



ÉCOLE NESBITT SCHOOL

6108 8th Avenue, Montreal, Quebec, H1Y 2M2
Tel: 514-721-2850 – Fax: 514-721-2060



GOVERNING BOARD - MEETING #3

Tuesday, January 14th, 2025

6:30 pm (via Microsoft Teams)

MINUTES

Name of member	Role	P/A	Name of member	Role	P/A
Ali, Hamdi	Parent	P	McDonald, James	Parent	P
Bastide-de-Grave, Jerome	Parent	P	McLaughlin, Laurie	Community Rep	P
Beguet, Caroline	Parent		Occhiuto, Anna Maria	Parent	P
Brisindi, Kristine	Support Staff	P	Reginato, Sonia	Teacher	P
Bucci, Samantha	Teacher		Romano, Nicholas	Principal	P
Currie, Sophie	Parent	P	Rodrigue, Jonathan	Parent	P
Di Martino, Maria Lisa	Parent	P	Santino, Maria	Daycare	P
Iliyan, Mervat	Teacher	P	Serrecchia, Miranda	Vice-Principal	
Lanni, Sandra	Teacher	P	Suan, Chelsea	Teacher	P
Marcil, Martin	Teacher	P	VACANT	Teacher	
Marianetti, Ashley	Parent		VACANT	Community Rep	

TOTAL: 16 Present (13 votes)

Replacements in the event there are not enough parents for quorum: Delisle, Sarah and Smith, Crispin

Parent members= 9, Quorum= 5 parents

Guests= Maria Corsi (EMSB Commissioner, Ward 4)

Present= Crispin Smith (replacement)

Sandra Lanni is acting vice-principal, as Miranda Serrecchia is on leave.

Opening Time: 6:30 pm

Guest: Maria Corsi (EMSB Commissioner, Ward 4)

- Recently elected commissioner for Ward 4, 4-year mandate
- Is happy to be able to attend our GB and meet everyone. Will try to attend as many GB meetings as she can.
- Is currently speaking to Nicholas Romano about the "Parc Ecole Project", which is in collaboration with the city.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

- Add Commissioner Report to 5.2. Move all other points down.
- Moved by: Martin Marcil
Second: Jonathan Rodrigue
Vote: 13:0:0

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2.1 Minutes from Tuesday, Nov. 12th, 2024

- Moved by: Sophie Currie
Second: Kristine Brisindi
Vote: 13:0:0



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3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Animal Assisted Therapy:

- The AAT program is back at Nesbitt. The entire Nesbitt community is ecstatic. Congratulations to Sandra Lanni.
- Calvin is slowly reintegrating himself into the school. The positive benefits on the students are already very evident.

4. New Business

4.1. Adoption of Updated School Calendar

- The school board has asked to add an extra PED day as the current amount of PED days are not in line with the new collective agreement of 180 work days.
- New PED day will be **Monday March 10th, 2025**, the Monday after Spring Break.
- Approval
Moved by: Maria Lisa Di Martino
Second: Sonia Reginato
Vote: 13:0:0

4.2. Approval of Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan 2024-2025

- In the past was named the Safe School Action Plan. The name was changed as of last year to Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan.
- Details the programs that are in place to ensure student safety, and that situations are dealt with appropriately.
- Very minimal changes from the 2023-2024 Plan.
- Approval
Moved by: Mervat Iliyan
Second: Jonathan Rodrigue
Vote: 13:0:0

4.3 Adoption of Educational Project Action Plan

- The plan was approved at GB last year, following the data that was obtained from the survey.
- The goal of the action plan is to list the actions and strategies that have been implemented to achieve the Educational Project objectives.
- The difference from previous years is that we are now moving towards a more targeted tutoring model as opposed to a generalized tutoring model. For instance, this year we have a tutor that will tutor only math, and one that will tutor only French.
- The strategies will be evaluated in September/October next year, as we would need one year to implement them.

Resolution:



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Resolution: Educational Institution Action Plan Development and Implementation

WHEREAS each educational institution is responsible for developing an educational project that includes key components such as challenges, objectives, indicators, and targets, which have been shared with the education community and the public;

WHEREAS the next phase after developing this educational project is the creation of an action plan for implementing selected strategies/actions to achieve the institution's objectives;

WHEREAS the action plan plays a critical role in allowing the educational institution to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of each action, ensuring alignment with the institution's goals and continuous collaboration among all stakeholders;

BE IT RESOLVED that the action plan offers a structured approach to monitor the implementation of various actions, while fostering teamwork and shared responsibility among stakeholders working towards the common educational goals of the institution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the action plan shall serve as a living document; if a strategy/action does not yield the desired results, the principal or director of the educational institution, in consultation with the teaching team, reserves the right to adjust or modify the action while it is still in progress, ensuring continuous alignment with the institution's objectives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with section 96.13 of the Education Act, the principal shall regularly inform the governing board of any proposals or adjustments made, as outlined in sections 96.15 and 110.12 of the Act.

Principal

Governing Board Chair

Date

- Approval
Moved by: James McDonald
Second: Sophie Currie
Vote: 13:0:0

4.4. Adoption of 2024-2025 School Budget

- We approved the preliminary budgets last June. However, the budgets were not complete. Since then, we have obtained more funds such as Mesure Funds. The vast majority of the funds are now received.
- We usually submit 2 budgets; English Core and French Immersion.
- The decentralized board funds are included in the English Core Budgets for simplicity's sake, but the monies are used in both Eng. Core and French Immersion.
- Similar to previous years except on page 4 of the English Core budget, the ICOR budget (part of Fund 6 Special Funds) is 12,187\$ for 2024-2025 versus approx. 20,000\$ last year. This budget is used to pay some of the tutoring, staff releases, teacher releases (ex. Music program).
- Funds for Books In The Classrooms is continuing this year. Was implemented last year.



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- The funds for Teacher Supervision Release have increased this year; 31,739\$ versus approx. 16,000\$ last year.

Resolution for combined English Core and French Immersion:

RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE SCHOOL BUDGET BY THE SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 95 of the Education Act, the governing board is responsible for adopting the school's annual budget as proposed by the principal;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 96.24 of the Education Act, the school budget must maintain a balance between expenditures, on the one hand, and the financial resources allocated to the school by the school board and the school's own revenues, on the other;

WHEREAS this budget is based on the 2024-2025 MEQ budgetary parameters;

_____ MOVED THAT, the governing board of Nesbitt School (026), adopt the school budget for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented by the school Principal, Nicholas Romano which forecasts revenues of \$377,248 and expenditures of \$377,248 ;

AND THAT the budget be submitted to the English Montreal School Board for final approval.

SCHOOL NAME : Nesbitt School (026)

Signature : _____
Principal

Date: _____

Signature : _____
Governing Board Chair

Date: _____

- Approval
Moved by: Sophie Currie
Second: Hamdi Ali
Vote: 13:0:0

4.5 Principal Selection Criteria

7:20 pm: Nicholas Romano exited meeting

- The original document was drafted at GB in March 2023. Much thought and consideration were put into the document. It was voted unanimously to keep the same criteria for 2024-2025;
- Jonathan Rodrigue will send last year's document to Jerome Bastide-de-Grave.

Principal Selection Criteria:



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March 2023

The following criteria summarize the values shared by the Nesbitt Elementary School Governing Board and form the basis for the selection criteria when hiring a new principal.

Beliefs and Orientation

- Promotes transparency
- Open to new ideas, forward-looking
- Initiates and implements change
- Innovative
- Encourages parental participation and involvement
- Positive
- Respectful
- Creative
- Enthusiastic
- Fair

Teaching and Learning

- Responsive to the pedagogical needs of teachers and children
- Committed to continuous learning for all staff
- Experience in dealing with coded children and students with learning and behavioural difficulties
- Advocates for the integration of technology into classroom learning
- Innovative with current initiatives

Strategic Management

- Fluently bilingual (French and English), both oral and written
- Previous experience with both English Core and French Immersion streams
- Creates and manages a budget
- Good at multi-tasking
- Proven stakeholder management skills with all school clientele and community members (students, parents, teachers, administrators, support staff and local community)
- Proactively recognizes and prioritizes the needs of individuals and groups to ensure the unique needs of each are met
- Open to listening and implementing input from teaching professionals
- Forward looking in terms of environmental footprint and initiatives of the school.

Leadership Qualities

- Communicates effectively
 - Manages and motivates personnel
 - Encourages innovation while maintaining continuity in core areas
 - Fosters consensus
 - Diplomatic
 - Assertive
 - Personable
 - Good interpersonal skills
- Approval
Moved by: Kristine Brisindi
Second: Maria Santino
Vote: 13:0:0

7:27 pm: Nicholas Romano re-entered meeting



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4.6 Approval of Cycle 3 Tubing at Mont Avila

- The blanket approval for field trips was for a maximum of 25\$/student. This field trip exceeds the 25\$ limit.
- We have been doing this field trip every year, however the costs for busing have significantly increased. It costs more for the buses than the actual tickets.
- Actual costs are 46\$/student, minus 10\$ from funds= 35\$/student
- Cost for parents= 35\$/students (same costs since 2022)
- Date: February 14, 2025
- Approval
Moved by: Maria Lisa Di Martino
Second: Hamdi Ali
Vote: 13:0:0

4.7 Approval of Lunchtime Activities (online vote December 10, 2024)

4.7.1 Enfant & Compagnie Activities

4.7.2 Le Kid Foot Activities

- Can we change providers, and choose a company other than Enfants & Compagnie?
 - In the past it has always been Home & School that would select the providers and the activities. However, since H&S participation was dying off, the school took over the responsibility. It would be the H&S's responsibility to look for providers and lunch time activities.
 - Since H&S is now in a transition period, with a new chairperson, it might be challenging to make any changes for this year. Nicholas Romano will speak to the chairperson to ask if they are able to take this on for the remainder of the year. However, it may have to wait until next year when H&S is more settled.
 - We are also very limited in terms of space due to renovations. Activities need to be suitable for the space that is available.
 - Current activities end in February.
 - Enfants & Cie also take care of all of the services, such as the collection of money from the parents, thus reducing the burden on H&S.
- Approval To Ratify Dec 10, 2024 Online Vote:
Moved by: Maria Santino
Second: Hamdi Ali
Vote: 13:0:0

4.8 Approval of Fundraisers for Home & School

4.8.1 Pizza Day – February

- Date TBC (will be on a Wednesday)
- During Teacher Appreciation week
- Cost: 9\$ for 1 slice, a drink and a TCBY frozen yogurt, 1.50\$ for each additional slice.
- Approval:
Moved by: James McDonald
Second: Chelsea Suan
Vote: 13:0:0



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5. Reports:

5.1 Principal Report (Nicholas Romano):

- Current enrollment: 293 current students
- November Highlights/activities:
 - Nov 13: Mme. Caroline Junior and Senior Music Club and Choir. 3 entries submitted to CBC Music Challenge. All 3 were top 10, one of them won 3rd Place. The links of the performances were sent to parents.
 - Nov 27: Book fair
 - Nov 28: parent/teacher interviews
 - Nov 29: Parent workshop K4K5 play based learning
- December Highlights/activities:
 - Dec 11: Rosemount High School holiday music concert at the school.
 - Dec 13: Movie Night; "Snow Time". Was a packed event.
 - Dec 16-20: Holiday activities; cookie decorating, sing-a-long, waffle station and hot chocolate. An anonymous donor gave all students a take home gift.
- January Highlights/activities:
 - Jan 10: Mme. Caroline and the Music Club performed at Rosemount High School for press conference with the EMSB.
 - Jan 13-24: Re-registrations via Mozaik. The board is strongly encouraging parents to re-register as fast as possible via Mozaik in order to avoid unnecessary paper work.
 - Daycare Re-registrations: TBC
 - Jan 17: Cycle 2 tubing field trip
 - Jan 23: Second open house, by appointment only. Approx. 6-8 families came.
 - Jan 27-31: Sibling registrations (6 requests already)
 - W/O Jan 27: K4/K5 Registrations online at 7am
 - Jan 29: Circus school field trip cycle 2
- Animal Assisted Therapy:
 - Our Animal Assisted Therapy program is back up and running. The request was granted at the end of December. Calvin is back! Congratulations to Sandra Lanni.
- Renovations:
 - Nicholas Romano went to visit the construction site at the end of December. Bones & structure, the mechanical and electricals, as well as ventilation, all in advanced stages.
 - In certain sections, the walls and frames were up and waiting approvals.
 - The 3rd and 4th floors are well advanced.
 - The contractor is very responsive and helpful.
 - Some issues with heating; some related to the renovations. Since the boiler room is part of the renovation project at the moment, it is causing some challenges with heating issues.
 - August 2025 timeline to take over the Bellechasse side. Some delays are present however we don't yet know if these delays will hinder us from moving (example: delays with the reception of the interior doors will not delay us from moving). We still need to determine if the delays would be crucial to our operations.

5.2 Commissioner Report (Maria Corsi):

- Attended event at Rosemount High School, and thought that the most beautiful performance was from Nesbitt.
- The Quebec government is imposing 200\$ million budget cuts in education, will be implemented by the end of March.
- This represents budget cuts of 2.6\$ million for the EMSB.



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- Spoke with the Director General, they will be meeting in February to determine how to implement the cuts.
- Concern is will these cuts result in new budget baselines in the years to come.
- They will try to minimize the impact to services to students.
- We will know more in March.
- February 4th next board meeting- webcast and open to public.

5.3 Daycare Report (Maria Santino):

- Will Launch Hop Hop app on Monday. The staff is being trained this week. 1-month free trial, however if many parents subscribe, they can maybe extend it to 2 free months.

5.4 Treasurer Report (Sophie Currie): N/A

5.5 Parents' Committee Report (Hamdi Ali) :

- PC Meeting in December: Neither Hamdi nor Maria Lisa was able to attend.
- PC Meeting in January:
 - Budget cuts were discussed
 - Draft of 2025-2026 calendar- first day of school may start in September.
 - Discussed having only one vote for delegates, example one delegate representing 2 schools. Was shut down as each school has the right to a vote.

5.6 Chairperson's Report (Jerome Bastide-de-Grave): N/A

5.7 Home & School Committee Report (Miranda Serrecchia):

- Movie Night: sold 133 tickets. Online payment via Zeffy and square tap for payments for snacks.
- Pizza day in February.

6. Question Period

- How is Quebec Government Justifying budget cuts when there are staff shortages?
 - Hoping it is a one time cut and will not affect future years
 - St. Raphael school project may be delayed.
 - Teacher/staff shortages have been there for a while.
 - Budget cuts are across Quebec, affecting even private schools.
- Can we advocate for a French PreK program?
 - PreK is subsidized, funded by the government.
 - Nesbitt is allocated 1 program and PreK is part of the English Core stream as we need to service the school population.
 - Immersion PreK would depend on how many parents would register and must reflect the needs and wants of the population (K4 minimum is 6 students, 6-10 would warrant a class).
 - Budget cuts may hinder this from being possible.

7. Varia: N/A



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8. Adjournment:

Adjournment time: 8:13pm

Moved by: Maria Lisa Di Martino

Second: Jonathan Rodrigue

Vote: 13:0:0

Next meeting: Tuesday February 11th, 2025

X

Jonathan Rodrigue
Chairperson

X

Nicholas Romano
Principal