École Primaire

East Hill

Elementary School

10350 Bd Perras, Montréal, QC H1C 2H1

Governing Board Meeting # 6

Monday, June 15th, 2026
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Members Present:

Parent Members	Staff Members	Administration	Guests
Tania Mendonca	Antonella Andricciola	Mr. Rebelo	M. Mercuri
Christina Mallozzi	Kayla Liberatore	Nadia Barrafato	Domenic BRUNO
Gennifer Girardello	Connie Cirella		Kristina CAUCCI
Damien Caruso	Mme Benghomra		Josie VIZZI
Alicia Di Stefano	Catherine Laberge *en ligne*		Sandra EVANGELISTI
Josianne Gelfusa			Amanda PARRY
Sabrina Di Iorio			Anthony LACORTE
			Jessica Agozzino

Member Regrets & Absences:

Parent Members	School Staff Members	Administration
Domenico Cotugno		Mrs. Excellent

1. **Welcome**

- **7:02**

2. **Additions to the Agenda**

- **none**

3. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION TO: Adopt the Agenda

MOVED BY: Damien Caruso

SECONDED: Christina Mallozzi

VOTE: Unanimous

4. Approval of Minutes of Meetings

Meeting # 5 – April 27, 2026 (document attached)

Corrections to points 7.3 and 7.10.

Special meeting # 5 – May 25, 2026 (document attached)

Corrections to points 5.3.3.2 and 5.3.15.2

MOTION TO: Adopt the minutes as corrected.

MOVED BY: Tania Mendonca

SECONDED: Christina Mallozzi

VOTE: Unanimous

5. Question period

Jessica Agozzino inquired about the possibility of sending the "Health" theory documents home for students to review, aiming to maximize actual sports and physical activity time in class.

Mme Imane clarified that the health component is tied to a specific curriculum competency and therefore requires a formal evaluation in class.

Anthony Lacorte asks an update from the last meeting regarding the PPP. Mr Rebelo shares that the project is not ready to launch this year. However, the process will need to be initiated once all the information is received. No changes have been made at this time.

Members and parents agree that further questions will be addressed after the time allocation point (7.8).

6. Business arising from minutes
NONE

7. New Business

7.1 ABAV Report 2025-26 (document attached)

Annual Review: It was reported that the yearly assessment has been successfully completed by the Behavioural Technician. The team expressed satisfaction with the current procedures in place, noting that effective emergency measures are established and ready to be deployed should any special or critical situations arise.

Incidents and Case Review: Ms. Mallozzi addressed inquiries regarding student incident data. While overall incident numbers have shown some fluctuations, it was explicitly clarified that true bullying cases are not on the rise. The team acknowledged that student conflicts do occur, but these instances do not meet the criteria to be classified as formal bullying cases.

MOTION TO: Adopt the ABAV Report 2025-26

MOVED BY: Alicia Di Stefano

SECONDED: Kayla Liberatore

VOTE: Unanimous

7.2 Budget Review (document attached)

The cash budget report was presented, outlining all school expenditures incurred to date, with a primary focus on addressing critical structural line items.

- Fund 3 (12000): This fund includes a $20,000 roll-over from last year against $44,000 in total expenses. Revenue and spending are currently well-balanced, which is an ideal financial position for a school of this size.
- Fund 3 (23230): This fund includes a $41-over from the previous year. While current expenses are exactly matching revenue, it was emphasized that this financial structure is unsustainable for next year. To address this, the school is planning a revenue increase and will look into collective financing strategies for the 2026–2027 school year.
- Fund 5 (Decentralized Fund): The report currently shows $10,022 available. However, it was noted that this figure is inaccurate as it reflects amounts paid so far but does not account for upcoming financial commitments. It is expected that the entire fund will be fully spent by year-end.
- Fund 6 (Human Resources / Expenditures): This fund covers tutoring and various school-run programs. Expenditures are currently on track, and the school is on route to fully utilizing all allocated funds.
- Fund 7 (Capital Budget / TIC Program): This fund covers capital expenditures such as student desks. Out of the fund 7 22250 TIC program allocation, only $255 remains available.
- Decentralized Operations Fund 5: Allocated for school organization and building maintenance. Several invoices are currently outstanding, including recent expenses for the purchase of new carpets.
- Special Project Fund: Alicia requested an update regarding the School Yard. Mr Rebelo replies that the grant request submitted to the Dream Big Foundation for the yard improvement project (which included STEAM initiatives and a greenhouse). The project was not accepted by the foundation, as they deemed it too educational for their specific funding criteria.

7.3 School Budget & Fees 2026-27 (document attached)

School Fees Breakdown (Page 6, Top Block): Mr. Rebelo directed attention to the top block on the second-to-last page of the document. This section details the total workbook costs and school fees allocated per student according to their specific grade level (for example, fees are set at $42 for Pre-K).

Accounts Receivable: The second-to-last box on the same page indicates an outstanding amount of $1,000 in accounts receivable.
Lunch Supervision Budget (Following Page): To balance the budget for the upcoming school year, the lunch supervision fee will be adjusted to $450 per student (up from $405 this current year).

Looking back at the main budget overview, the first column shows a $47,095 breakdown structured to reach a net zero balance ($0).
Moving across the row, the lunch supervision budget stands at $70,900, with $67,900 allocated for operational costs and the remaining balance for materials and supplies, ultimately bringing the total net budget to $0.

The proposed budget was officially presented.

Note: a $3,000 allocation from this fund will be specifically used for such things as replenish recess games, sports balls, and outdoor equipment.

MOTION TO: Adopt the budget and fees

MOVED BY: Alicia Di Stefano

SECONDED: Damien Caruso

VOTE: Unanimous

7.4 Home & School Fundraisers

Current Campaign Updates: Tania reported that the ongoing ice cream and pizza fundraisers are performing very well. She noted that if these campaigns continue to meet their financial targets, the committee may be able to halt other planned fundraisers for the year (which include cookies, the book fair, the Big Box cards, roasted coffee, the comedy show, bagels, etc.).

Upcoming Events: Ms. Mallozzi shares about a third BOGO (Buy One, Get One) book fair event experienced at another school.

- Allocation for School Yard: Mr./Ms. Caruso proposed that given the current status of the school yard improvement project, any extra funds generated from additional or surplus fundraisers could be directly allocated toward the school yard fund.

- Payment Schedules: Ms. Mallozzi asks about the pizza and ice cream fundraisers if they can be split into two separate payment settlements. This approach aims to give parents a financial break and has already been approved and agreed upon by the Home & School (HS) committee.

MOTION TO: Adopt the H&S fundraisers

MOVED BY: Kayla Liberatore

SECONDED: Gennifer Girardello

VOTE: Unanimous

7.5 Supply Lists 2026-27 (documents attached)

The grade-by-grade lists of required school supplies for the upcoming school year were presented and reviewed.

Pre-Packaged Supplier Discussion: discussion about the possibility of partnering with a retail store to prepare pre-packaged supply kits for families.

Staples was ruled out due to a lack of geographic proximity to the school community.

Hamster was suggested as an alternative option. While this would offer a convenient service for parents who wish to use it, the committee noted that pricing might be an issue, as it does not guarantee the lowest market prices.

Supplier Requirements: It was recommended that the school select a supplier large enough to offer variety without forcing parents to buy specific name brands, keeping options flexible and affordable.

Next Steps: A sub-committee will be formed to research and select the most suitable supplier for this initiative.

MOTION TO: Adopt the supply list

MOVED BY: Kayla Liberatore

SECONDED: Damien Caruso

VOTE: Unanimous

7.6 Summary of Standards & Procedures 2026-27 (document attached)

- Timeline and Mandate: This document is typically finalized early in the school year. However, due to new government directives requiring an earlier submission, the school board has provided a preliminary summary. When teachers return, they will fine-tune and perfect these procedures.

- Current Status: For the time being, the document remains unchanged and has been carried over from last year to meet the required board deadline. Should any procedures change during the school year, parents will be formally notified.
- Publication: In response to an inquiry from Gennifer Girardello regarding the timeline document, it was confirmed that the current documents are already posted online.
- Preschool Competencies Review: Ms. Mallozzi raised a question regarding which preschool competencies are evaluated and how many are included, given that the document was copied from the previous year. It was noted that these can be revised for the 2026–2027 school year based on decisions made by the teaching staff.
- Clarification on Evaluations: Mme Imane intervened to provide clarification regarding why certain competencies are intentionally not evaluated at the very beginning of the school year.

7.7 Student Timetable 2026-27 (document attached)

The proposed modifications to the student timetable for the upcoming school year were presented, highlighting two main structural changes:

Lunch Period Adjustment: The lunch break will be modified to a 78 minute period (compared to the previous 75 minute period for Pre-K and Kindergarten).

New Recess Schedule: Recess times will be staggered and rescheduled for Grades 1–2 and Grades 3–6. This new optimization allows the school to schedule specialist teachers during the afternoon periods.

Transition Efficiency: The schedule adjustment aims to close the gap and minimize idle time while students are dressing and undressing for outdoor transitions.

MOTION TO: Adopt the student timetable

MOVED BY: Tania Mendoca

SECONDED: Damien Caruso

VOTE: Unanimous

7.8 Subject-Time Allocation 2026-27 (document attached)

- Media Studies will be removed as a standalone course.
- Pre-K and Kindergarten: A total of 240 minutes will be officially allocated to various curricular activities.

- Cycle 1 Modifications:
    - Art instruction will be increased to 90 minutes and will be taught directly by the homeroom teacher.
    - French instruction will see an increase from 540 minutes to 600 minutes.
- Cycles 2 and 3 Modifications:
    - Science and Technology will now be taught in English (120 minutes). This change helps balance English and French instructional minutes and resolves a significant human resources constraint, There is currently a significant shortage of french science teachers.
    - Language of Instruction Shift: Moving Science and Social Studies from French to English was also motivated by student performance, as data shows higher failure rates when these subjects are taught in French; teaching them in their primary language is expected to ease the academic burden on students.
    - Culture and Citizenship in Québec (CCQ) & Art: Both subjects will remain under the responsibility of the homeroom teacher with a 120-minute allocation.
    - Music: This course will transition to being taught in French. Mr. Simone expressed confidence that this linguistic shift will not negatively impact student learning or success.
- French Immersion Strategy (FR Plus): The administration highlighted a McGill University study supporting the concept that implementing French through after-school activities, rather than strictly through core academic courses, is more effective for integrating real-world French language acquisition into students' daily lives.
- Art Room and Project Flexibility: it was clarified that while Art is officially scheduled in the specialized art room, teachers will maintain the flexibility to use different spaces depending on the project. For instance, theoretical lessons can take place in regular classrooms, while art projects tied to STEAM initiatives can be completed in the designated STEAM lab.

MOTION TO: Adopt the subject-time allocation

MOVED BY: Kayla Liberatore

SECONDED: Gennifer Girardello

VOTE: Unanimous

Question period from the parants attending:

Science & Technology Specialist: In response to a question from Ms Agozzino regarding who will teach Science and Technology, the administration clarified that

this position requires a specialist with an English 107 staffing code. However, the exact assignment will only be confirmed during the official board staffing period.

Personnel Inquiries: A parent asked if Ms. Barrafato could fill this role. The administration noted that this decision depends entirely on Human Resources protocols and availability.

Homeroom Teacher Responsibilities: Ms Parry inquires about the homeroom teachers who will be responsible for teaching Science and Technology. The instructional minutes previously allocated to the standalone Media program were reallocated from Social Studies and Science, resulting in 120 minutes each for Cycles 2 and 3.

Curriculum Alignment (BSR): It was explained that the Media program was removed because it did not strictly align with the Basic School Regulation (BSR), requiring the school to return to the standard curriculum equivalence of other schools.

Skill Integration: Ms Liberatore adds that the competencies from the old Media program will not disappear. Essential digital skills (such as Microsoft Word and PowerPoint) will be integrated directly by homeroom teachers into their regular lessons. Topics like internet safety, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and fighting fake news will be formally integrated into the Culture and Citizenship in Québec (CCQ) curriculum.

Pedagogical Freedom: Mr. Caruso added that the Science and Technology course provides teachers with the necessary flexibility to cover these practical media and robotics concepts.

Teaching Resources: It was confirmed that the Science and Technology curriculum will use the *Éclair de génie* book, which is identical in both English and French.

Parental Requests for Programs: In response to an inquiry from Ms Cirella about whether parents can request a special program, it was noted that any such initiative requires a formal process, including an 85% favorable vote from the teaching staff.

PPP Application and Timeline: To legally run a standalone program that deviates from the standard curriculum (such as reclaiming specific minutes for a dedicated Media or Science program), the school must secure an approved PPP.

Ms Parry outlined the strict multi-level approval chain required for a PPP: the School Community then Teachers then Governing Board (GB) then School Board then Ministry of Education.

The file will be brought to the Governing Board in the new year to officially launch the procedure. Ms Cirella noted that a parent consultation process will be mandatory.

Feasibility and Support: Ms. Caucci inquired about the probability of the PPP being approved. Mr. Mercuri emphasized the importance of the issue and assured the committee that the initiative would receive full support once it reaches the school board level.

Fast-Tracking Inquiries: Mr. Lacorte asked if the school could expedite the process by adopting or adapting an existing PPP from another school. The administration noted that parent consultation periods and regulatory delays make fast-tracking difficult, and any curriculum deviation strictly requires its own approved PPP.

Implementation Challenges: Mr. Rebelo emphasized that the 2026–2027 school year will be a transition year for both students and staff. Homeroom teachers will need to leverage external expertise, and some may require more time and support to adapt to these changes. He noted that the community must unite during this shift, and while initial results might differ from current benchmarks, the school is committed to long-term success.

Community Sentiments: Guest speakers expressed that the Media program was a major selling point for the school, deeply tied to the dynamic work of Ms. Nadia. While the removal was caused by factors outside of the school's control, the community must now face it and work together to rethink and restructure how these skills are delivered moving forward.

Network Impact: It was noted that the three sister schools are all equally affected by these systemic curriculum changes, particularly regarding robotics and science.

8. Reports

8.1Commissioner

- Ms Mercuri provided an update from the recent meeting at the head office:
    - Student Recognition: young de Sousa from Pierre de Coubertin school was named student of the month. Despite undergoing leukemia treatments and not being physically in school yet, great success in academics and extracurricular activities.
    - Adopted Resolutions:
        - The dates, times, and locations for the commissioners' and executive meetings were officially set.
        - The base daycare structure within another school was approved.
        - Special awards were presented to recognize staff members.
    - Adult and Vocational Center Budgeting: A policy update was shared regarding funding. The board adopted a budget utilizing 15% of accumulated surplus funds, which was initially permitted. However, the government has since restricted the use of these surpluses. Due to these changes, the board had to get creative, resulting in a deficit that will need to be addressed moving forward.
    - Acknowledgements and Advice: Mercuri thanked all parents, the Governing Board (GB), and staff for their refreshing presence. He encouraged everyone to continue advocating through civil discourse and advised against skipping proper administrative steps, ensuring he can effectively work on the school's behalf.
    - Closing: He concluded by wishing everyone a pleasant end of the year and summer.

8.2 Chairperson

Nothing to report.

8.3 Principal

- Rebelo expressed gratitude to the team and noted that it has been a pleasant year. They highlighted that GB was present and highly effective (*on point*) throughout. Lastly, they wished everyone a restful and relaxing summer.

8.4 Teachers

- Mme Laberge wished everyone a great end of the school year.

She highlighted that the track and field event was an awesome success.

8.5 Daycare

Nothing to report.

8.6 Home & School

Ms Mendonca reminded everyone that the Fun Day is coming up soon.

A plan B is in place in case of bad weather.

She concluded by wishing the entire team a wonderful and fun day.

8.7 EPC

Sabrina will send the highlights from the last meeting.
No questions or comments were raised by the attendees.

Adjournment at 8: 39 pm

MOTION TO: adjourn the meeting

MOVED BY: Christina Mallozzi

SECONDED: Damien Caruso

VOTE: Unanimous