



LEONARDO DA VINCI ACADEMY

Governing Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Members in attendance (alphabetical)

Kurt Blagden, Joseph Carlucci, Rosemarie Carlomusto, Antonella D'Angelo, Anna-Maria De Gaetano, Sabrina Gavita, Maria Loria, Fatima Marandola, Francesca Muro, Renata Nespeca, Anna-Maria Parente, Karen Polletta, Nadia Sammarco, Francesca Santone, Stellana Romeo, Tina Spiridigliozzi

Absent: Sabrina Recine Di Nezza, Vanessa Giancioppi, Johanne Lancellotta, Pietro Mercuri

1. Welcome and opening remarks

Stellana Romeo welcomed the members and started the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

2. Additions to the agenda

No additions to the agenda.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda by Maria Loria, seconded by Rosemarie Carlomusto. All in favour.

Motion approved.

4. Approval of the minutes of the November 18, 2025, meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of January 14, 2025, meeting with corrections by Fatima Marandola, seconded by Francesco Muro. All in favour.

Motion approved.

5. Business Issues

a. Budget Presentation

Mrs. Sammarco presented the budget document and provided clarifications on several items to ensure members clearly understood the information being reviewed. She highlighted key components of the document, explained how the proposed priorities align with the school's needs, and offered examples to illustrate how certain allocations support programs, resources, and student services.

Resolution read by Stellana Romeo, motion to approve the 2025-26 budget by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Kurt Blagden. All in favour.

Resolution approved.



LEONARDO DA VINCI ACADEMY

Governing Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026

b. Budget Building Process

Mrs. Sammarco explained that this is an annual EMSB procedure. She reviewed the wish list of proposed budget priorities, along with the guiding principles, criteria, and related orientations.

Motion to approve the budget building priorities by Sabrina Gavita, seconded by Fatima Marandola. All in favour.

Motion approved

c. Approval of Staples School Tools for the 2026-27 school year

Mrs. Sammarco explained that the Staples School Tools Program is intended to make back-to-school preparation as simple and efficient as possible for parents by providing school supply kits. She noted that this initiative has been offered to families for several years and has consistently proven to be convenient and well received for those who have chosen to use it.

Motion to approve Staples School Tools for the 2026-27 by Fatima Marandola, seconded by Francesca Santone. All in favour.

Motion approved.

d. Our School Survey Results

Mrs. Sammarco explained that the anonymous survey completed by all students in grades 4 through 6, provides a snapshot of students' perceptions of their experience at LDVA. She reviewed several key results with the members, highlighting statistics related to students' sense of positive friendships, levels of anxiety, sense of purpose, goal orientation, learning time, incidents of online bullying, and their overall sense of belonging and safety at school.

e. Registration 2026-27 update

Mrs. Sammarco shared that although most registrations have been completed, the process will remain ongoing until September 30, 2026. Current projections estimate a student population of 454, representing a slight decrease compared to the same time last year of 468. She noted that she is not concerned about the drop, explaining that it may not necessarily impact on the total number of homeroom classes. Mrs. Sammarco added that she is currently finalizing the enrollment and staffing report for the EMSB and awaiting to see if her proposed plan will be approved.



LEONARDO DA VINCI ACADEMY

Governing Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026

6. Reports

a. Principal's Report

- Parents have already begun requesting specific teachers for next year; however, staffing assignments are not yet finalized and remain tentative until the start of the school year. As a result, such requests cannot be accommodated.
- An email was sent regarding Friday's Cozy Sweater Day. As we are an Eco School and this is one of our initiatives to save energy, it will be combined with a *Cabane à sucre*—themed event where students will receive sucre à la crème cones and maple syrup lollipops while enjoying some traditional Quebec Folklore music outside. A big thanks to Home and School for sponsoring the maple treats!
- Preparations for the 2026 Neuro Gala are well underway. The community has been extremely supportive, generously donating numerous raffle prizes. Dr. Petrecca, a leading neurosurgeon from the Neuro, will be in attendance, which is a great honour.
- The recent visit by the Neuro Committee to the Neuro was exceptional. LDVA received a very warm welcome, and it was both inspiring and humbling to witness the outstanding work being carried out there.
- The annual Storytelling Festival is currently underway, and LDVA representatives will compete alongside students from other East End schools at Gerald McShane School in April.
- The school will be closed tomorrow due to weather conditions.

b. Vice Principal's Report

- Mr. Joseph thanked Mrs. Anna-Maria Parente for stepping in and supporting the school during his paternity leave.
- The Grade 6 trip to Quebec City was a great success. Both students and staff enjoyed the experience, and the weather cooperated perfectly throughout the visit.

c. Commissioner's Report

No Report



LEONARDO DA VINCI ACADEMY

Governing Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026

d. Teacher's Report

- Mrs. Karen Polletta reported that the Pre-K and Kindergarten students will be participating in a Beach Day on March 24.
- Mme Rosemarie Carlomusto thanked the Home and School Association for the delicious treats provided during Staff Appreciation Week.

e. Regional Delegate Report

- Kurt Blagden reported that letters were sent to the EMSB requesting clarification regarding equipment inspections. The EMSB confirmed that each school undergoes inspections on a yearly basis and that the current policy will remain in place.
- A request was made to the Council of Commissioners concerning a recent change to the procedure for public questions. The new measure requires individuals wishing to ask questions to be present in person, rather than submitting them by email.
- A letter was also sent to the EMSB requesting clarification regarding the recent budget cuts to the Parent Committee (PC) budgets. Many members expressed concern, noting that they feel the decision reflects the EMSB's level of support for parent participation.

f. Daycare Report

- Francesca Muro expressed her appreciation to the Home and School Association for the thoughtful treats and gestures provided during Staff Appreciation Week.
- Students and staff are working diligently to prepare for the Neuro event in order to create a magical experience for all attendees. To support the event, more than 200 staff members, students, and alumni have volunteered their time. As a result, a request has been made to close the daycare exceptionally at 4:30 p.m. on that day to allow staff to participate in the preparations and event.

Motion to approve closing the daycare at 4:30pm on April 17, 2026, by Anna-Maria Parente, seconded by Francesca Santone. All in favour.

Motion approved.

- Ped Day Activities for Approval:
 - April 24: Ceramic Café
Cost: \$34.00
 - May 15: Kermesse Sports and Games
Cost: \$48



LEONARDO DA VINCI ACADEMY

Governing Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026

- June 5, 2026: Beach Party
Cost: \$27

Motion to approve the above-mentioned daycare ped day activities by Maria Loria, seconded by Antonella D'Angelo. All in favour.

Motion approved.

g. Home and School Report

- Home and School received excellent feedback regarding the Staff Appreciation initiatives.
- Graduation committees have been established and are actively working to create memorable experiences for the graduating students.
- Preparations for the Cabane à sucre event on Friday, March 13 are currently underway.
- A fundraiser in collaboration with Mon Bonbon, a cotton candy company, will take place starting March 17.
- Planning for Fun Day is well underway.

7. Question Period

No questions.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm by Fatima Marandola, seconded by Antonella D'Angelo. All in favour.

Motion approved.