École Merton School

5554 Robinson Avenue, Côte-Saint-Luc, QC H4V 2P8

Governing Board Meeting #5 (via Microsoft TEAMS)
Tuesday, March 24, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Present: Gesell Dufeal, Christy Tannous, Marissa Lydynia, Eddie Winkler, Josh Gonshor, Nathalie Guitta, Georgia Gotsis, Angeliki Eftaxias, Romain Goubel, Kimberley Davey, Carol Meindl

Absent: Steven Merling, Paola Samuel, Evi Altman

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

   Meeting began at 7:08 pm

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

   Adopted by Angie

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 17, 2026 MEETING**

   Approved by Angie seconded by Nathalie, unanimously agreed

4. **ELECTION OF A SECRETARY**

   Josh volunteered, no other volunteers

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

   5.1 Budget rollover

   - Mrs.Tannous shared information she found since our last meeting. There is approximately $15,000 of rolled over budget from previous years. We're not exactly sure from when and where it originated. After some discussion about this, we focused on how these funds can be productively used. This will be put on the agenda for a future meeting when the school fees are planned. It was stated that the cost of workbooks has increased, and to consult with teachers to get their input on these decisions.

   5.2 Merton magic Fund balance

   - There is just over $46,000

- Mrs.Tannous explained that the fund collects interest in Fund 4 or should we move it Fund 8. Mrs.Tannous is in contact with the school board.

5.3 ECAs in B.A.S.E

- We discussed another school (Edinburgh?) who has a coordinator and company running their after school programs.
- They often charge more to make a profit.
- We tabled this topic to discuss at the next meeting when are school's needs are further assessed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Budget Building Process 2026-2027

- We discussed the idea of having a Vice Principal, though our registration is not high enough to warrant that allotment
- This will be similar to the number of resource teachers and professionals who are assigned to the school
- Mrs.Tannous has asked for an additional Behavioural Technician as the school has only one to handle crises and could use another for proactive behavioural guidance
- Teachers asked for new desks and chairs
- Angie asked about renovating the junior bathrooms, as well as the idea of adding a pavement walkway to the yard
- The idea of purchasing laptops with carts was brought up
- Mrs.Gotsis mentioned the need for adjustable desks and chairs
- Gisele mentioned the need for junior cubbies to be redesigned for efficiency
- After much productive discussion, we came to consensus prioritizing the following based on budget constraints. The GB teachers will bring these ideas to the staff to come back and possibly swap #2 and #3.
    1) Junior bathroom renovations
    2) Classroom furniture
    3) IT (laptops, carts, chargers)
    4) Cubby renovation / redesign to improve student storage OR lockers
    5) Concrete in the yard
- Approved by Josh, seconded by Georgia, unanimously agreed

6.2 GB Expenditure

- The GB portion of the school budget has traditionally been given back to the graduates as gift cards at the graduation ceremony
- Josh recommended the $ should go to students based on discussion by the principal and grade 6 teachers, decided before graduation
- Approved by Georgia, seconded by Kimberley

6.3 Enrolment update

7. REPORTS

7.1 GB Chair's Report (S. Merling)

Steven was absent.

7.2 Principal's Report (C. Tannous)

- Hope everyone had a restful March break
- First newsletter sent out by Messenger email system. If parents don't receive it, contact the school in case they accidentally unsubscribed from the system.
- Parent-teacher interviews went well. If parents have concerns, contact teachers
- BHM presentation: Simeon Pompey
- Star student assembly (Feb. theme was diligence, March will be empathy)
- Gr.6 grad pics went well
- Gr.4 vaccinations went extremely well
- Gr.2 will be going on a field trip to the Ecomuseum March 31st.

7.3 Home and School Report (Evi)

Evi was absent.

7.4 Teachers' Reports

- M.Romain mentioned the Black History Month presentations.
- M.Boutain presented puppets and how to make puppets.
- February interviews went well.
- Cycle 1 enjoyed their theatre excursion
- Nutrition month went well.
- Halo race is upcoming.
- Georgia mentioned the grade 6 had a french writer

7.5 Community Representative's Report (C. Meindl)

No report from Carol.

7.6 Regional Delegate's Report (Eddie/Marissa)

7.7 School Commissioner's Report (P. Samuel)

Paola was absent.

8. QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were asked.

9. VARIA

No varia.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was carried at 8:35 PM

Moved by M.Romain, seconded by Eddie.