



# JAMES LYNG

## HIGH SCHOOL

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### Governing Board Meeting Notes

Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Location: Virtual

#### **1. Welcome**

##### **1.1. Land Acknowledgment**

A land acknowledgment was read by Lise Kuhn.

##### **1.2. Welcome Message**

Jennifer Rutt welcome the participants.

##### **1.3. Attendance**

Alexander Kulczyk, Lise Kuhn, Jennifer Rutt, Erika Marsan, Jean-Philippe St-Louis, Darlene O'Connor, Matthew Maxham, Farah Mulki, Julien Feldman, Ethan Kam-Tong, Mubeenah Mughal

##### **Regrets:**

John Davlin, Jonathan Sbroolini, Samantha Forget

##### **1.4. Public Question Period**

No public questions were asked.

##### **1.5. Additions to the Agenda**

No additions were made to the agenda.

##### **1.6. Approval of the Agenda**

Approved by Matthew Maxham, seconded by Jean-Philippe St-Louis.

#### **2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

##### **2.1. Approval of April 16th Meeting Minutes**

Approved by Erika Marsan, seconded by Matthew Maxham.



Commission scolaire English-Montréal  
English Montreal School Board

### **3. New Business**

#### **3.1. Building Renovations**

Renovations on the 3rd floor will begin at 3:10 p.m. and are expected to be completed by the end of August 2025.

#### **3.2. Code of Conduct Changes for 2025-2026**

Changes were made to the Code of Conduct regarding cellphone usage within school premises.

Approved by Matthew Maxham, seconded by Erika Marsan.

#### **3.3. School Calendar 2025-2026**

Mr. Kulczyk presented the school calendar for 2025-2026.

Approved by Erika Marsan, seconded by Matthew Maxham.

#### **3.4. Consultation: Resolution**

Alexander Kulczyk presented a resolution to the Governing Board members. It was passed by the EMSB Council of Commissioners on April 25, 2025. The resolution proposes adding a Grade 9 level (Secondary III) to Options High School, Outreach High School, and Perspectives II High School, extending their programs to include Secondary III for the 2025-2026 school year.

Matthew Maxham expressed concerns about the gymnasium being overused with the current student population. Farah Mulki expressed concerns about losing the small community aspect of James Lyng High School. Alexander Kulczyk will return with an estimate of the number of students. If necessary, a letter will be drafted to the Council of Commissioners to express concerns about the proposed changes.

### **4. Reports**

#### **4.1. Student's Report – by Ethan Kam-Tong**

- A leadership camp was organized by staff in May 2025. The trip lasted three days and two nights at a camp. Students from Secondary I to V participated along with other EMSB students. The camp boosted confidence, helped

students meet new people, develop social skills, and feel welcomed. It was well-organized and encouraged problem-solving and mutual support. It is recommended to repeat this activity in future years.

- The first school talent show was held, and parents were invited.
- Regarding the cellphone ban, some students were interviewed by CTV News. Although they did not participate in the student protest, their opinions were featured on the May 8, 6 PM news broadcast.
- During the Halo Race, students had a great time. James Lyng placed 10th. The gym teacher expressed pride in the students who participated.
- Elementary school visits: Students from two elementary schools visited James Lyng. Ethan participated in welcoming these students.

#### **4.2. Teacher's Report – by Matthew Maxham**

- Teachers are concerned that Mr. Jason's position as a student supervisor will be cut. The EMSB has abolished all such positions. Mr. Jason supervises students, supports them emotionally, assists with logistics, and has strong ties with Youth Protection services and crisis management. He also organizes the breakfast club and helps de-escalate situations.
- Mubeenah Mughal will prepare a letter expressing the Governing Board's dissatisfaction with the decision to abolish this position for the next school year.

#### **4.3. Support Staff Report by Darlene O'Connor**

- Students are stressed due to upcoming exams. Staff are busy preparing and supporting them.

#### **4.4. Principal's Report – by Lise Kuhn**

- On April 29, students participated in the "Rendez-vous sur la démocratie" event at the Centre de Montréal. They attended workshops on democracy and debated motions affecting their lives. Students submitted motions on bullying, violence, and equal representation on the Governing Board.

- Students from Westmount Park and St-Gabriel elementary schools were welcomed. Aim High students for next year met with the Aim High team.
- The EMSB held a long-service reception for 25 years of service. Darlene O'Connor and Jackie Gomes were recognized.

#### **4.5. Parent's Committee Report – by Jennifer Rutt**

- A letter regarding Bill 94 was received from the Parent Committee. The letter addressed the cellphone ban and expressed support for FACE School.
- A presentation was given about the role of the Advisory Parent Committee Association (APCA).

#### **4.6. Commissioner's Report by Julien Feldman**

- The EMSB is contesting budget cuts imposed by the government. A law was passed to abolish school boards, but the Quebec Court of Appeal denied the government's request, affirming the EMSB's right to exist.
- Bill 40 abolished school boards in the French sector, placing over 60 school service centers under government control. The EMSB retained some autonomy and flexibility.
- A new code of ethics now includes all stakeholders, including volunteers. The Governing Board is encouraged to review and provide feedback on this document.
- New laws from the CAQ government, including Bill 94 and Bill 84, aim to reinforce secularism in schools. These laws propose banning religious symbols for all school personnel, not just teachers.
- The Governing Board emphasized the importance of preserving Mr. Jason's position due to its impact on students.

#### **4.7. PPO Report**

No report submitted.

#### **5. Varia**

No additional items discussed.

**6. Public Question Period #2**

No public questions were asked.

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4th, 2025 at 4:45 PM.

**8. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned by Matthew Maxham and seconded by Farah Mulki.