

**Merton School**  
Governing Board Meeting  
Tuesday, November 4, 2008

**Minutes**

**Present:** Marco Petroni, Nancy Freedin, Gloria Chalupovitsch, Kimberley Davey, Linda Dolnik, Raizel Candib, Fleurette Gazé, Gary White, Harvey Caron, Frank Sauro, Robin Hornstein

**Regrets:** Romolo Finelli, Sara Abudarham

**1. Call to Order**

- a) Marco called the meeting to order at 7:37pm.

**2. Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2008**

- a) Gloria moved to approve minutes, seconded by Nancy

**3. Business Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting**

- a) Lunchtime Monitors and Students Code of Conduct - Tabled

**4. New Business**

- a) The following people were elected to the Governing Board Executive by acclamation: Marco Petroni (Chair), Robin Hornstein (Regional Delegate), Frank Sauro (Alternate Regional Delegate), Harvey Caron (Community Representative), Linda Dolnik (Treasurer), Gary White (Secretary). Other members are:

- i. Teacher representatives: Nancy Freedin, Gloria Chalupovitsch, Kimberley Davey, Sara Abudarham and Romolo Finelli
- ii. Home and School representative; Fleurette Gazé
- iii. Principal: Raizel Candib

**b) Delegation of Powers to Home and School**

- i. It was voted unanimously by e-mail that fundraising and after school activities would be delegated to Home & School once again this year. Marco will forward actual results of the vote.

**c) Playground**

- i. There is money made available by Ministry for renovation of the school playground but this funding is conditional upon finding 2 additional partners. One suggestion was Home Depot. They were contacted and an application form was submitted by Mrs. Candib. Home Depot replied that we do not qualify for funding. Linda will call Benny Masella to investigate other possibilities. Mrs. Candib will also look into possible funding from “*S’cool*” (<http://www.scoollifefund.ca>). We’re also still waiting to hear from the City of Cote St. Luc re: modifying the fence/gate so that students can access the CSL playground without going through parking lot. Total playground funding required is approximately \$ 16,000.

**d) Nominative Information Form**

- i. School Board should be sending a form requesting names and contact information for all Governing Board members. Marco will look into this before the next meeting.

**e) Field Trip Policy Review and Approval**

- i. Policy was circulated and read. Linda motioned to approve the policy. Gloria seconded.

**f) Merton Web Site**

- i. Harvey pointed out that keeping the website (<http://www.emsb.qc.ca/merton/>) current seems to be difficult. How do we maintain and manage the site going forward? Mrs. Candib explained that Sara Iatauro will pass on the responsibility for managing the site to Lisa Triestino and Claire Nudel. This should allow for the site to be updated in a more timely fashion. Harvey expressed concerns regarding music, fonts on home page. He also pointed out that using the site efficiently (timely newsletters, etc...) allows the school to reduce its environmental

footprint by using less paper. Mrs. Candib proposed that Harvey set up a sub-committee with Lisa Triestino to clean up the site.

**g) Camp Boute en Train**

- i. Mrs. Candib asked the Governing Board to approve a 3-day trip to Campe Boute en Train for cycle-3 once again this year. Gloria spoke very positively of the experience last year. It is likely the cost will be higher this year. Last year was \$ 100 per child – this year it could cost up to \$ 200 or more. The Board unanimously approved a motion to proceed to gather information regarding the costs of the trip. Final approval will be solicited once information on cost is acquired.
- ii. Robin asked for further details re: trip safety. Gloria explained that the camp is staffed by University students and that some of the chaperones are foreign exchange students. Children are accompanied at all times including meals, activities, and teachers sleep in the same cabins as the children. There is a website with further information. (<http://www.boutentrain.com>) Gloria expressed an opinion that the Camp is “very well supervised”.

**h) Daycare and Impact of Union Grievance on Enrichment Programs**

- i. Governing Board was updated on status of grievance by CSN against 5 EMSB schools running After School Programs through their Home and School. We will await further news from a meeting scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup> between Scott Miller – lawyer representing all 5 schools – and the CSN. Linda requested that a report be sent to the Governing Board members by the Chair throughout the process whenever there are developments.

## **5. Reports**

### **a) Principal's Report**

- i. School has been given permission by Board to hire Judy Kleinman at 20% (1 hr per day, 4 days per week) to support the collapsed grade 5 and 6 split class– specifically with the teaching of math.
- ii. Mrs. Candib and Lisa have discussed Robotics competition. School has qualified to travel to Austria but Mrs. Candib and Lisa feel this is too enormous an undertaking. They have decided, instead, to look into competitions in places such as NYC, Boston or regional Quebec.
- iii. Robotics needs more kits. (at least 3 or 4 @ approximately \$ 300 to \$ 400). Frank Sauro will request that H&S make the funding available.
- iv. Mrs. Candib thanked Harvey for compiling a database of e-mail addresses of all Merton School families over the summer.

### **b) Regional Delegate's Report**

- i. See attachment.

### **c) Home and School Report**

- i. See attachment.

## **6. Question Period**

- a) No questions.

## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

- a) December 9, 2008 at 7:30pm

## **8. Adjournment**

- a) Marco adjourned the meeting just after 9:00pm.