

Mackay Centre School Governing Board
Thursday, November 14, 2024 7:00pm

In attendance:

Irini Margetis
Robert Simpon
Maria Revuelta
Katrin Nakashima
Hema Patel
Iysha Rosales
Brendan Zorbass
Gilles Paquette
Pansy Drury
Sean Zikman

In absentia:

Leslie Levinson
Samantha Colatriano

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Welcome

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- Motion to approve by Iysha Rosales, seconded by Maria Revuelta, all in favor.

3. Adoption of Minutes of June 17 and September 23rd, 2024

- Motion to approve minutes of June 17 by Pansy Drury, seconded by Maria Revuelta.

- Motion to approve minutes of September 23rd, 2024 by Maria Revuelta, seconded by Tanner Harvey.

4. Announcements or Correspondence

No announcements or correspondence.

5. Business Arising

No business arising

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

6. Reports

6.1 Commissioner

- N/A

6.2 Principal / Vice Principal, Report from Irini Margetis:

- Joseph Lalla did not win reelection of Commissioner. Irini Margetis expressed her gratitude for his many years of support.
- Sharon Nelson did win election and is therefore our new school commissioner.
- All education staff had mandatory training on the topic of bullying and violence. These series of workshops were offered online by the MEQ for all personnel working directly with students.
- The EMSB embarked on a partnership with Dr. Astrid Kendrick from the University of Calgary on the topic of Self-Care for Educators. A few schools, including Mackay and PEL have taken particular interest in this. The workshops are voluntary and many staff members from both our schools have found the information and exercises quite helpful.
- At a Gala event On November 13th, 2024, before 500 attendees and a standing ovation, the Association of Fundraising Professionals awarded the Leaders on Wheels, their "Fundraising Youth Sector Award." The Leaders on Wheels (students from the Westmount Satellite Class) were nominated for the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) award by the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation which is the recipient of their efforts. The Leaders have donated close to \$31,000.00 since they started their Fundraising initiative in 2014.
- On October 22 three children went to Disney for one day, thanks to the Dreams Take Flight organization.

6.3 Teachers, Report from Leslie Levinson:

- Apple Picking at Pommalefun, scheduled for September 26, was cancelled due to weather.
- Orange shirt day occurred on September 30th.
- Author Lana Button visited the junior and senior school on October 2nd and read from some of her books.
- Terry Fox run occurred on October 2nd.
- Monique Pollack – Quebec roots Projects visited Gr. 6 and Deaf class on October 11th.
- The school had an assembly on Gratitude on October 11th.
- Indigo Books will support this year's central themes of kindness, empathy and inclusion. The school received \$500 worth of books from the SEL (Social and Emotional Learning), the same Indigo project we participated in last year.
- School Photos occurred on October 16th.
- The Positive Growth Committee started the first "MONDAY MANTRA" on Monday, October 21st.

- Teachers had a workshop on maker spaces on October 21st. We have a room designated in the school to be a maker space where students can gather to create, invent, tinker, explore using a variety of tools and materials.
- Terry Fox assembly to celebrate surpassing our goal on October 23rd. The principal received a pie-in-the-face as well as many other staff members.
- Halloween festivities occurred on October 31st, including carving pumpkins, a parade, and a dance party. Volunteers from LCC helped with face painting, sensory table, photobooth, bowling, tattoos, colouring, eyeball toss and a Haunted house.
- A Positive Growth Assembly occurred on November 5th, addressing the theme "How to care for myself."
- Senior Class visited All Access Life on November 5th.
- Parasports Quebec presented to Cycles 2 and 3 and WHS on November 6th.
- Remembrance Day Assembly occurred on November 8th.

6.4 RPSS, Report from Hema Patel:

- Parent night on November 28, parents should receive their schedule time next week. There is lots of interest and a good turnout is expected.
- A new Braver app, allowing therapists to communicate efficiently and quickly with families.
- Peer to peer mentorship program, sponsored by Habilitas Foundation; had a 2 day training for mentors (14-29, typically past students)
- The school is looking to hire a psychologist (4-day position), physiotherapist 3 day position, also being hired.

6.5 Daycare / Lunch, Report from Maria Revuelta:

- On Wednesdays during lunch, ten cycle 3 students are participating in an art and sculpture activity. It began on October 16 and run for a period of eight weeks.
- On pedagogical days, swimming has been introduced as a recreational activity. Daycare staff and CCWs are in the water with the students and the school lifeguard is supervising. The students really enjoyed it the last pedagogical day.
- Daycare services will be provided on parent/therapist/teacher night.

6.6 Parent Representative, Report from Tanner Harvey:

- Tanner Harvey attended the first meeting of EMSBPC on October 17, which consisted of the elections of the Parent Commissioners, Executive Members, EMSBPC Executive Committee, and other sub-committees.
- Tanner Harvey was not in attendance of November 7th due to scheduling error. Minutes from this meeting indicated moved motions approving the following:
 - Proposal to open a new innovative school for students with social and emotional challenges in the building of Nesbitt Elementary and closing of St. Raphael School, and that the proposed brief/letter where the PC have shared their concerns and recommendations to the consultation be submitted to the Board.

- Proposed PARC-ÉCOLE PROJECT AT DALKEITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- \$300.00 from the operating budget to purchase flowers and a gift card for Brigida Sellato as a thank you for the year.
- Proposed Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2024-2027
- A social at the meeting on December 5th and that a budget of \$1300 be allotted for refreshments.
- Appointment of parent members to ACSES.

7. New Business

7.1 Adoption of the Rules of Internal Management

- Motion to adopt made by Brendan Zorbas, seconded by lysha Rosales, all in favor.

7.2 Approval of Compensation Day for Parent-Teacher Interviews

February 28th compensation day. motioned by lysha Rosales, seconded Brendan Zorbas, all in favor.

7.3 Approval of Additional Ped. Day

- The school calendar should include 180 school days. As it currently has 181, schools must add a pedagogical day to their calendar. Proposal to make January 6th a pedagogical day with daycare services. Motioned by lysha Rosales, seconded by Maria Revuelta, all in favor.

7.4 Approval of Funds for Staff Treat

- Barista day for staff, \$1500 (excl tax). Motioned by lysha Rosales, seconded by Tanner Harvey, all in favor.

8. Field Trips & Fundraisers

8.1 To Ratify

- Oct 24 approved by email, trip to Atwater Market for augmentative communication classes to purchase fall decorations and to buy pumpkin. Motioned by Maria Revuelta, seconded by Pansy Drury, all in favor.

8.2 Field Trips

- December 12th trip to Angrignon Shopping Centre to use communication and math in the community, and shopping for a gift exchange. Motioned by lysha Rosales, seconded by Maria Revuelta, all in favor.
- December 13th trip to Funtropolis for preschool classes. Motioned by lysha Rosales, seconded by Maria Revuelta, all in favor.

8.3 Fundraisers

- Share the Warmth food drive for December. Motioned by Tanner Harvey, seconded by Iysha Rosales, all in favor.

9. Varia

- Sean Zikman from Habilitas reports that the adapted playground was inaugurated at the end of September but there are a few small additions remaining. The inauguration was well attended. Irimi Margetis shared a small video. Thanks to the donors!

10. Good & Welfare

11. Adjournment

Gilles Paquette, Governing Board Chair

Irimi Margetis, Principal