

MacKay Center School Governing Board

February 9th 2023, 7:00pm

Irini Margetis (Principal)
Bob Simpson (Vice Principal)
Karolyn Liverman (Parent)
Brendan Zorbas (Parent)
Gilles Paquette (Parent)
Pansy Drury (Teacher-Pre-K)
Samantha Colariano (Techer-Aug-Com1)
Maria Revuelta (Day Care Tech.)
Joseph Lalla (Commissioner)
Emily Lecker (RPSS Representative)
Kathy Nakashima (Community Rep)



1. Call to Order and Welcome

1. 7:03 PM

2. Adoption of the Agenda

1. Motion passed by Leslie Levinson, seconded by Pansy Drury

i. Everyone in favor

3. Adoption of Minutes Dec. 6th, 2022

1. Motion passed by Pansy Drury, seconded by Brendan Zorbas

i. Everyone in favor

4. Business Arising

4.1

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

5. Reports

5.1 Commissioner

• SUPPORT FOR ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SCHOOL BOARDS IN QUEBEC IS GROWING: POLL

- recent poll suggests that already solid support for independent and elected English-language school boards in Quebec has grown even higher during the past three years. 90 per cent of the national poll's respondents (1/3 of them living in Quebec) felt that English-language schools boards are important to them. 84 per cent of respondents felt that English-language school boards should be elected by the population at large,

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while 93 per cent felt the elimination of English-language school boards would place minority rights at risk.

- The survey also found that 84 per cent of respondents felt English-language school boards should be independent from government.
- **EMSB BOASTS HIGHEST SUCCESS RATE AMONG QUEBEC SCHOOL BOARDS**
 - Once again, The English Montreal School Board boasts a 91.6% success rate in graduation and qualification, the highest among public school boards in Quebec. The EMSB is only 1.9 % below the private school rate, despite the fact that private schools have rigorous entrance exams and charge hefty fees.
- **MEETINGS OF THE EMSB COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS**
 - Public meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board take place in the Administration Building at 6000 Fielding Avenue, and commence at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to attend in person. As well, all meetings of the Council are webcast. The link to the recording of the meetings are normally available on the EMSB website 48 hours after the live webcast of the meeting.
- **Bill 21**
 - The Quebec Court of Appeal has now heard the legal challenge to Bill 21 on state secularism, passed by the CAQ in 2019. It prohibits teachers in the public system, police officers, Crown attorneys and a host of other officials to wear religious symbols while on duty. The CAQ pre-emptively invoked the notwithstanding clause of the Constitution when drafting the bill to protect it from legal challenges.
 - Whatever the decision rendered by the Court of Appeal, the Government of Quebec and those who oppose this law have hinted that they will likely appeal the judgment and that it will ultimately go to the Supreme Court of Canada to decide in this case.
- **Bill 40**
 - WE are all waiting for the decision to be rendered regarding Bill 40, which eliminates school boards and elected school commissioners. Whatever the decision rendered by the Court, the Government of Quebec and those who oppose this law have hinted that they will likely appeal the judgment and that it will ultimately go to the Supreme Court of Canada to decide in this case.

5.2 Principal / Vice Principal

The pool does not look like it will be repaired by the end of this year, unfortunately. The current work needed to be done will hopefully be completed by the end of the summer break.

We have sent out the admission package for next year, the deadline is the end of March. We have slowly seen applications start coming in.

Feb 10th, we will be attending a ball organized by HIPPA Montreal. All profits from the ball will be going towards the playground project for the school.

5.3 Teachers

In December, we had the boxes delivered to share the warmth. They were very grateful.

Breakfast with Santa was a great success. The senior class went to the Biodome, which was good. We had a lunar new year activity and a smelly sock day where everyone wore. K4-K5 went skating.

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- 5.4 RPSS
We are planning to restart the Hippotherapy program (horse back riding).
We were approved for a new vitals machine to monitor the children in emergency situation.
We have started planning the parent-teacher night.
- 5.5 Daycare / Lunch
Registration for next years day care has been sent out. There was a glitch which caused some issues in the first 5 days.
The tax receipt should be ready soon.
- 5.6 Parent Representative
There was some conversation about dealing with the court situation regarding the school English community. We voted to support the board in any way they need regarding this issue.
Their will be lunch and learns every day during the last week of May and a final event over the weekend with the main topic of conversation being communication.

6. New Business

- 6.1 Approval of 2021-2022 Educational Project Annual Report
Motion to approve the Educational project, firsted by Gilles Paquette, seconded by Samantha Colatriano
All in favour.
- 6.2 Approval of Sexuality Education Plan
Motion to approve the Sexuality Education Plan, firsted by Pansy Drury, seconded by Maria Revuelta
All in favour
- 6.3 Consultation for Criteria for the Selection of School Principal deadline March 14
Motion to approve the selection of school principal deadline firsted by Brendan Zorbas, seconded by Samantha Colatriano.
All in favour
- 6.4 Approval of funds for Teacher Appreciation Week
Themes for every day of the week. Chocolate, baked goods.
Motion to pass 400\$ for the above themes, firsted by Brandon Zorbas
All in favour
Motion to provide an extra 250\$ from the governing board fund to assist with the Teacher Appreciation week. Firsted by Brandon Zorbas
All in favour

7. Field Trips & Fundraisers

- 7.1 To Ratify

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7.2 Field Trips

Ecomuseum trip for Cycle 3 and Anna Cycle 2
LCC Skating for Carnival, all classes
Quilles G-Plus for Winter Carnival, all classes
Espace St Denis - #D impressionist Painting, WHS
Defi Sportif, WHS, Senior, Aug Com 1/2 excluding RI students
Ottawa – Canadian Museum of History, WHS. 25\$ for dinner
Motion to approve all the field trips, firsted by Samantha Colatriano, seconded by Maria Revuelta
All in Favor

7.3 Fundraisers

8. Varia

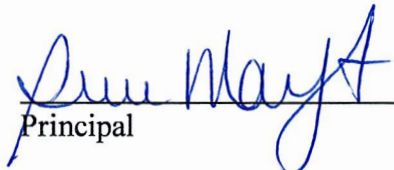
1. Our community representative officially welcomes Bob Simpson as the new Vice-Principal.
2. The Monrteal Childrens Hospital ER is in better shape but surgeries are still backed up.

9. Good & Welfare:

In honor of this months Staff Appreciation Week: Thank you to all the Staff of Mackay School for your hard work and dedication in this unprecedented school year. You have gone above and beyond the call of duty and we salute you all!

10. Adjournment – Next Meeting TBD


Governing Board Chair


Principal