

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING #5
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
TEAMS

EMS Parent Members	Present	Absent	EMS Staff Members / Administration / EMSB	Present	Absent
Patricia Carvalho	X		Christina Chilelli, Principal	X	
Annie Baldessare	X		Maria Corsi (Commissioner)	X	
Amanda Gendron	X		Melodie Charette, Daycare	X	
Amanda Mini	X		Melissa Bentrovato, Support Staff	X	
Fanny Laberge (alternate)			Elisa Giampa, Teacher	X	
Cynthia-Lee Gravel	X		Sarah Amyot, Teacher	X	
			Sandrine Gamache, Teacher		X
			Claudia Salerno, Teacher	X	

1. Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Ms. Chilelli (Chair).

2. Introduction of New Governing Board Member

Ms. Claudia Salerno was introduced as the replacement for Sandrine Gamache on the Governing Board. She confirmed her willingness to participate in online meetings. The Board welcomed her.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed.

Motion to adopt the agenda:

- Moved by Sarah Amyot
- Seconded by Annie Baldessare.

Motion adopted.

4. Adoption/Approval of January Minutes

Minutes of the January 21, 2026 meeting were presented with corrections to attendance and spelling (including Elisa Giampa's name).

Motion to adopt the January minutes as corrected:

- Moved by Elisa Giampa
- Seconded by Annie Baldessare

Motion adopted.

5. Educational Project Summary (Approval)

The Educational Project Summary document was presented. It was clarified that a full revision is not required until 2027.

Motion to approve the Educational Project Summary:

- Moved by Sarah Amyot
- Seconded by Amanda Gendron

Motion adopted.

6. Anti-Bullying / Anti-Violence Plan (ABAV) (Approval)

The Anti-Bullying / Anti-Violence Plan (38-page document) was presented. The majority follows the EMSB template with school-specific elements included. Motion to approve the ABAV Plan:

- Moved by Amanda Gendron
- Seconded by Annie Baldessare

Motion adopted.

- The summary will be posted on the school website.
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7. Donation Fund Transfer (Fund 4 to Fund 8)

The Principal reported a balance of \$21,772.14 in Fund 4 (Donation Account). Approval was requested to transfer the full amount to Fund 8 to allow direct school purchasing without board-level delays.

Motion to transfer \$21,772.14 from Fund 4 to Fund 8:

- Moved by Sarah Amyot
- Seconded by Melodie Charette

Motion adopted.

8. Budget Presentation – 2024–2025

A detailed breakdown of the school budget was presented, including:

- Fund 3 (Parent Funds)
- Fund 5 (Per Capita)
- Fund 6 (Special Reserves)
- Decentralized per capita allocation: \$15,561

- Material supplies
- Caretaking
- Technology
- Program budgets
- Lunch supervision (with approx. \$5,000 uncollectible fees factored in)

It was noted:

- Allocations were received late (November).
- Budgets are smaller than previous years.
- Laptop prices increased by 20–25%.
- TIC digital rollover funds (\$11,000) may be used for future purchases.

Motion to approve the 2024–2025 Budget as presented:

- Moved by Elisa Giampa
- Seconded by Amanda Gendron

Motion adopted.

9. Budget Building Process 2026–2027

The Budget Building Process for 2026–2027 was presented.

Action Items:

- Ms. Chilelli will share previous years' priority lists.
 - Patricia Carvalho will collect Board input and complete Appendix B.
 - Governing Board members must identify service priorities and complete Appendix B by April 10, 2026.
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10. Red Cross “Gestation” Program (Approval)

A Red Cross safety program for students aged 9+ was presented and approved retroactively, as registration had already begun.

Motion to approve the Red Cross program:

- Moved by Elisa Giampa
- Seconded by Sarah Amyot

Motion adopted.

11. Autism Awareness Activities and Fundraiser

WINGS teachers proposed a reverse integration initiative for Autism Awareness Month (April), including a \$2 donation campaign.

Motion to approve Autism Awareness activities and fundraiser:

- Moved by Amanda Mini
- Seconded by Melodie Charette

Motion adopted.

12. Principal’s Report

Highlights included:

1. Guest speaker Samara O’Gorman (friendship/leadership)
2. Black History Month performance by Luke Bambara



3. Successful lockdown drill (February 12)
 4. Hooked on Schools Week and Perseverance Train
 5. Parent-Teacher Night preparations
 6. Second unannounced lockdown drill to be conducted before year end
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13. Teacher Reports

Upcoming events:

1. Carnival Week (house assembly, bingo, outdoor games, jersey day)
 2. Omega Park workshop (animal adaptations)
 3. Health consultant sessions
 4. Student teachers currently in classrooms
 5. Robotics competition scheduled Friday
- Principal to confirm robotics schedule and share with Maria Corsi.
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14. PPO Report

Staff Appreciation Week planned (smoothie bar, catered lunch, raffle prizes).

Fundraisers:

- Felix & Norton (until March 8)
- Mabel's Labels

Discussion regarding PPO bank account options.

- Principal to consult Financial Services and other EMSB schools.
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15. Commissioner's Update – Maria Corsi

Report on February 10 EMSB Council meeting:

- 2024–2025 Annual Report presentation
- Regional Student Ombudsman presentation
- Budget Building Process approval
- Ad Hoc Committee on Environmental Sustainability established
- Resolution recognizing January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- Concerns regarding Bill 1 and impacts on English minority education rights

It was noted that while Ombudsman documentation is in French (Bill 96), complaint services are provided in English.

16. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

- Moved by Patricia Carvalho

Unanimously approved

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia-Lee Gravel
Secretary – Governing Board