

MINUTES

Honoré Mercier Elementary School Governing Board

Monday, November 25, 2024 @ 7:05PM | Meeting called to order by Verena Garofalo

In Attendance

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|------------------------------|----|
| Verena Garofalo (Chair) | X | Robert Panetta | X |
| Marco De Crecentis | X | Merika Ramundo | X |
| Diego Di Stefano | X | Peter Tsatoumas | X |
| Lino Faratro | X | Saffiran Ali | X |
| Veronica Graniero | X | Sally Behjoudi (Alternate) | X |
| Tonie Morena | X | Sonia Ranellucci (Alternate) | R |
| Andrew Martinez | X | Giuseppe Fazzari | R |
| Cynthia Canale - Principal | X | Mario Pietrangelo | X |
| Romina Mancini | XP | Geneviève Larose | XP |
| Emily Gervasi | XP | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

X = Present / R = Regrets / XP = Present Public

Assign minute-taking duties: Saffiran Ali

Assign time-keeper duties: Robert Panetta

1. Additions to Agenda

14.1 Ventilation system status

14.2 Sexuality education: For all parents

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Motion to Approve: Lino Faratro, seconded by Diego Di Stefano

Motion Passed – Unanimously

3. Adoption of Minutes

Motion to Approve: Diego Di Stefano, seconded by Lino Faratro

Motion Passed – Unanimously

4. Business Arising

4.1: Safety Concerns (pick-up & drop-off)

- Ms. Canale no update

4.2: Man Made donation

- Ms. Canale discussion with the teachers:
 - Need a secure area. Not for the public.
 - A learning center in the school yard that can be used for various activities (ie: outdoor classroom and B.A.S.E program)
 - Maybe certain children that don't want to play sports, then can read.
 - Secure for the teachers/ kids if it's in the yard.
- Man Made received tax receipt on November 1, 2024

4.3: Dress down day - amounts raised last year:

- Principal Canale contacted school board:
 - Jersey day May 30: \$364.35
 - Summer vibes: June 13: \$360.00
 - Hat day June 15: \$323.00
 - Balance left: \$500.00
- Principal Canale will ask for the details on what was used. Funding from this fundraising was to go towards beautification projects.

4.4: An earth section will be replaced with asphalt in efforts to keep mud from inside the school.

- Principal Canale reported: MR (Material Resources) cannot put asphalt on the specific area, but we can redo that grass area. Regarding storage drainage we are unable to put asphalt. Ms. Canale will ask if there is anything else other than grass as we will again be dealing with mud be tracked inside the school.

5. Principals' Report

Anti bullying policy in schools. Every GB can modify the anti-bullying policy for their school. Mario Pietrangelo mentioned GB can added an amendment to anti-bullying policy for their school.

There is no grey box in the definition area. Bullying is a larger concept.

6. Teachers' Report

Veronica Graniero:

- Socks in a box: A memo will be sent. Would like Grade 6 to wrap the gifts.
- Holiday Concert Dec 18, 2024 (AM/PM)
 - Motion: 5.00\$ per person to attend the concert. All monies raised go towards music program.
 - Motion to approve: Diego Di Stefano, seconded by Robert Panetta. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Tonie Morena:

- Grade 5 one-day trip to camp: science, leadership activities.
- Will go to an e-vote once price is determined.

Andrew Martinez:

- Volleyball tournament at Pearson High School for the first time. 16 Grade 6 students participated.
- Physical Education Consultant from EMSB visited HM to film and create video content on how to teach volleyball for EMSB Physical Education teachers. Grade 6 students were involved and enjoyed participating.

7. B.A.S.E. Report

- Halloween:
 - Grade 6 prepared pumpkin soup.
 - Students participated in many different activities
- November PED days:
 - Day 1: Cinema Guzzo/ Putting edge.
 - Day 2: Team building games
- Grades 4-5 are creating big wings for our B.A.S.E corner.
- Giving tulip boxes to Open House visitors
- All ornaments for the Christmas tree are made by B.A.S.E students.
- Cookie sale will take place next week, all proceeds go towards B.A.S.E.'s partnership Batshaw foster care system.

8. Central Parents Committee Report

- GB Manual - Internal Rules document:
 - Reminder to all GB delegates that internal rules document should be developed (if it has not already) and reviewed/revised annually. This document is key to decision making and to running an efficient meeting. Examples were sent via email.
- GB service account emails:
 - Some GB delegates reported that service account emails were created and being used to streamline, centralize, archive, retrieve information. In the past EMSB administration had advised some members that the creation of these email accounts was not allowed. Clarification requested from the EMSB PC. Senior administration to report back at the next meeting.

- Anti-bullying - digital citizenry discussion:
 - Broad discussion about resources for schools to take advantage of related to anti-bullying and digital citizenry.
 - Some companies:
 - Playventure used by LDVA: anxiety and self-regulation
 - Mind-Up Program (out of Vancouver - buy on Amazon and worked into classroom on daily basis)
 - Paul Davis - very popular speaker on internet and digital citizenry

- Indigenous/reconciliation initiatives at EMSB:
 - Broad discussion about the different initiatives related to reconciliation that are being programmed in the schools. Ideas to support these efforts: GBs can encourage schools to support local indigenous educational programs and businesses when purchasing related materials like orange t-shirts.

- Bombardier partnership with No Time For That (Anti-Bullying Society):
 - No Time for That Anti-Bullying Society (NTFT) is one of Canada's leading anti-bullying charities with a mission to empower youth and educators to foster kind, empathetic, and inclusive school communities. Bombardier is working with them on a special project. Kathy Koarakis will get back to use with more information - 5 EMSB schools to be selected. MOre information to come.

- English Parent Committee Association (EPCA) workshops:
 - Workshop on GB training on January 21. Other workshops coming up: concussions in children and mindfulness. More info: <https://epcaquebec.org/>

- Parents.quebec website:
 - An initiative of the English Parents Committee Association and the Fédération des comités de parents du Québec Parents.Quebec is intended for parents of school-aged children who want to provide support to their children's educational success. FAQ page explores the following topics: 1) complaints and student ombudsman; 2) special needs students; 3) financial contributions by parents (e.g. fundraisers, fees, etc.); 4) parents; annual assembly; 5) governing board; 6) parents's committee (French boards); 7) Access to English Education. <https://parents.quebec/en/faq-2/>

9. Treasurer's Report

N/A

10. Commissioner's Report

Thank you to everyone who voted on November 3rd, 2024.

11. Home and School Report

- Romina Mancini and Felicia Spadafino reported that TCBY and pizza sales are going very well.
- Halloween: amazing time for parents/children
- Book Fair last week: a lot of books were sold. We haven't received the amount yet that was raised.
- Bazaar pop up shop. Vendors were very happy and would like to do it again.
- Bake Sale Garde 6 went very well!
- Winter Wonderland on December 19, 2024. Partners have donated so many things. Breakfast with Santa is the same day from Mc Donald's.
- Books have been wrapped with child's name on it from Santa.
- Open house: popcorn bags will be given by home and school.

12. Email approvals

12.1: October 25, 2024 | September GB Meeting Minutes

12.2: November 12, 2024 | (1) Modification to pizza lunch fundraiser, (2) Bake sale fundraiser, (3) Raffle fundraiser

12.3: November 24, 2024 | (1) B.A.S.E. Food drive, (2) B.A.S.E. Big Cookie Sale

13. New Business Overview

13.1: Anti-Bullying / Anti-Violence Policy:

- Once we receive the information from the "Tell them from me" Survey, GB will thoroughly review the current ABAV Policy and make the necessary recommendations to modify and update to ensure all definitions are inclusive of current realities. We will look at two options (1) modify for this current year or (2) release a new version for next school year.
- We will work in collaboration with a parent consultant who has done this in the past.
- **WHAT DID MARIO SAY ABOUT BULLYING???** (something like if it happens 4x it's not important??)

13.2: Mr. Zaruso: June 10th, 2024, regarding May EMSB PC meeting: Surplus of monies:

- **WHAT WAS SAID HERE?**

- **WHAT DID MARIO SAY?** Something like "just ask the EMSB for what you need and you'll get the money..." I think I looked at you and said to put his words in the minutes??

14. Varia

14.1: Ventilation System Update:

- Not yet completed. Once completed Ms. Canale will notify GB.

14.2: Sexuality education:

- At the request of GB, Ms. Canale will inform herself regarding Jamie Quinn hosting a session for parents of East End schools "Brought to you by Honore Mercier".

15. Next Governing Board Meeting Date(s)

- Monday, December 16, 2024

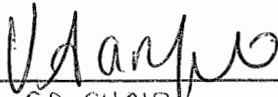
- Monday, February 3, 2025
- Monday, March 10, 2025
- Monday, April 14, 2025
- Monday, May 12, 2025
- Monday, June 16, 2025
- All meetings at 7pm unless otherwise noted.

16. Questions

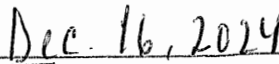
N/A

17. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting 9:05 pm
 - Motion to Approve: Veronica Graniero and Robert Panetta
 - **Motion Passed - Unanimously**



GB CHAIR



DATE:



School Principal



DATE: