arriving at HM
- Empowerment workshop for girls is a success and enjoyed by participants. Grade 5 teachers have noticed female students speaking more confidently in class.
- Holocaust Museum: an anonymous donation enabled complete coverage of student costs to participate in activity.

- HM has a new Behavioral Technician, Mr. Marcus, who is now on-site.
- HM now has phase-3 WIFI for EMSB guests.

Treasurer Report

See attached document provided by Arianna Halowka: Treasurer report & Grade 6 report for 2024/04/9

- Question from Principal Tummillo about H&S owing funds for purchases made on its behalf for Teacher Appreciation Week in 2/2024. Invoice to be submitted to H&S.

Teachers' Report (Ms. Angie & Mme Elisa)

No update provided to H&S at this time. A report will be provided at the next Governing Board meeting.

Committee Report (Co-Chair Maria Scicchitano)

Mary Scicchitano:

- Teacher appreciation week was a success. Thank you to all those who donated goods and their time.
- St-Viateur bagels fundraiser was a success. Bagels were provided in boxes and easier to manage. St-Viateur offered to collaborate again in the future.
- Felix and Norton cookie dough fundraiser will be held from April 17 – 30, 2024. Deliveries will arrive in time for Mother's Day.
 - 1 bag of cookie dough sold to HM at \$6.50, and delivery of shipment to HM is \$75.00
 - The cost of 1 bag of cookie dough sold by HM is \$12.00. This is in line with the cost listed at Dante School (\$12.00) and the online Felix and Norton sale price of about \$12.50.
- H&S elections:
 - To be held 5/2024
 - Treasurer is a 2-year term therefore Arianna will continue as treasurer.
 - Positions up for nomination: both co-chairs and secretary
 - Elections are always held in the month of May in time for the H&S Annual General Meeting.
 - Clarification request by Principal Tummillo: why are elections for executive positions held in May versus September like most other governing bodies?
 - Maria Scicchitano to follow-up with QFHSA. Principal Tummillo requests a written document that provides the explanation.
- Chocolate drive:
 - Still missing payments from parents who kept chocolate boxes (about \$1000.00).
 - General discussion re: how to recover the funds and how to prevent future occurrences (e.g. payments done prior to receiving goods).

Q + A period

Questions/ comments from parents

- Is fundraising only done for grade 6 students? No, generally, fundraising is done by Home and School to fund activities which will benefit all the students of Honoré-Mercier. However, certain fundraisers are held specifically by the grade 6 graduation committee in order to fund the graduation celebration activities and supplies specifically for the grade 6 graduating class students. This being said, when a grade 6 fundraiser occurs, 10% of all proceeds are given back to Home and School for the benefit of funding school wide activities.
- Specific question: Merika Ramundo states that her sister is interested in continuing to provide yoga classes at HM, but not just to grade 6 students. Classes could start early Fall. Proposal to be made for approval.
- Re: “Fearless Girls” empowerment workshop: is there an equivalent workshop available for boys? Or for boys to learn how to interact with girls/ “tweens” respectfully and vice versa. Also, what about a class for boys on how to deal with bullies? Principal Tummillo is not aware of such a workshop, but she is open to receiving suggestions if such activities exist. As per Principal Tummillo, the data collected during EMSB surveys did not reveal the current student body’s need for boys to receive classes related to empowerment or respect. Also, the principal had the budget for 1 activity. Principal agrees that the pandemic affected the social development of kids, especially for in-person socialization versus digital/ online activities.

Adjournment

- Suggested target date for next H&S meeting: May 06, 2024.
- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 18h37.