

**GOVERNING BOARD LINKS HS**  
**MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**  
**TEAMS**

**Present:** Maria Caldarella, Principal; Shannen Ciricillo, GC; Julia G. teacher; Gail Bernstein, teacher; Myriam Farley, Tony C, parent; Teresa, parent; Irmine, parent; Pat P., community rep

1. Welcome – 19h07

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Motion #1 Moved by Gail B. Seconded by Julia G

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Motion #2 Moved Pat P, Seconded by M. Farley

**4. Elections**

4.1

Motion #3 Chair – Julia G. nominated Myriam F – Gail B. seconded All in favour

Motion #4 Treasurer – Myriam F. nominated Julia G. Shannen C. Seconded All in favour

Motion #5 Chairperson – Shannen C. nominated Tony Clarizio, Seconded by Teresa C. All in favour

**5. New Business**

**5.1 Internal Rules and dates**

Motion #6 – Moved by Gail B. Seconded by Julia G All in favour

**5.2 ECAS**

Motion #7 – Moved by Julia G. Seconded by Aiden Stewart All in favour

**5.3 Member Conduct** – information – Ms. Caldarella outlined the member conduct rules

**5.4 Field Trips**

Motion #8 – Approval of field trips throughout the school year. Moved by Teresa C, Seconded by Aiden Stewart All in favour

**5.5 Cell Phones** – Ms. Caldarella explained the new regulations regarding cell phones in school and the reasons behind the new procedures. Shannen C. also spoke about the issues surrounding cell phone use in school. Each class has a hanging pocket product (purchased by LINKS) for cell phones whereby students place their cell phones at the beginning of the day and retrieve them at the end of the day. For senior students who leave the building for lunch, they may bring their phones. Classrooms will be locked when empty for security of phones.

Motion #9 Moved by Gail B. Seconded by Tony C.

**8. Varia**

**8.1 Fundraising** – Teresa C. presented some ideas for fundraising including The Haunted House Event. Promotion of the event will begin next week. Possible field trip to the Haunted House for LINKS students. Teresa also has other ideas. Maria explained that the money raised must go to a specific project or goal that is student-centered. Governing

Board will approve the where the money will go. Any money not used is rolled over and stays at LINKS.

#### **8.2 Assista**

Assista is an organization that trains therapy dogs. Myriam Farley has been certified as an Animal Assisted Wellness Practitioner with a specialty in school settings. LINKS has applied to ASSISTA to receive training for a handler for a dog assigned to LINKS. The handler does not keep or own the dog. The dog belongs to LINKS. The cost for this project is over \$20,000 which will be provided by EMSB. Other schools have therapy dogs and handlers in the EMSB presently. Myriam may bring in another furry friend in the meantime.

**9. Date of next meeting** – October 26, 2023 in person at 16h00

#### **10. Adjournment**

Motion #10 Moved by Tony C. Seconded by Julia G.