

# MINUTES

## Honoré Mercier Elementary School Governing Board

Monday, March 10, 2025 @ 7:05PM | Meeting called to order by Verena Garofalo

### In Attendance

Verena Garofalo (Chair)	X	Robert Panetta	R
Marco De Crecentis	X	Merika Ramundo	X
Diego Di Stefano	X	Peter Tsatoumas	R
Lino Faratro	X	Saffiran Ali	X
Veronica Graniero	X	Sally Behjoudi (Alternate)	R
Andrew Martinez	X	Sonia Ranellucci (Alternate)	X
Cynthia Canale - Principal	X	Giuseppe Fazzari	X
Laurie Giangaspero	R	Mario Pietrangelo	R
		Romina Mancini	R
		Felicia Spadafino	R

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

**Assign minute-taking duties:** Saffiran Ali

**Assign time-keeper duties:** Merika Ramundo

### 1. Additions to Agenda

14.1: St-Leonard Baseball

14.2: Afternoon snack

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

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

**Motion Passed – Unanimously**

### 3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1: Update on Dec 16, 2024 minutes

Motion to Approve: Giuseppe Fazzari, seconded: Lino Faratro

**Motion Passed – Unanimously**

3.2: Feb 3, 2024, minutes update typo errors.

Motion to Approve: Giuseppe Fazzari, seconded: Merika Ramundo

**Motion Passed – Unanimously**

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**4. Business Arising**

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4.1: Rules of Internal Management:

a: email was sent to everyone in GB by email.

b: New Rules of Internal Management will be sent with the updates. Email will be sent to everyone to motion.

4.2: Due date: Code of Conduct in the Agenda

a: Ms. Canale mentioned that the School Board also needs to send inserts for Rules of Internal Management to be printed. Will be presented to staff council on March 17, 2025 for review.

4.3: Spring ECAs update:

a: Soccer Cortese: \$640 was given back to Honore Mercier.

b: Reminder: kids should not be in the hallways or eating snacks in the gym. Gb Chair, Verena, will share our comments with Cortese Soccer.

c: Enfant et compagnie: Available ECA will be shared shortly.

Spring Session start: as of April 22, 2025

Spring Session end: must be done by June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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**5. Principals' Report**

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1. March 10th, 2025 Principal's Report
2. Photo of the "outdoor classroom" style as presented
3. 2024-2025 Agenda Insert Documentation
4. Budget Building Process Document from Last Year

\* As mentioned, I will ensure that both the agenda insert documentation and the budget building process document are brought to our Staff Council meeting scheduled for **Monday, March 17th, 2025**. During this meeting, we will discuss both items in detail. Following the meeting, I will reach out again to provide you with an updated document for review and collaborative discussion with the governing board.\*

**1. Outdoor Classroom Follow-Up (See Appendix 1):** Beautification grant ( you need a community or an organization we have Man Made) Will verify if we can receive the funds. PCD received this a few years ago. Will verify and get to everyone during next GB meeting.

**2. Educational Project Action Plan (See Appendix 2)- 2023-2027** signed and sent last year everybody was in agreement at HM. Reviewed with everyone at GB. They want to see our success rate.

**3. Cultural Learning Experience – February 4, 2025:** Our Personal Development and Community Animator, Mrs. Mary Poullas, organized a special event for our Grade 5 and 6 students. We were honored to welcome Flavie Dupont, who shared valuable insights about the Indigenous nations of Quebec, her territory, and the animals and plants of the Boreal Forest. The students also had the opportunity to learn and participate in traditional dances, which they truly enjoyed.

**4. 100 Days of School Celebration – February 7, 2025.** We were thrilled to celebrate 100 days of school with our preschool students! It was a joyful milestone filled with excitement and engaging activities.

**5. Valentine’s Day Celebration – February 14, 2025.** Valentine’s Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and joy. A heartfelt thank you to our Home & School Association for going above and beyond to make the day extra special for our students. Thank you for coming in dressed as an inflatable heart and for the cupcakes. We appreciate your continuous attention to detail and all the time and effort you put into organizing these memorable events for our students.

**6. Black History Month Presentation – On February 21, 2025,** Mrs. Jane Nyoike delivered a vibrant and interactive session that captivated both students and staff. Her presentation highlighted the significance of Black History Month, emphasizing the rich cultural heritage and historical contributions of Black communities.

**7. Pink Day Presentation with Steven Atme – February 25, 2025:** As part of our Pink Day initiative, we had the privilege of welcoming Steven Atme, a Montreal-based autism advocate, musician, and creative arts teacher. His inspiring talk focused on the power of perseverance in the face of challenges, leaving a lasting impact on our students.

**8. Staff Appreciation Week** We extend our deepest gratitude to the Home & School Association for organizing a memorable Staff Appreciation Week. With meticulous coordination and precision in every detail, from the daily items to the thoughtful foods and gifts, we were completely surprised and honored by this gesture. A special thank you to all parents for your generous contributions and heartfelt support. Your kindness strengthens the sense of community that is the foundation of our school.

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## **6. Teachers’ Report**

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Veronica Graniero reported:

- Some band students have the opportunity to go to the Quebec Band Association Mass Band event on March 29, 2025. Students work in small groups with a private teacher who specializes on the instrument, then big rehearsals are held with the full group. At the end of the night they put on a performance for their parents.

Andrew Martinez reported:

- March 14, 2025 Mrs. Mary Poulas with take kids to the Holocaust Museum.
- Grade 3/4/5 Footsol lunch time soccer starting next week.

- March 28, 2025 Grade 6 Footsol at LMAC high school.
- Halo Run everyone is excited very high participation rate, May 7, 2025

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#### **7. B.A.S.E. Report**

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- February cultural journey. Each group focus on a different cultures (exp. Black history month) pre-k - grade 6.
- Completed Chinese New Year (had a lantern festival everyone builds a lantern)
- Valentines (masquerade ball in Italy) everyone made masquerade masks. A lot of eating!!
- Sliding experience with the kids (Parc behind the school) They had a blast!
- March theme spring and St-Patrick's day! A lot spring activities coming up
- Nature theme (planting flowers)

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#### **8. Central Parents Committee Report**

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Member from GB member will be present giving awards during grade 6 grad.

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#### **9. Treasurer's Report**

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Giuseppe Fazzari reported: Balance update 91.24\$

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#### **10. Commissioner's Report**

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Mario sent his regrets.

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#### **11. Home and School Report**

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Diego Di Stefano reported:

- TCBY going strong.
- St-Viateur bagels will be distributed shortly
- Sugar shack will be tomorrow at the school.
- Staff appreciation week was amazing

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#### **12. Email approvals**

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#### **13. New Business Overview**

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13:1 Footzone: Everyone ok with the choices that are chosen.

Motion: HM will use Footzone as their supplier for the following school year 2025-2026

Motion to Approve: Diego Di Stefano, seconded: Andrew Martinez

13:2: Governing Board Selection Criteria for the Appointment of the Principal due March 19,2025:

Verena sent to everyone by email: Due March 19,2025 will be approved by email.

Motion to approval: Andrew Martinez seconded: Lino Faratro

13:3: EPCA Workshop Details: Great for everyone to read

13:4: Budget Building Process due April 4,2025

13:5: Educational Institution action plan development and implementation:

**Motion:** Ms. Canale will send motion (as per minutes)

Motion to Approve: Giuseppe Fazzari, seconded: Veronica Graniero

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#### 14. Varia

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14:1: St-Leonard Baseball:

- They would like to send out flyer to HM parents.
- Interested if the Marquise come in for 2 days during gym time.
- They introduce the sport (2 back-to-back days Tuesday and Wednesday)

14:2: Afternoon Snacks:

- Other schools have an afternoon snack (5-10 min)
- Ms. Canale will bring to student council. Would like to have a discussion with the teachers.

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#### 15. Next Governing Board Meeting Date(s)

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

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#### 16. Questions

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N/A

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#### 17. Adjournment

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- Motion to adjourn the meeting 9:45 pm
  - Motion to Approve: Merika Ramundo seconded: Diego Di Stefano
  - **Motion Passed - Unanimously**

*Gentia Canale (p.)* 5  
*U. Ramundo*