



*École secondaire LESTER B. PEARSON High School*  
*11575 rue P.M. Favier, Montréal (Québec) H1G 6E5*  
*TEL: (514) 328-4442 FAX: (514) 328-4443*

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**Governing Board Minutes – November 17, 2025**  
**6:45 p.m. (Virtual)**

**PRESENT:**

**Administration:** Joseph Vitantonio, Maria Pizzichemi, Patrizia Tummillio, Grace Fanelli

**Parents:** Sandra Greco (Chairperson), Sabrina Ficca (Vice-Chairperson), Jack Algieri (PC Delegate), Angela Antonacci, Annelisa Rende, Maria Pensato (Secretary), Daniela Marino (Treasurer), Jocelyne Cacciatore

**Parent Alternates:** Cynthia Masi, Natalie Carrier, Francesca Petruzzello

**Teachers:** Catherine Clarabut, Paul Karpontinis, Nicholas Adornato, Antoinette Licursi, Gennifer Girardello, Sabrina Pisaturo

**Non-Teaching Staff:** Charles Préfontaine, Casey Gagné

**Students:** Alessio-David Martineau

**Commissioner:** Susan Perera

**Absent:** Ludovic Barker

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**1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment**

Sandra Greco welcomed everyone at the start of the meeting at 6:45 pm.  
Alessio-David Martineau read the Land Acknowledgement.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Motion** to adopt the agenda with the correction to the date was moved by Sabrina Pisaturo and seconded by Antoinette Licursi. All in favour.

**3. Adoption of the Minutes of October 20, 2025**

**Motion** to approve the minutes with the change to the absences was moved by Paul Karpontinis and seconded by Daniela Marino. All in favour.

### **E-Vote**

An email vote was requested on October 25, 2025, to request a Holiday Pop-Up market to be held during the Parent-Teacher interviews.

Following the success of last year's event, the School Wide Committee is proposing to host another Holiday Market Pop-Up Shop during Parent-Teacher Interviews on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at Lester B. Pearson.

#### Event Details:

- Table Rental Fee: \$35.00 each
- Proceeds: All funds will support our annual Christmas baskets.
- Marketing: We will advertise through school parent emails, school social media, and extend invitations to our neighbourhood community.

**Motion** to approve the Holiday Popup market was moved by Annelisa Rende and seconded by Nicholas Adornato. All in favor.

## **4. New Business**

### **4.1 AEVS**

- Prior to the meeting, the two documents from the EMSB Director General in regard to the AEVS request for extra space at LBPHS was sent out to the Governing Board members to review.
- During the meeting, the plans for the renovations was presented.
- There will be no effect how the school currently functions. This will allow to us save our building and school.
- A response letter to be sent from the governing board to AEVS request for consultation.

**Motion** to approve the AEVS request for consultation for extra space at LBPHS was moved by Casey Gagné and seconded by Jocelyne Cacciatore.

## **5. Reports:**

### **i. Principal**

1. 1 Toronto Niagara Falls Trip :
  - a. Mr. Adornato and Mr. Greco are planning the trip for secondary 3 & 4 students.

- b. The dates of the trip are May 14-17, 2026.
- c. Cost of the trip based on 32 participants is 1,139.00
- d. This includes the mandatory insurance required by the EMSB for all school trips.
- e. The price will be adjusted for registrations above the 32 participants- Max 48 participants. If more students register, we will hold a lottery for the selection of the students. 1 bus only.
- f. The sites being visited include CN Tower, Ripley's Aquarium, Casa Loma Castle, the Niagara Falls, Clifton Hill, and a day at Canada's Wonderland.
- g. Breakfasts at the hotel are included, as well as a lunch at the Rainforest Café and a Medieval Dinner experience.

**Motion** to approve the Toronto trip was moved by Casey Gagné and seconded by Jack Algieri. All in Favor.

## 2. Update on the Senior Trip:

- a. The feedback from the students is that Vancouver was not a desired destination. The two-level reps came to meet with me to ask that we reconsider with supporting reasons.
- b. With that being said, I met with the teachers organizing the trip, and spoke to colleagues, and after extensive conversations, we've decided to proceed with our traditional NYC trip for the seniors.
- c. The tender process is underway, so we will be able to share the details of the pricing with GB and then the students in the coming weeks. If GB approves, I will send the pricing information to you by email, so we can proceed to get the trip going more quickly.
- d. The sites being requested to include: Broadway Show (suitable for a teenage audience), Summit at One Vanderbilt, Times Square, Central Park, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Ground Zero Memorial/Financial District Tour, Statue of Liberty (by way of the Staten Island Ferry/no tour necessary), Walking tour of DUMBO/Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn Nets vs. Atlanta Hawks (or another sporting event in NYC or New Jersey), Walking Tour of NYC neighborhoods (Highline, Chelsea Market, Greenwich, SoHo), Banksy Museum New York, A half-day at American Dream Mall before leaving for Montreal
- e. We will be planning the trip for 1 bus, which means 48 students. If we have interest from more than 48 students, we will hold a lottery for the selection of the students.
- f. Tentative dates are April 1-4, 2026.

**Motion** to approve the NYC trip was moved by Annelisa Rende and seconded by Angela Antonacci. All in Favor.

## 3. Top Marks Uniform Updates:

- a. Met with Top Marks for our annual review.
- b. Sales were slightly lower this year than last year. Nothing alarming.
- c. All orders were fulfilled in full and in part before the first day of school, if ordered by June.
- d. Two school fitting dates planned for early May like last year. The dates reserved are May 5 & 6 2026. We had about 100 families came to the fittings at the school.

4. Educational Project:

- a. The school is currently working on the analysis of educational project through the annual report.
- b. As soon as this analysis is done, I will share the Annual Report with Staff Council and GB.

5. Lock Down Drill:

- a. We will be practicing our lock down protocol the week of November 24, 2025.
- b. A letter will be sent to families before the drill.
- c. It will be an in-house drill, as the SPVM no longer assists with the drills to minimize the level of stress for students and staff during the drill.
- d. The drill shouldn't last longer than 20 minutes.

6. Breakfast of Excellence:

- a. Second to third week of December to honor the students who made the Honor Roll, and students who were nominated for Diligence. Sec. 1-5 on the 5 days.
- b. Breakfast will be a boxed breakfast, and students will be invited by level on each day for a quicker service and easier group management in the shared cafeteria space.
- c. We are currently working out the details that will be presented to Staff Council for their approval.
- d. I will come back to you with the details once all is approved.

7. January Midyear Exams:

- a. No scheduled mid-year exams this year.
- b. No midyear exams being prepared by the Educational Services department.
- c. Teachers will evaluate in class and hold in-class exams as needed.

8. January Supplementals:

- a. We have exams taking place January 19 & 20, 2025 for our students. History is taking place on January 19<sup>th</sup> and January 20 for the Science Exam.

- b. We have about 5 students writing the science, and 19 student writing History.
- c. Mr. Greco and Ms. Cristiano have been preparing the students after school for the exams.
- d. Letters will be sent home advising the families of these students.
- e. They need these credits for graduation.
- f. We also have about 7 students doing a special Art project for their missing Art credit for graduation. Special thank you to Ms. Koranteng for coordinating the project with them.
- g. Students will be coming in for exams only on those days of supplementals.

**Motion** to approve to dismiss the students early for exams moved by Annelisa Rende and seconded by Casey Gagné. All in favor.

9. Holiday Social:

- a. I contacted a caterer- prices range between 25-30\$ a person
- b. Suggest we start at 6:30 p.m. We can meet and then eat following the meeting, which should be brief.

**Motion** to approve to pay for the holiday social mean for the governing board members from fund 3 was moved by Annelisa Rende and seconded by Jocelyne Cacciatore. All in favor.

ii. **Commissioner**

- Last meeting mentioned that CAQ government's budget cuts and restrictive measures for the surplus budget, received questions regarding the court challenges.
  - In response to this question, the QESB took on the legal challenge representing all 9 English Boards and filed a lawsuit against the government. Requested an injunction to prevent the government from implementing the budget cuts until the legal proceeds are done. The case was heard while waiting the court's decision. Concessions were made to allow the school boards to have a functioning budget. The QESB sent out a press release regarding this matter.
- EMSB still works on a deficit budget
- Council was convened on October 29, 2025 to pass the budget for the EMSB.
- November 11 council meeting was cancelled due to power outage and was then held on November 14, 2025.

iii. **Chairperson**

Would like to formally acknowledge the passing of a former Governing Board parent who sadly passed away, Isabel Deganutto. We thank and appreciate all the time she dedicated to our school.

#### **iv. Regional Delegate**

The first meeting took place on October 30, 2025, at the school board to hold the elections of the committee members.

Here are the notes from the November 6, 2025 (Virtual) 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/travauxparlementaires/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.aglty.io/emsb/emsb-website/common/annualcalendars/multicultural\\_datebook.pdf](https://cdn.aglty.io/emsb/emsb-website/common/annualcalendars/multicultural_datebook.pdf)

**Petion for Crossing Guards (5.9):** Petion 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>

## **Meetings**

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

## **v. Treasurer**

Nothing to report

## **vi. Secretary**

Nothing to report

## **vii. Student Council**

### **Breakfast club:**

- Council's breakfast club is open everyday before class selling nutritious breakfasts to students. We offer grilled cheeses, we're trying Tuesday hashbrowns, hot chocolate, fresh fruit, frozen waffles, juices as well as other goods.

### **Coop:**

- Coop is selling items to students at lunch. 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 \$1700 this month so far. We're preparing for next Monday.

### **Non-Uniform Day:**

- We had a non-uniform day on November 6th. \$1500 was made and split between the Christmas charities and the Student Council funds.

### **Spirit of giving Food Drive:**

- We will be collecting food and hygiene items all through November and December and donate it all at the end of the month to local food banks.

### **Haunted house:**

- The Student Council had hosted the haunted house in the coffee house room, it went amazingly well. The students who went in had a great time. We were able to welcome approximately 400 students and staff.

### **Costume Contest:**

- In honor of Halloween, the Student Council had a costume contest on the 31st. The top three students got some candy and gift cards to spend in the Student Council Co-op.

### **Door Decorating Contest:**

- The Student Council judged doors of homeroom classes that have been decorated and the class that wins will be receiving their prize. We will be starting the Christmas door decoration contest soon.

### **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.

**Grad Hoodie Sales:**

- The Grad Hoodies will be coming in about two weeks.

**Parents Night:**

- Student council will be helping out with the Parents Night this Thursday, November 20, selling merch, used books and providing refreshments to staff.

**Coffee house:**

- Due to the lack of participants Student Council could not host a Coffee House the 6th of November, we're hoping to organize a karaoke night in the new year instead.

**Ensemble:**

- The Ensemble organization is planning on organizing a social justice event in the future with members of the student council, we have been meeting with them on Wednesdays.

**Remembrance Day:**

- Student Council sold poppies and other goods like pins and stickers for the weeks leading up to Remembrance Day, we do not yet know how much we were able to raise.

**Breakfast with Santa:**

- Student Council will be giving the secondary 5 a breakfast December 7th, we will over a breakfast buffet, Our very own Kris “Adornato” Kringle and door prizes.

**School Spirit Week:**

- Throughout the week of November 10, each grade each had a special day where they had the option to dress out of uniform while following their theme. During lunch Student Council provided the grade free slushes.

**Movember**

- The Student Council will be selling Cotton Candy/ Barbe a papa for 2 days as a way to support Movember.

**i. Teacher’s Report**

- Teachers are getting the report cards ready and are looking forward to meeting parents are the Parent-Teacher meeting on November 20, 2025.

**ii. Sport-études**

- Nothing to report

## 6. **Next Meeting**

Will be an in-person meeting on December 8, 2025 at 6:45 pm.

## 7. **Adjournment**

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was moved by Casey Gagné and seconded by Jocelyne Cacciatore. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

  
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Principal

  
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Chairperson