École Primaire

East Hill

Elementary School

10350 Bd Perras, Montréal, QC H1C 2H1

Governing Board Meeting – Emergency Meeting

Date: Monday, May 25, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

In-person Meeting

Minutes

Members Present:

Parent Members	Staff Members	Administration	Guests
Tania Mendonça	Antonella Andricciola	Mr. Rebelo	M. Mercuri
Christina Mallozzi	Kayla Liberatore		
Gennifer Girardello	Connie Cirella		
Sabrina Di Iorio	Catherine Laberge		
Alicia Di Stefano	Mme Benghomra		
Domenico Cotugno			

Member Regrets & Absences:

Parent Members	School Staff Members	Administration
Damien Caruso		Nadia Barrafato
Josianne Gelfusa		

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Di Iorio at 19:06.

Statement by Chairperson of the GB, Ms Di Iorio.

Though disagreement is permitted, statements and comments must remain respectful.

2. Additions to the Agenda

2.1 Media Program

Statement by Mr. Rebelo:

Collective agreement discussions (Category 107) brought certain school programs under scrutiny, including the Media Program. Science and Technology is the new category, which does not include Media.

The Media Program in its current form does not meet the criteria for a standalone course. Media as a class with a dedicated classroom and a dedicated specialist can no longer be offered. Media will not be eliminated, but integrated into homeroom classes, as is done in most if not all other EMSB schools.

3. Adoption of the Agenda (document attached)

MOTION TO: N/A
MOVED BY:
SECONDED:
VOTE:

4. Adoption of Meeting Minutes of (document attached)

MOTION TO: N/A
MOVED BY:
SECONDED:
VOTE:

5. Public Question Period

5.2 Governing Board questions:

5.2.1 Gennifer Girardello (GB):

5.2.1.1 Will a curriculum be put in place for teachers to properly teach and evaluate media?

5.2.1.2 Response by Mr. Rebelo: There will be no specific media grade, but it will be integrated into regular grading. We will trust in the teachers' judgment to appropriately instruct students based on existing lesson plans.

5.2.1.3 Further question from GG: Will the media teacher be replaced?

5.2.1.4 Response by Mr. Rebelo: This is still in discussion.

5.2.2 Alicia Di Stefano (GB):

5.2.2.1 What will become of the Media room? Will it become a Maker Space?

5.2.2.2 Response by Mr. Rebelo: It will be repurposed appropriately.

5.2.3 Christina Mallozzi (GB):

5.2.3.1 Will time allocation be redistributed? This was not discussed in the last GB meeting.

5.2.3.2 Response by Mr. Rebelo: Yes, will be discussed during the next GB meeting.

5.2.4 Mr. Mercuri:

5.2.4.1 Would it be possible to make a request for a "projet particulier"?

5.2.4.2 Response by Mr. Rebelo: PPP: Projet Particulier Pédagogique needs an application and approved by the School Board and Quebec Ministry.

5.2.4.3 Further discussion by Mr. Mercuri: he respects the wishes of the parent community and will provide any assistance possible at his level.

5.3 Public / parent community:

5.3.1 Patricia De Sanctis:

5.3.1.1 85% of support by the teachers for the PPP. Is this accurate? Where are the signatures? Request for transparency.

5.3.1.2 Response by Mr. Rebelo: This information was presented after the April GB meeting. There has not yet been time to communicate on potential solutions, including the PPP. PPP is not possible right now due to time constraints and lack of information.

5.3.1.3 Further discussion by Ms De Sanctis: a petition was presented with multiple signatures from the community. Why would teachers not want the Media program?

5.3.1.4 Response from Mr. Rebelo: This decision was not taken by the teachers.

5.3.2 Karima Choukr-Allah:

5.3.2.1 : How will Media be taught without a media class?

5.3.2.2 Response from Mr. Rebelo: the media room will be maintained and accessible to teachers.

5.3.2.3 Further question: EMSB website makes mention of a media program specialization.

5.3.2.4 Mr. Rebelo: This will be investigated for future consideration.

5.3.2.5 Karima lends her support to the PPP

5.3.3 Kristina Gaucci:

5.3.3.1 How was this decision come to? Was the media program not effective?

5.3.3.2 Response by Mr. Rebelo: The decision to remove the program was not due to its effectiveness, but due to discussions in the collective agreement and basic school regulations.

5.3.3.3 Further discussion: Could a special dispensation be made to prolong the Media class for one more year to allow time to apply for the PPP?

5.3.3.4 Response by Mr. Rebelo: An extension is not possible. The media program will follow the EMSB curriculum for the next school year. The PPP will be examined for the following school year

5.3.4 Stefanie Gifuni:

5.3.4.1 : Question missed (DC)

5.3.4.2 Mr Rebelo: Response missed (DC)

5.3.5 Jessica Agozzino:

5.3.5.1 LDVA uses the technology course as Media, with 2 teachers. Safe surfing is taught. Structured learning. Why can the solution used at LDVA not be used at East Hill?

5.3.5.2 Mr Rebelo: LDVA meets the criteria (Category 107) for Media. East Hill cannot decide how other schools use their resources.

5.3.6 Diana Morinelli:

5.3.6.1 If Media is eliminated, what will that time be replaced with?

5.3.6.2 Rebelo: This is in ongoing discussions, and will be added to the minutes of the next GB meeting.

5.3.6.3 Further discussion: Does Media Category still exist at the EMSB?

5.3.6.4 Rebelo: It no longer exists in Category 107, as only Science and Technology are now included.

5.3.6.5 Mandatory classes?

5.3.6.6 Rebelo: Media is not part of the BSR (Dance, Media, etc.). Italian is already a PPP.

~~5.3.7 Lori Newton:~~

5.3.7.1 ~~No teacher has ever disputed the value of the Media program. Media and Digital Life is now part of the CCQ program~~

5.3.8 Stefanie De Sanctis

5.3.8.1 Why did it take so much community interaction before getting a response from the school on this topic?

5.3.8.2 Rebelo: Issue was presented at the end of April, already past the April GB meeting. Administration wanted to get all the information available before giving a response. A response was given once all avenues were explored. The response would have come with or without parent/community interaction.

5.3.8.3 Ms. Di Iorio: April GB meeting approved the time allocations WITH the Media Program. This is a recent development.

5.3.8.4 SDS: Will teachers be ready for the replacement of the Media Program come September?

5.3.8.5 Rebelo: All teachers already have a base on this topic. Professional development is possible.

5.3.9 Karima Choukr-Allah:

5.3.9.1 PPP: Karima proposed project management to push for the PPP.

5.3.10 PDS:

5.3.10.1 Will "old school" teachers provide the same level of Media education as the dedicated Media teacher, especially for younger students? How will parents know if their children are learning appropriate subject matter?

5.3.10.2 Rebelo: Professional development will be offered to teachers to ensure teachers are providing adequate media instruction.

5.3.11 Sabrina Ficca

5.3.11.1 What is CCQ? How can it help with Media instruction?

5.3.11.2 Rebelo: CCQ includes some elements of Media instruction and content. Digital citizenship is included in CCQ.

5.3.11.3 Ms Di Iorio: a large part of CCQ includes digital citizenship.

5.3.12 Jessica Agozzini:

5.3.12.1 What was being covered in CCQ while the Media program existed? There must have been overlap.

5.3.12.2 Rebelo: Digital Citizenship was already covering some topics. Media was additional instruction; above and beyond.

5.3.12.3 JA: How will media be taught without computers?

5.3.12.4 Rebelo: In addition to the media lab, there are 3 carts of chromebooks that can travel to individual classrooms. There are also tablets available.

5.3.12.5 Ms Di Iorio: CCQ QEP is available online for public consultation, by grade level.

5.3.12.6 JA: Is calling LDVA on the to-do list.

5.3.12.7 Rebelo: The school board will be contacted. This is on the to-do list.

5.3.13 PDS:

5.3.13.1 How much time will be allocated to Media in coming years?

5.3.13.2 Rebelo: It is not based on time but competency. The lesson planning will be the responsibility of the teachers.

5.3.13.3 PDS: East Hill has lost clientele. Could the closure of the Media Program put EH at risk of closure?

5.3.13.4 Rebelo: Enrollment is up over the past few years. The impact of the closure of the Media program cannot be predicted. However, the STEAM program may encourage potential students to enroll. The change is in the methodology of Media being delivered.

5.3.14 Anthony La Corte:

5.3.14.1 PPP: what are the steps required for application?

5.3.14.2 Rebelo: community consultation, teacher consultation, vote, application to EMSB and Ministry. The exact process is unknown.

5.3.14.3 ALC: How can we accelerate the process?

5.3.14.4 Rebelo: Remains to be seen. It is late in the year to begin the process. Early next year, this will be examined.

5.3.14.5 ALC: Was the decision taken by a specific person at the board level?

5.3.14.6 Rebelo: No. A number of factors contributed to this outcome.

5.3.15 Karima Choukr-Allah:

5.3.15.1 Will the next GB meeting discuss the subject time allocation for the next year? Also, who is the "team" that Mr Rebelo is discussing with?

5.3.15.2 STA will be covered in next GB. The school team (équipe école)

5.3.16 Christina Melozzi (GB)

5.3.16.1 Category 107: does it no longer include Media? Are other schools affected?

5.3.16.2 Rebelo: Yes and yes.

5.3.16.3 CM: is it possible to have multiple PPP?

5.3.16.4 Most likely

5.3.16.5 CM: Does CCQ qualify for a specialist?

5.3.16.6 Rebelo: No.

5.3.17 Gennifer Girardelli (GB)

5.3.17.1 Do the CC carts actually work?

5.3.17.2 Rebelo: Yes

5.3.18 Diana Morinelli: If PPP is not possible, what specialties could be offered instead?

5.3.18.1 Rebelo: Science and Technology and Art. Drama and Dance do not qualify.

5.3.19 Jessica Agozzini:

5.3.19.1 Is it possible to opt out of classes?

5.3.19.2 Rebelo: Not possible in elementary school.

6. Adjournment

MOTION TO: 20:26
MOVED BY: Ms Di Iorio
SECONDED: Tania Mendonça
VOTE: N/A

Minutes taken by Domenico Cotugno acting as secretary for the meeting.

Signatures: **Date:**



Principal June 16, 2026

Governing Board Chair June 15, 2026