

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

November 18, 2025

Present: Anthony Nitti, Stewart Viita, Christina Matchett Andrea Gruia (parents) Scott Thompson, De Petrillo, Patti Surette (teachers), Kate Marien, Sam Servello (Principal)

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that Elizabeth Ballantyne School is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehà: ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. Tiohtià:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

2. Adoption of the Agenda of November 13, 2025

On motion duly made (A Nitti) and seconded (S Viita), it was unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda of the November 18, 2025, meeting as presented.

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 10, 2025:

On motion duly made (A Nitti) and seconded (P Surette), it was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 10, 2025, as presented.

4. Approval of the minutes of the AGA September 11, 2025:

On motion duly made (A Nitti) and seconded (A Gruia), it was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual General Assembly of September 11, 2025.

5. Elections

5.1 Chair

A Nitti volunteered to act as Chair and was appointed by acclamation.

5.2 Secretary

K Marien volunteered to act as Secretary and was appointed by acclamation.

5.3 Treasurer

A Gruia volunteered to act as Treasurer and was appointed by acclamation.

5.4 EMSBPC Representative & Alternate:

A Nitti volunteered to act as EMSBPC representative, and A Gruia volunteered to act as the Alternate (as per minutes of AGA of September 11, 2025).

5.5 Community Representative:

Elizabeth Ballantyne School
314 Northview Ave.,
Montreal West, Quebec

S Servello will invite Ekaterina Valkova-Damova, Montreal West Children's Librarian, to act as Community Representative. Kate Marien is invited to act as the second Community Representative. These appointments were made by acclamation.

6. New Business

6.1/6.2 Blanket motions re: Fundraising and Field Trips

Considering the upcoming change in administration, these items were tabled for the next meeting.

6.3 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m. (Teams).

7.0 Reports

7.1 Principal's Report

S Servello reported that he will be taking a position at the EMSB, likely beginning the week of November 24th. He thanked the members of the Governing Board for their ongoing dedication.

7.2 Teacher's Report (P Surette, L DePetrillo)

- Our annual Terry Fox run went very well; we CarC
- Captains have been elected to represent each House.

7.3 Support Staff Report

Our school secretary, Kimberley Hanley, will be acting as Support Staff representative on this year's Governing Board.

7.4 Daycare Report

Miss Namy is currently on leave; she is expected to return shortly. The daycare is running smoothly with the help of the other team members (Miss Jackie, Miss Alice, Miss Dania, and Miss Lisa).

7.5 EMSBPC Report

A Nitti reported that the first meeting was held last week. The Parents' Committee has requested a presentation outlining how the students may be impacted by the proposed budget cuts. There was discussion regarding Bill 94, the cost and location of field trips (mostly relating to High School), and the current policy regarding Phys Ed equipment.

7.6 Home & School Report

S Servello has been in contact with 3 parents who are planning to meet next week to discuss the formation of a Home & School Committee.

7.7 Library Report

E Valkova-Damova will present a report at our next meeting.

8. Question Period

S Viita commented that there are many different requests for money from the parents; he suggested that there could be an option for families to give a lump sum donation at the beginning of the school year. There was discussion regarding various options for supporting our students, and it was agreed that Home & School volunteers will be asked to follow up on this issue. He further suggested that Google Classroom was a useful tool and wonders why the teachers do not seem to be using it anymore. S Servello explained that the initiative to move from Google to Microsoft came from the Ministry of Education. Members of the administration have been told to use Mozaik as a communication platform.

Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Marien, Secretary

Anthony Nitti, Chair

Eugenia Carystios ,
Interim Principal

Date