

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting
Held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 6:30 PM
(In Person)

Present:		Absent/Regrets
Antonio Petosa, secretary	Vince Timpano, principal	Sandra Renzi (alternate)
Shane Fombuena	Elisa Baronello	Amalia Lavoratore, treasurer
David Reda, Vice-chair	Pammy Lacroce	Keshia Pierre
Clementina Fraga	Sonia D'Addario	Lara Villani
Stephanie Talarico	Silva Muzzo	Elvira Corso
Claudio Prioletta	Karine Silva (alternate)	
Susan Perera	Christina Gioia	
Paolo Camirand (CDA)	Mary Di Fulvio, (Chair)	
	Daniela Alongi	

Unanimous vote to prolong meeting 15 minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM.

2. **Adoption of Agenda:**

- (May 5, 2026).

Mover: Clementina
Second: Stephanie
Agenda approved unanimously.

3. **Adoption of previous minutes:**

From meeting of April 8, 2026

(2.3) Giant step not birthday and correct Talk and Snack
(4.3) Chateau Ramezay

Mover: Stephanie; Second: Sonia
Approved by group that was present on May 5.

4. **Business arising from last minutes:**

- N/A

5. **New Business:**

- Lunchtime salaries (POI)
 - June – end of the year financial report will be available
 - Topics including lunch ladies’ 3.5 percent salary increase (approximately \$1.75)
 - 2026-2027 School Calendar (Approval)
 - Dates are also based on when teachers must submit results
- Mover: Shane; Second: Claudio
Approved by group that was present on May 5
- Mural (POI)
 - Extensive application process involved in mural approval – funds will be covered by municipality if approved.
 - Mural must be representative of the school and the community.
 - In talks with an artist that can create the mural and that knows GMS very well and design will also be based on parent and student’s feedback.

- Mural will be on the side of the school (alleyway) which requires clean-up. – Green Space that can be used by the students.
 - Merchandise Fundraiser (Approval)
 - 4 companies submitted a bid for supplying merchandise as well as prices for various items. JF-Sports will be the supplier
 - Items include hats, hoodies, scarfs, neck warmers, baseball caps, t-shirts
 - Money that would be raised from apparel would be used for the creation of children's facilities like outdoor spaces.
 - People can order through QR-code.
 - Platform allows for transparency in real time, of orders as well as the amounts allotted to fundraiser.
- Mover: Antonio; Second: Clementina
- Approved by group that was present on May 5
- Trip Gr.1 (Approval) – date not set
 - Grade 1 trip will be to the Musée de la Santé Armand-Frappier (Laval)
 - Trip will be paid by school.
 - Date TBD.
- Mover: Sonia; Second: Claudio
- Approved by group that was present on May 5
- InterMiel K4-K5 (Approval) – May 19th
 - The process behind making honey.
 - K-4 parents are invited to attend as well.
- Mover: Elisa; Second: David
- Approved by group that was present on May 5
- GB Seats 2026-2027

Tous les parents membres /All Parent Members: E/S/R:			Mandat/Term of Office:
Amalia Lavoratore	S		2025-26
Shane Fonbuena	S		2025-26
Claudio Priolella	S		2025-26
Elvira Corso	S		2025-26
Lara Villani	S		2025-26
David Reda	F		2025-27
Mary Di Fulvio	F		2025-27
Keshia Pierre	F		2025-27
Antonio Petosa (current grade 6 parent)	F		2025-26
Sandra Renzi	A		2025-27
Enseignant(e)s/Teachers:			
Gomes Silva, Karine		Muzzo, Silva	
Baronello, Elisa		Talarico, Stephanie	
Gioia, Christina		Alongi, Daniela (alternate)	
Lacroce, Pompea		Cataldo, Ariana (alternate)	

Personnel non-enseignant /Non-Teaching Professional:	Paolo Camirand
Personnel de soutien/Support Staff:	Sonia D'Addario
Service de garde /Daycare:	Clementina Friga
Élèves/Students: (Cycle II High School)	
(F) for first year,	
(S) for second year	
(R) for replacements with the year they are in	
(A) for alternates to GB	

6. Reports

6.1: Principal

- Musical (POI)
 - Extremely successful and thank you to the staff.
- Milan Grade 6 Graduation Song (POI)
 - Currently creating graduation song
- Cabane à Sucre (POI)
 - Successful.
- EMSB Story Telling Festival (POI)
 - Students presenting did excellent work and thank you to the teachers that were involved in organizing the event.
- EMSB Volunteer Acknowledgements
 - Mary (GB) and Claudia (PPO) received an acknowledgement award.

6.2: Commissioner (S. Perera)

- Principal appreciation week was celebrated and thank you to Mr. Timpano for all he does.
- Pius School – volunteers were acknowledged.
- PELO program under analysis.

6.3: GB Chairperson (Maria Di Fulvio)

6.4: Teachers:

- Musical Recap (POI)
 - Daniela – approximately 750 people attended the show (over the 3 days).
 - Raised \$2800 from donations.
 - Videos and pictures will be shared.
 - Poster and video will be presented to the cast.
- Used Book Sale Fundraiser (POI)
 - Elisa (literacy) – Book donations given by parents. Books that are left-over from the event will be used next year.
 - Successful event.
 - Children were very happy with event.
- FLS, ELA, Math Exams (POI)
 - Christina – parents in grade 6 must take the necessary measures to avoid absences on scheduled dates to avoid missing exams.
- Welcome to Kindergarten Day May 8 (POI)
 - Pammy – various specialists will be present.
- Giant Steps Pen Pal (POI)
 - Presenter presented the tools used by Giant steps
 - Students saw how letters were written (handwritten, speech to text and cut out words).
 - Virtual Q and A will be held next week in which students are invited to communicate with students from another school virtually (TEAMS).
 - Potential to begin program earlier in the following school year and a lot of time for in person visits. TBD
- Culinary Workshops (K4-K5) – (POI)
 - K4 and K5 parents are invited to attend.
 - Ateliers 5 Épics.

6.5: Daycare (C. Fraga)

- St. Brendan May 20 (POI)
 - Goal is to make baskets for the community.
- ZUMA class finished this week.
- Planting trees – date to be determined – parking zone.
- Planters will be moved to the front of the school.
- Caterpillars were delivered today – butterflies will be freed once matured.
- Activity TBD June 5th, either Funtrópolis or Ninja Factory.
- Next week is daycare week.

6.6: Sports Concentration (S. D'Addario)

- GMS Futsal Tourney June 5 (POI)
 - Schools that will attend TBD.
- Mental Health Coaches (POI)
 - From McGill – activity was successful – allowed children to evaluate and reflect on the turnouts of the various games.
- Bread and Beyond (POI)

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- Successful – made over 900 sandwiches that were donated and with the rest of the food, organisation can make another 400 sandwiches.
 - Flyer / Broadcasting Program
 - Flyers have been handed out to potential families that may potentially attend GMS in the future.
 - Flyers will be handed out at other sporting and art events.
 - K4 and K5 students will be targeted.

6.7: PPO (M. Di Fulvio)

- Spring Fling June 19 (approval)
 - PPO is asking the board for \$5000 for children's meals (children under 12). Parents will be paying their way.

Mover: Clementina; Second: Antonio

Approved by group that was present on May 5

6.8: EMSBPC (Shane) – see e-mail – add budget exercise table.

- Budget exercise was completed by PC.
- There was a lively debate on AI education.

EPCA Spring 2026 Workshops

Transitioning to Cégep Successfully – April 21st, 2026

The transition to CEGEP can feel like a big shift, for both students and parents. This change, filled with more freedom, less structure, and increased responsibility, can be exciting but also unsettling for young adults who are still figuring themselves out. This workshop helps parents make sense of that shift and what it may look like in everyday life, from motivation and time management to decision-making and independence. It also focuses on how parents can adapt their support: knowing when to step in, when to step back, and how to stay connected without taking over. The goal is to help parents feel more confident supporting their child as they learn to manage their own life.

Transitioning to High School Successfully – May 14th, 2026

This workshop offers a clear and practical look at what is changing for today's adolescents as they enter high school, and why this transition can feel more complex than expected. Parents will gain insight into the key developmental shifts happening at this age, as well as the realities of growing up in a fast-paced, highly connected world.

Rather than focusing only on academics, this session explores the core skills students are need to thrive during this stage: how to manage themselves, handle challenge and distractions, and navigate increasingly complex social dynamics in a digital world.

Parents will leave with a better understanding of their evolving role, along with simple, concrete tools to support their child's growing independence while staying connected and steady through the ups and downs of this transition

Talking About Substance Use with Your Teens - May 27th, 2026

Substance use among adolescents has changed: from vaping and alcohol, to substances that are easier to access and harder to detect. This workshop gives parents a clear picture of what teens are exposed to today, and why they may feel pressure to experiment. More importantly, it focuses on what parents can *do*: how to start real conversations without shutting their child down, how to set clear and consistent boundaries, and how to guide their child through peer pressure and decision-making. Parents will also learn how to respond calmly and confidently when concerns arise, so they can remain a steady and trusted support in their child's life

Budget Priorities

- 1- Significantly increase staffing of Professionals (prioritizing but not limited to Psychologists, Speech & Language Pathologists, and Guidance Counselors) Resource Teachers (English & French), Attendants & Technicians and Special Education Technician taking into consideration services to all students with different learning needs.
- 2- Continue to invest in, develop, and improve programs, professional services and resources to improve mental health by:
 - reinstating social workers in school and investment in group or single service Therapists to help students with stress and anxiety;
 - implementing programs for anti-bullying (in-person and online);
 - educating students on digital literacy and online safety and device addiction;
 - providing education and access to all forms of physical activity opportunities as part of students' daily lives.
- 3- Continue to invest in and improve the physical learning environment for students by increasing funding for security, health and safety, including:
 - removal of snow and ice in common areas in a timely manner;
 - building maintenance and upgrading projects;
 - building adaptations to ensure accessibility to all levels and facilities for students, staff, parents and the public with mobility impairments;
 - Board wide Administration lead awareness campaigns to promote/advocate for improvements to road safety on streets to and from schools.
- 4- Ensure food programs are maintained throughout the year without compromise to nutritional guidelines regardless of the socio-economic decile ranking adjustments to the school and create those programs where needed (including fresh produce).
- 5- Improved AI literacy initiatives for teachers and students to understand the ethical use as a tool for educational enhancement and to prepare them for a future with AI integration.
- 6- Invest in and foster transitional programs for students leaving the youth sector, i.e. work stage, trades, vocational and work orientated programs.
- 7- Continue to improve new technologies to facilitate the learning environment in all schools as a resource for all students.
- 8- Request additional funds to reimburse public transportation fares for high school students.

6.9: CDA (P. Camirand)

- Snack Program end May 14 (POI)
- Basketball after school Gr. 2-3 (POI)
 - Every Thursday for 5 weeks (2:45-3:45) starting May 7th.
- Robotics Letters Gr. 4-5 (POI):
 - Robotics letters given to grade 4 and 5 cohort - handed out May 19th, 26th and June 2nd (after school activity). Very high turnout.
- SPVM Basketball Fun (POI)
 - May 28th – basketball game against SPVM (community building).
- Flag Football (June 3rd) – at Royal Vale against various schools.
- Pet and Toy Workshop – toys will be created by students and donated to animal shelters (date TBD).

7. Varia

8. Question Period

- Response to Andy Lee: Mural will allow for a cleaner green space.

9. Adjournment

Mover: Clementina; Second: Antonio

All moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Next meeting: June 17, 2026, at 6:30pm (in person)

Principal

Secretary

GB Chair