
Gerald McShane Elementary School

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting
Held on Wednesday, November 25, 2025, at 6:30 PM
Online

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

Unanimous vote to prolong meeting 15 minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

2. **Adoption of Agenda:**

2.1 (November 19th, 2025).

Mover: Antonio

Second: Clementina

Agenda approved unanimously.

3. **Adoption of previous minutes:**

From meeting of October 7, 2025

Mover: Elvira; Second: Lara

Approved by group that was present.

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

- Daycare handbook

5. **New Business:**

5.1 Parent-Teacher Interviews (P.O.I.)

- November 27th – the full day. Booking application will be used but meetings are in person.
- Report cards will be available as of November 20th.

5.2 Pelo Classes Update (P.O.I.)

- GMS will not be receiving funding in that it is not part of the curriculum.
- School budget will be available next week.
- Possibility of having Pelo class after school with a fee (10-15\$ / session). Classes may be split on 2 different after-school sessions depending on grade level.

5.3 Full School Budget-in several weeks will be issued (P.O.I.)

- Full school budget will be issued by the first week of December.

5.4 Toys for the Holidays (P.O.I.)

- Will tentatively happen on December 18th.

5.5 Holiday Card Fundraiser (P.O.I.)

- Maxi – strictly Christmas cards
- Other models will be for different occasions.

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- Thank you to the parent community and PPO for the success of this fundraiser (final tabulation of profit to come).

5.6 Emails vs social media; Community Visibility (P.O.I.)

- Newsletter, calendar and week updates will be discussed in Staff Council.
- Efforts to keep social media of the school up to date already in place.

5.7 Jason Di Tulio Art Book Activity (Approval)

- Commemoration of Jason will be done through an art book in which the children will draw and color based a scenario put into place by the mother.
- Book will be sold for \$20. \$2 per book will go to the music and art fund.

No motion and not approved.

6. Reports

6.1 - Principal (V.Timpano)

- Open House: 50 children with families visited some of the schools. Thank you to everyone that participated in the open house, which was a success. A big thanks to the staff and students that participated.
- Halloween – successful.
- Remembrance Day – speakers spoke of experience. On City News.
- Police Visits – SPVM – Amelie St-Georges has been speaking of different legal matters to the children of grade 6.
- Gr. 6 High School Visits – JFK, Rosemount, LMAC, LBP came to visit school (grade 6). VMC will visit in the coming weeks.
- Book Fair Nov. 25 & Nov. 27 – During parent / teacher interview, library will be open for book fair.

6.2 - Commissioner (S. Perera)

- QUSBA – injunction placed to stop budget cuts until passed in court.
- EMSB is still working on a deficit budget.
- Subject of bike paths:
 - Principal Vince, asking if there is the possibility of municipal councilor (Ms. Black) meeting with commissioner Perera.

6.4 Teachers:

- Musical April 30 – May 1 (P.O.I.)
 - First practice starting this Friday
 - New dates: April 23rd and April 24th – exam dates conflicted with previous scheduling.
- K4 and K-5 April 8 Cosmo free outing Multi-Cultural Center (Approval)
 - Mover: Antonio
 - Second: Elvira
 - Approved unanimously
- Terry Fox Walk (P.O.I.)
 - Quite a lot of money raised
 - Total funds raised TBD
- Volleyball Play Day (P.O.I.)
 - Volleyball day played Nov. 19th.
 - Went very well.
 - Many private schools present.
- Grade 5 Hiking Trip (P.O.I.)
 - Grade 5 – the day before Thanksgiving Day weekend
 - Went very well.
- Papers for camp Juvance were sent out.

6.5 – Daycare (Clementina)

- Daycare Handbook (Approval)
 - Fees have changed and invoices will be sent out mid-month.
 - Approval following online voting - to come.
- Ped Day Booking Protocols
 - Student and monitor ratios must be respected – deadline for sign-up must be respected for ped day sign-up activities.
 - November 27th - Bulls-eye - \$46 – requires bus fare and activity fee and daycare fee.
 - November 28th – Skating at Rolland arena – only daycare fees will be charged.
- November 14th – Planter boxes were set up in front of the school.
- Gardening on the side of the school was also fixed.
- November 16th – Everblast – children really enjoyed activities.
- Plant Boxes

6.6 - Sports Concentration (S. D’Addario)

- GMS Hockey Tournament
 - A big success.
- Greg Sutton (P.O.I.)
 - Guest speaker for children – motivation, the importance of school,
- Fundraiser Activity (P.O.I.) & (Approval)
 - Bell center fundraiser was postponed.
 - Taste Italy fundraiser tabled (frozen pizzas):
 - Mover: Clementina
 - Second: Antonio
 - Approved unanimously

6.7 - PPO (M. Di Fulvio)

- X-mas December 17, 18 Activities (Approval)
- Cycle 1 Skating end Nov. 19 (P.O.I.)
- Big Box Pickup Nov. 27 (parent and teacher conference)
- PPO asking for up to \$3000 for Christmas activities including breakfast with Santa.
 - Mover: Shane
 - Second: Claudio
 - All in favor.

6.8 - EMSBPC (Claudio)

- Budget cuts for PC (\$19K to \$3.5K) – fundraising for PC was tabled
- Internal GB rules and regulations up to date.
- GMS must verify that GB minutes are posted.
- Bill 94 – PC sent a letter to the government stating that they are against it.
- E-Mails for GB have been refused.
- School trips – rising costs – looking for ways to change fundraising rules to fund trips.
- Crossing guards – some EMSB schools have difficulties receiving crossing guards for their school.
- \$230 PC budget will be reallocated – TBD.

Here are the minutes from the November 6th PC meeting:

November 6, 2025

PARENT COMMITTEE MEETING – KEY POINTS
Online Teams

Role of Parent Committee (4.1): Important to remember that this group represents parents of the board; parent engagement has been proven to be important to educational success.

Budget (4.3 and 5.2):

- The Provincial Government cut the Education budget significantly (twice) in the past year. The EMSB, along with other boards across the Province, challenged these cuts and won some pieces back, but certainly not all.
- Based on that, the EMSB presented and passed a budget. *PC has requested a presentation from EMSB administration to better understand the impact of the current budget on services to students.
- The allocation to Parent Committee was cut significantly as well. The purpose of this budget is to allow parents to attend meetings, eg, hiring a babysitter, travel, meal vouchers, etc. Each delegate will get a cheque at the end of the year to offset some of those expenses.
- PC will not have the capacity to fund the literacy award (1 book per elementary school) and PC Awards of Merit (\$50 elementary/ \$100 HS per recipient per school)
- A motion was made and passed to remove the PC scholarships and literacy awards for this academic year but add on to next year's agenda for consideration. (exact wording will be in minutes)
- It was also agreed to form a fundraising committee to raise funds for these prizes.

To-Do's for GB's (4.3-4.7)

- Make sure to find, review, edit as need your Governing Board Internal rules
- Provide dates of GB meeting to school community and parent body in advance (timing of advance notification could be in your internal rules)
- Invitations to your Board Commissioner are not compulsory but commissioners can be very helpful for community engagement, resources, knowledge, etc.

Contact list for PC (4.8): A motion was made and passed for Brigida to compile and distribute a contact list of delegate and alternates by school. Please opt out of this list if not comfortable with your email being shared.

Bill 94 (5.3): An Act to reinforce laicity in the education network

- A motion was presented and passed to write a letter to EPCA on behalf of PC to advocate for the laws to be revoked or altered.
- For more information about the bill see <https://www.assnat.qc.ca/en/travaux-parlementaires/projets-loi/projet-loi-94-43-1.html>
- To access EPCA's submission in response to the bill (April 2025), see <https://epcaquebec.org/bill-94/>

Replacement policy for Physical education policy (5.4): A policy for equipment safety was revoked in 2025 but not replaced. Request was made to admin (again) to replace. Admin answered that they were in the process of developing guidelines and would report back next meeting. (add to agenda for next meeting)

EMSB GB email accounts (5.5): Motion was made and passed to send a letter to the Ministry of education to inquire about governing boards and email accounts.

PPO memberships (5.6): Are all parents on PPO? The clause in the Education Act is vague. EMSB admin will get back.

School Trips (5.7): There is considerable frustration around cost, location (not adhering to Canadian Government travel advisories) or accessibility issues; fundraising rules have limited ability to fundraise - Opportunity for board to guide: advisement and review

Heritage Months (5.8): See https://cdn.agtly.io/emsb/emsb-website/common/annual-calendars/multicultural_datebook.pdf

Petition for Crossing Guards (5.9): Petition will be distributed for support

Sub-Committees (8.4 & 8.5): Many sub-committees presented, keep an eye out for email from Brigida to sign up!

EPCA: A wealth of resources, sign up for newsletter and share within school; join mailing list @ <https://epcaquebec.org>

Meeting

- Next PC meeting is December 4th at JFK library
- Meeting scheduled for April 2, 2026, changed to April 9th.

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT These notes were taken by an individual committee member and might reflect their perspective. They may contain inherent bias and should not be considered a comprehensive or impartial representation of the committee's meeting.

5.9 - CDA (P. Camirand)

- Basketball Activities (Point of Information)
 - Possible exhibition game with neighboring school – Jules Vernes - TBD.
 - Possibility of a Saturday game – before Christmas – TBD.

Unanimous vote to prolong meeting 15 minutes

- Basketball Jamboree Play Day (select gr. 4-5-6) **Jan. 23 (LBP)**
- Loyola Basketball Tournament (select gr. 4-5-6) **Feb. 13**
- Other non-sport related activities will also be tabled in near future (Yoga, chess, PELO and coding – graduation activity to come (Dec.8th)).
 - Possibility of a big chess tournament in Spring 2026.

6 **Varia**

7 **Question Period**

8 **Adjournment**

Moved: Antonio – second Clementina. All moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM.

- Next meeting: Tuesday, January 20th, 2026

Principal

Secretary

GB Chair