



École FACE School

3449 Rue University, Montréal, QC H3A 2A8

TEL: 514-350-8899 courriel/email: face@emsb.qc.ca www.face.emsb.qc.ca

Governing Board – Minutes

Date/ time:	March 23rd, 2026 6:15PM	Location:	Zoom (Virtual)
https://mcgill.zoom.us/j/81694387792?pwd=SEFDdC9GZ2NsUERDK0Jma2NRL0JJZz09			

Present	
Parents:	Elsa Acem (EA) Elizabeth Foley (EF) Carissa Springer (CS) Alex Megelas (AM) Vincent Tam (VT) Hannah Nelson-Teutsch (HNT)
Teachers/Staff:	Elly Abramovitch (EAb.) Safa Bahget (SB) Elizabeth Pellicone (EP)
Students:	Isla McDade (IMD) Elizabeth Roy (ER)
Principal:	Jennifer Harriet (JH)
Vice-principal:	Mireille Tehbelian (MT)
Regrets:	Anne Krag, PPO President (AK) Maddalena Amanda Triassi (MAT) Victoria May, FACE foundation representative (VM) Allison Gonsalves (AG)





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Absent:	Eva Hassel (EH) Theodora Stathopoulos (TS)
Also Present:	Maria Corsi, EMSB Commissioner (MC)

	Action		Documents
1.		Welcome	
2.	Approval	<p>Approval of the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The following items will be added to the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Save FACE report – (for the next meeting) o Report from the CE meeting <p>Moved: EF Second: AM Approved: Unanimous</p>	
3.	Approval	<p>Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of February 2nd 2026</p> <p>The following corrections will be made to the minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Correction of Allison Gonsalves' name (spelling) - Adding a category for Mireille Tehbelian (separate section as vice-principal) <p>The minutes are adopted with these changes, and will be published on the school website.</p> <p>Moved: AM Second: VT Approved: Unanimous</p>	





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4.		Business Arising	
4.1.	Discussion	<p>Criteria for the selection of the school principal (Document 4.1 A)</p> <p>JH: The document was approved and the only change added was to update the document to take into account the new temporary location for the elementary school.</p>	
4.2	Discussion	<p>Follow-up on the annual school budget</p> <p>JH: The financial audit went well.</p> <p>At the principals' meeting, the EMSB asked JH to inform the governing board of the fact that the collection of outstanding school fees does have an impact on the school budget.</p> <p>The school informs parents initially before the end of October if any fees are outstanding. Reminders are then sent throughout the year, and accommodations made for parents, such as payment plans.</p> <p>School fees help to pay for materials such as workbooks and fine arts materials. The administration tries it utmost to not penalize parents who are experiencing genuine financial difficulty. Usually during the spring, the administration has a good appreciation of how much of the unpaid school fees may need to be covered by the budget surplus.</p>	
	Follow-up	<p>Currently the school surplus is approximately \$60 000,00. JH will follow-up at the next meeting concerning the amount of uncollected fees and the</p>	





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		exact amount of the school surplus.	
5.		New Business	
5.1	Discussion	<p>Consultation on textbooks and instructional materials for the following year</p> <p>JH: Starting in April, teachers will begin submitting the textbooks and documents that they would like to use in the coming year.</p> <p>The GB members discuss the process on how educational materials are selected. Sometimes the EMSB will intervene to note that certain workbooks are no longer up to date and need to be replaced. (For instance, this can occur when old workbooks contain language and references which are no longer socially accepted).</p> <p>EAb.: The cost of different materials can also have an impact on the teachers' choices. Teachers try to ensure that the cost of different workbooks is not too high; this is a delicate balancing act as certain interesting workbooks are only available at a higher price point.</p>	
5.2	Discussion	<p>Review the GB composition and request change (if necessary)</p> <p>The members discuss whether the GB composition needs to be reviewed. The composition is determined by the Education Act. The number of parents may have varied slightly in the past from seven to six. At the end of the year there may be recommendations on the composition of the GB, to be determined.</p>	





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5.3	Discussion	<p>Electronic Votes</p> <p>These outings were already approved by GB members prior to this meeting. The minutes simply attest to this.</p> <p>1. Local Forum Held annually in over 15 cities across Canada, involving thousands of students. Each year, 300 students enrolled in Secondary 3 to 5 participate in this forum. This highly anticipated annual event will once again showcase the French language. During this day of activities, students will be able to enjoy a fun and interactive program conducted entirely in French.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brings together Secondary 3–5 students in FSL (French as a second language) and FMT (French as a mother tongue) • Offers a full day of activities conducted entirely in French • Features actors and artists from the Francophone community • Helps students discover the cultural and professional value of bilingualism • Encourages dialogue between FSL and FMT students • Celebrates Francophone cultures <p>This is the first time FACE will participate! Where : Beurling Academy Date : Tuesday Mar 17</p> <p>Person Responsable : Ms Abramovitch Mr. Mallier For who : Secondary 4 and 5 students. Cost : Free 10 Votes YES</p>	





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		<p>The members discuss how this event went. IMD and E.Ab. comment that the experience was interesting, but that unfortunately not many schools participated this year. The organizers were very flexible however concerning the students who may not have been completely bilingual, and placing a focus on participation in the event.</p> <p>2. Catered lunch for staff and teachers on March 26th. 2026</p> <p>For all staff members who went to FACE University for a professional development activity in line with the school's educational project.</p> <p>Cost: \$1000 from the surplus 10 votes Yes.</p>	
6		Reports	
6.1		Principal	
	Information	<p>Tutoring services for students</p> <p>JH : LEARN previously received approximately \$3 million through the Quebec–Canada Entente to provide free tutoring services to students across the province. In past years, funding was allocated directly from the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ) to LEARN through a formal agreement.</p>	





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The MEQ has since changed its approach and is no longer entering into direct agreements with third-party organizations. As a result, the funding has now been redistributed directly to school boards based on the number of students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).

While the overall provincial funding has not been reduced, the way it is distributed has changed. Under the previous centralized model, all boards accessed funding from a larger shared pool. With funds now allocated individually to each board, the number of tutoring sessions available to our students is more limited but we have more autonomy to determine what supports best meet our students' needs.

This allocation translates to approximately 12,000 tutoring sessions province-wide for the year, resulting in a cap on the number of sessions available to our board.

Students must meet three established eligibility criteria to access tutoring services. However, eligibility is currently based on self-assessment, which has led to some students accessing services who may not have demonstrated the greatest need.

To support families, the Educational Services Department is preparing a list of additional academic support resources that will be shared with parents (available on our website and in our upcoming parent newsletter).

The board will also be establishing clear eligibility guidelines and preparing a list of students who qualify to register for tutoring services.





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Information		<p>Course selection</p> <p>JH: There is no change for secondary 4 and 5, but course selection will be online this year. A presentation will be done in class on April 9th.</p>	
Approval		<p>Exam session</p> <p>JH: Exam Session, starts as of June 12. Last day of HS classes are June 11.</p> <p>Some exams are scheduled during class time; we ask the GB to approve that for students who have scheduled exams that they are permitted to follow a modified schedule.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Attend school for their exam in the morning (9 a.m.), then attend afternoon classes. -Exam schedule will be shared with families in May <p>Moved: EF Second: CS Approved: Unanimous</p>	
Information		<p>Other upcoming events</p> <p>April 14 deadline to submit agenda cover for both sectors (elementary and high school)</p> <p>Storytelling: students in Grade 5 and 6 are preparing and two of our students will represent FACE at the upcoming EMSB storytelling festival.</p> <p>Perseverance week (Maryam Ganni) Inspiration Tour stopped at FACE, there was a presentation for the entire HS EMSB sector.</p>	





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	Approval	<p>Chinese New Year Presentations by PDCI animator and Black history in class activities occurring for all grade levels.</p> <p>Drama Workshop for the kindergarten classes.</p> <p>Grades 4 ,5 & 6: Spectacle theatre "Ma symphonie" par la compagnie les flos in February with the support of the foundation. This is a joint activity with the CSSDM.</p> <p>Grade 5 – Study Skills, 8 session workshop & Puberty Workshops, 2 sessions with school nurse</p> <p>Art of communication workshop for Grades 5 and 6 classes with Nathalie Rabbat</p> <p>Grade 6 – Transition to High School, 8 session workshop & Kindness workshops</p> <p>Welcome to Kindergarten event on March 15.</p> <p>ABAV (Anti-bullying) plan available on website.</p> <p>Outing with 11E to Segal Theatre- April 15 Afternoon with Ms. Rita and Ms. Elly</p> <p>Moved: CS Second: HNT Approved: Unanimous</p>	
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	Approval	<p>QBA Band Festival (Grade 11 wind and percussion) April 17</p> <p>This festival is for winds and percussion. The members discuss what happens for students who are not involved in this festival. Normally there are classes as usual, however when more than half the students are missing it is difficult for the teachers to teach new material, so sometimes the students get free periods during the day to work on what they wish.</p> <p>Moved: E.Ab. Second: IMD Approved: Unanimous</p>	
	Approval	<p>Parade at the Elementary school Projected date : May 1st (subject to change)</p> <p>A parade is planned around the elementary school. Coordinated by Kim Dufort, Myra Leibu, Lara Chaparro and Lilly-Anne Breton. The elementary kids will parade around the school in the afternoon to let the neighborhood know that FACE has arrived, and to celebrate the 50th anniversary.</p> <p>Moved: VT Second: E.Ab. Approved: Unanimous</p>	
6.2		Teachers / Staff	
	Information	<p>SB: For the kindergarten students the sexuality program has started and the kids are learning to identify their body parts, different types of touch, as well as privacy and boundaries.</p> <p>There have also been drama workshops which are</p>	





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		<p>play based, and music workshops with a music therapist.</p> <p>The kindergarten kids have also been learning about nutrition this month. A small budget of 50\$ was given by the administration to SB so that the kids will be able to make yogurt and fruit salad in class.</p> <p>For the parade the kids will be wearing hats that they have made.</p> <p>E. Ab.: There will be an art show on the 21st of April. Former teachers and students will be participating. A vernissage will be held on the ped day, and the fundraising will support the FACE foundation.</p> <p>For grade 11 students, the NY trip will be in late May.</p> <p>There will also be the FACE pie throwing activity to raise funds for the graduation.</p>	
6.3		Students	
	Information	<p>ER: The hoodies sale ends at the end of March. There will be Easter activities (eggs under students' chairs), as well as an end of year celebration on the 8th of June.</p> <p>IMD: Student groups across different high schools meet about every month. Different initiatives are being pursued such as support for crossing guards, as well as more sex education courses.</p>	
6.4		Commissioner's Report	
	Information	<p>MC: The challenge to Bill 21 was heard at the Supreme Court and the EMSB was there to make its' case against the law.</p>	





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6.5		EMSBPC Delegate	
	Information	<p>HNT: Workshops for parents' implication in school governance will be held virtually. Parents will be invited to attend.</p> <p>A change concerning the public's participation in commissioners' meeting was noticed in that only in person questions are now being accepted. Several letters/issues were raised about tutoring funding, climate related school closures, climate change, and email accounts, but there were not always replies received from the EMSB. A letter by the parents' committee concerning budget cuts is currently being translated.</p> <p>MC: Before COVID questions were always only allowed on an in-person basis. The change is not aimed at limiting participating but rather is just a return to the pre-COVID rules. Also, the Chair was sometimes being put in a difficult situation having to read questions which were submitted online; this way the person who has the question can ask it directly.</p>	
6.6		Parent's participation organization	
	Information & Follow-up	<p>JH: AK will step down as PPO chair. MT and JH thank her for contribution to FACE on behalf on the EMSB. AK will be leaving in May also as the representative from the CE. Once the PPO is advised, VT can reach out to the president of the CE to see about having a replacement.</p>	





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6.7		FACE Foundation	
	Information	JH: Hoodie sale is underway. Staff and teachers are invited to put forward projects for funding.	
6.8		CÉ Delegate	
	Information	EA: At the CÉ meeting, there was a lot of interest concerning the transportation survey done by the GB members. The CÉ would like to conduct a similar survey and meet with members of the GB to understand the methodology used.	
	Follow-up required	The GB members are happy to meet with the CÉ president to explain the methodology used. Also a future presentation of the results will be done by members to the FACE community, and the members of the CÉ will be invited to that presentation.	
6.9		Save FACE	
	Information	This item is postponed to the next meeting.	
7.		Correspondence	
	Information	Resolution: The EMSB GB would like to find a moment to share the results from the transportation survey with parents of the EMSB sector. We are also examining how to share this with the CSSDM CE and our members will communicate about the methodology.	
	Follow-up		





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8.		Varia None.	
9.		Date of the next meeting: May 25 th via Zoom	
10.		Adjournment Moved: VT Second: EF Approved: Unanimous	

Vincent Tam, Chair
2026-06-18

Jennifer Harriet
Directrice - Principal

