



École secondaire LESTER B. PEARSON High School
11575 rue P.M. Favier, Montréal (Québec) H1G 6E5
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Governing Board Minutes – October 21, 2024
6:45 p.m. (Virtual)

Administration: Joseph Vitantonio, Assunta Caruso, Grace Fanelli, Patrizia Tummillo

Parents: Sandra Greco (Chairperson), Daniela Marino, Jocelyne Cacciatore (secretary), Jack Algieri, Annelisa Rende, Sabrina Ficca, Dario Falso, Francesca Pitruzzello

Parent Alternates: Isabel Deganutto

Teachers: Paul Karpontinis, Gabriel Latino, Catherine Clarabut, Antoinette Licursi, Sara Di Maulo, Sabrina Pisaturo

Non-Teaching Staff: Casey Gagné, Charles Préfontaine

Students: Luca Di Fiore, Brianna Morello

Guests: Giuseppe Ortona, Susan Perera

ABSENT: Angela Antonacci

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

- Mr. Vitantonio welcomes everyone at the start of the meeting at 6:45 pm.
- Mr. Vitantonio announces that Patricia Loscrudato has resigned as parent alternate for personal reasons.
- Mr. Vitantonio states that parent alternate, Francesca Pitruzzello, is replacing parent member, Angela Antonacci for tonight's meeting.
- Luca Di Fiore reads the Land Acknowledgment.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- **Motion** was moved to adopt the agenda by Francesca Pitruzzello, seconded by Annelisa Renda Vote: All in favor.

3. Adoption of the minutes from the September 30, 2024, Governing Board meeting

- **Motion** was moved to adopt the minutes by Mr. Gagné, seconded by Jack Algieri Vote: All in favor.

4. New Business:

4.1 Terry Fox Plan presented by Mr. Vitantonio on behalf of the Committee: See Annex A for full plan

- i) A Colour run will be granted to the students from the grade that raises the most money throughout the various fundraising activities this school year.
- ii) Activities to raise money for Terry Fox foundation throughout the year: Pledge form, t-shirt sales, 2 dress down days, a few bake sales, bagel sale, used book sale.

Motion to adopt the fundraising plan for the year was moved by Mr. Gagné, seconded by Ms. Licursi: All in favor.

5. Reports

5.1 Principal

1. **School Trip Proposals (Approval Required):**

- a. The NYC Trip:
 - i. April 14- April 17, 2025.
 - ii. Hotel accommodations in New Jersey to minimize costs.
 - iii. 1 bus planned. If we have too many students for 1 bus, we will opt for the lottery system for their spots, as we've done in the past. (2 busses will not be considered unless we have enough students for 2 full busses from the start-will depend on availability of bus and drivers)
 - iv. Sites included: Major NYC sites, Central Park, Rockefeller Center, 9/11 Memorial, and a Broadway play. Looking at taking the students to Coney Island for the last day. Details to be ironed out with the tour operator.
 - v. We have gone to tender, and I will be able to get back with more details with pricing by email before the next meeting.
 - vi. Motion to approve the trip with the price to come. Another e-vote to accept the price will be requested.

Motion: Ms. Pitruzzello motioned to vote on the NYC trip price by email, seconded by Ms. Licursi: All in favor.

- b. Mr. Karpontinis mentioned that in the past, an administrator has been traditionally approved to be on the trip as an additional supervisor for emergency situations. Every year we need to come back to GB for this as this additional supervisor was covered by the parents from fund 3.

Motion: Mr. Gagné motioned to assign an additional supervisor for each out-of-town trips planned for students this year, seconded by Francesca Pitruzzello: All in favor.

- c. **Update on Japan 2026-** to date not enough students on the trip yet to confirm it's a go. We will extend the invitation to some neighboring EMSB schools if they would

like to join to save the trip and get a viable group. A decision will need to be made by the end of the month on what we will do with respect to the trip.

2. Carnival Day (Approval Item):

- a. I haven't presented the details to Staff Council yet, but we will do the consultation by email this week. I'm presenting the tentative details of the day to facilitate the e-vote later- these will be finalized this week so I will send the chair the confirmed info for e-vote.
- b. Our winter carnival day is tentatively scheduled to take place February 6, 2025.
- c. The activities we are exploring at including are tubing at St, Jean de Matha, Skiing & Snowboarding at Mont-Blanc (only hill that offers classes), and Boulzeve Activity Centre.
- d. The cost to students will be \$20 to participate.
- e. A minimum of 450 participants will be required in order for the day to go ahead as planned.
- f. Our deadline to finalize our number of participants is early December, so we need to get the information out early November.
- g. I will get back to you for approval through an e-vote once the details have been finalized.

3. Budgets (Information Item):

- a. We have received our budgets as mentioned at our last meeting.
- b. This budget being presented is a general overview of what has been allocated to our school.
- c. We will have a more detailed look and motion to approve later with respect to the plans on how to spend the budgets.

4. Tutorials (Information Item):

- a. We currently have tutors in FSL, Math, Science, and History.
- b. History and Science tutors in one day a week, Math in 5 days, and FSL 2-3 days a week.
- c. Teachers recommending students who they feel need the boost to pass the course.
- d. Drop-in tutorials at lunch and after school.

5. Secondary 5 Save the Dates (Information item):

- a. Graduation Photos- looking at February 2025 (dates to be finalized)
- b. Graduation Ceremony- June 23, 2025.
- c. Prom June 26, 2025.

6. SPVM Presentations (Information item):

- a. Our community officer, Officer Jean-Michel Fournier will be speaking to the secondary 1 students Friday to introduce himself, and speak on various topics regarding proper citizenship, the question of consent, and legalities being texting/sexting.
- b. He will be back to speak to the seniors after spring break about safety for prom night and end-of-year legal consequences for illegal acts committed in school.

7. Geordie Productions (Information item):

- a. November 6 and 14 ,2024.
- b. Play presentation for the secondary 5 students called 'The Wolves'.
- c. Students being bussed to the Segal Theatre for the play and will be back for lunch.
- d. Costs being absorbed by the school.

8. Camp Lift Presentation and Involvement in School (Information item):

- a. Camp Lift, a non-profit organization working with all high school in the EMSB will be presenting to our classes over the next couple of months.
- b. The presentations include the following: Vaping for sec. 1, cyberviolence for sec. 2, Cannabis for sec. 3, and Parties and Substance abuse for sec. 4 & 5.
- c. We also have the youth workers from Camp Lift assigned to our school twice a week. The workers are available to meet students, and act as mentors to the students who require help with addiction.

9. Anxiety Workshops (Information item):

- a. Ms. Johnson will be visiting the secondary 1 classes to do a presentation on managing stress and anxiety.
- b. The presentation will cover topics such as what is the difference between stress and anxiety, the cycle of avoidance, and strategies to manage anxiety in a helpful way.

10. CEGEP Open Houses (Information item):

- a. Mr. Plescia visited the secondary 5 classes to share the CEGEP open house information with the students.
- b. He will be going again for the application season after the holidays.

11. Update on Open House: (Information item):

- a. Very successful event.
- b. We had over 400 families visit.
- c. We are currently at 190 registrations for secondary 1 next year.
- d. We had 130 even before open house, meaning the grade 5 students were sold after last year's event.
- e. Placement exams took place on Saturday-over 100 students wrote.
- f. We spent the \$6000 contribution from GB for printing, small gifts, and other items required for the evening. Thanks once again.

12. Upcoming Reports to approve:

- a. Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan- December.
- b. Educational project/Annual Report – January/February

5.2 Commissioner

- Nothing to report. She did reply to the meeting invitation.

5.3 Chairperson

Nothing to report.

5.4 Regional Delegate

- Nothing to report

5.5 Treasurer

- Nothing to report

5.6 Student Council

1. Breakfast club

- Council's breakfast club is open every day before class selling nutritious breakfasts to students, as well as other goods. We were recipients of a bursary from breakfast clubs Canada and president's choice children's charity.

2. Coop

- Coop is selling items to students at lunch. Our schedule has now changed to 4 days a week. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Students can buy school supplies, apparel and snacks.
- The Student Council Co-op is also responsible for the games in the plaza area which have been truly popular so far. Our co-op raised about \$1000 this month so far.

3. ECA Fair:

- Student council members organized an ECA fair at lunch on September 30 to promote the clubs our school has to offer, as well as to encourage students to participate in these extracurricular activities. It was a big success with all clubs taking new members.
- The clubs presented are the following;
 - Terry Fox
 - Floor Hockey
 - Thrift Club
 - Gender Sexuality Alliance
 - Terry Fox Committee
 - Guitar Club
 - RSEQ / GMAA Sports
 - o Swim Team
 - o Soccer Indoor and Outdoor
 - o Track and Field Indoor and Outdoor
 - o Volleyball teams
 - SPVM Running Club

Scrabble Club
Young Writers Club
Psychology Club
Art Club
International Trip
NYC
Music Appreciation Club
Battle of Books
Book Club
Diamond Dots
Allongee Movie Club
Random Acts of Kindness

4. Open house:

- We held our Open House on October 10th, with many families attending and Student Council members gave over 20 tours of around 15 people each. Student Council members were also on hand to help set up and help clean up the event. We also gave out around 500 pancakes throughout the night (which is about double what we serve on our pop-up pancake Wednesdays!

5. October Food Drive:

- We will be collecting food and non-perishable items all through October and donate it all at the end of the month

6. We Scare Hunger Walk:

- We had our We scare hunger walk on October 2nd and are presently collecting non-perishable donations until November 1st

7. Haunted house:

- Council begun working on Haunted House and is making steady progress as we approach October 31st

8. Costume Contest:

- In honor of Halloween, Student Council will be having a costume contest on the 31st. All students will be invited to participate at lunch.

9. Door Decorating Contest:

- Student Council will be judging doors that homeroom classes have decorated and the class that wins will receive a prize

10. Fright Fest:

- On October 12, Student Council organized a Sec 5 only activity to Laronde for Fright Fest which 75 students attended, this was our second (first was the senior sunset) secondary 5 only event in celebration of the class of 2025, we have 2-3 more planned, so far they have been very well received.

11. Sports:

- Sport teams have been making good progress in their respective leagues, such as the volleyball teams Soccer and our track teams have been practicing regularly.
- Other ECAs like spinning, crafts, kickboxing, music starting strong.

12. Placement Exams:

- A dozen Student Council members also assisted with placement exams October 19, acting as school ambassadors to the grade 6s.

13. Birthday Celebrations:

- Council had our first official birthday celebration to celebrate council members born from July to October.

14. CPR Training:

- Student Council is currently looking for a date for our CPR training, targeting January 6 as our usual instructor is not available in November as we planned for in our year of action.

15. Chocolate Boxes:

- Student Council has been selling chocolate boxes to raise money for our social justice project and, once we raise the funds, students will choose 1 local and 1 global charity to support.

16. Grad Hoodie Sales:

- We recently completed the tendering process and now, Student Council is beginning the sale of Sec 5 grad hoodies tomorrow for all graduating students interested. We were able to decrease the price of the triple-combo by 7.50\$

5.7 Sports Études (Casey Gagné)

Leila Stewart, sec 5 students, won gold in the 1m and 3m springboard events at the Canadian Diving Trials in Gatineau. This finish qualified her for the Junior World Championships where she will be representing Canada in Rio in November.

6. Varia

- Remembrance Day events:** Jack Algieri inquired about the school's Remembrance Day events. It is the school's spiritual life animator who is responsible for planning these events. In the past there have been displays in the plaza all week and a moment of silence at 11am on November 11th. Mr. Vitantonio has not spoken to the spiritual life animator yet; he will be meeting with him this week to discuss this.

Student council co-presidents, Brianna Morello and Luca Di Fiore, will be doing a short presentation before the moment of silence. Student council also prepares Remembrance Day displays in the Plaza. Poppies will also be sold at school during the first 2 weeks of November.

7. Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be an online meeting and will take place on Monday, November 18 at 6:45 p.m.
- Daniela Marino will be the secretary for the November meeting.

8. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Mr. Gagné and seconded by Daniela Marino.
Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 P.M.



Principal



Chairperson

ANNEX A

TERRY FOX FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES 2024– 2025 LESTER B. PEARSON HIGH SCHOOL

Below is a list and a brief description of the Terry Fox Fundraising activities the committee members planned for the 2024 – 2025 school year. The dates which have been provided are tentative.

Main Event: This year's main event will be a Color Run. The event is scheduled for the month of April (date to be determined) and will take place during the fourth period. The Color Run will be rewarded to the grade level that raises the most money for the campaign. Money will be raised by students participating in various activities such as the Change Challenge, Dance-a-Thon, and Footsie Challenge which will take place during lunch periods. We expect these activities to begin in the month of February and end in April. The progress made by each level will be visually displayed in the plaza. Students who participated in the event will be treated to snacks and refreshments.

Pledge Sheets: The April newsletter will inform parents and students about the online pledge form which can be found on the Terry Fox Foundation website.

Sale of Terry Fox T-shirts: Students may purchase a Terry Fox T-shirt (5.00\$ each) from the Council Co-op throughout the year.

Non-Uniform Days: On January 17th and March 28th (tentative upon approval), students will be encouraged to donate 2.00\$ which will exempt them from wearing their school uniform.

Bake Sales: There will be approximately five bake sales throughout the school. Students and staff members can purchase baked goods.

Selling of Bagels: We will be collaborating with the local business Bagel Royale. Parents will have the opportunity to place an order for freshly baked bagels during the Parent-Teacher Conference evening taking place in November. Order forms will also be sent home.

Used Book Sales: The book sales will be organized by members of the Student Council and Terry Fox Committee. There will be approximately three used book sales (dates and times to be determined).

Monthly Raffles: Once a month (dates to be determined), during lunchtime, students will have an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets. Three draws will be made at the end of those days. Students with the winning tickets will receive a prize (gift cards, movie tickets, etc....)

Presentation: Mr. Monachino will be giving a presentation about Terry Fox and his journey to the Secondary 1 students. (Date to be determined)

Thank you,
Terry Fox Committee