



## *Our Lady of Pompei School*

9944 Saint Michel Blvd. Montreal, Qc. H1H 5G8

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### **Meeting Minutes Governing Board Meeting #5**

Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Members in attendance:

<b>Governing Board Members</b>	<b>GB Meeting #5 Thursday, March 20</b>
Agnello, Cathy	Present
Berry, Natasha	Present
Cessa Mancillas, Maria de Lourdes	Present
Cordileone, Laura (substitute)	Absent
Di Stefano, Andrea	Present
Di Zazzo, Erica	Present
Ferraro, Silvia	Present
Gonçalves, Danny	Present
Latin, Bianca	Present
Misaiphon, Olivia Mayouli	Present
Negrii, Eugen	Present
Ricci, Mirella	Present
Rosciano, Giuseppe	Present
Stroz-Breton, Olivia	Present
Waugh, Heather (substitute)	Absent

**Administration:** Lisa Ancona

**Guests:** Ms. Perera (EMSB Commissioner)

**Members of the Public:** none

#### **1. Welcome**

- The meeting was called to order by Ms. Di Zazzo at 6:40pm.
- The secretary, Mr. Di Stefano, is taking the minutes.

#### **2. Additions to the Agenda**

None.

#### **3. Approval of the Agenda**



Commission scolaire English-Montréal  
English Montreal School Board

It was moved by Ms. Berry, seconded by Ms. Di Zazzo, to approve the agenda. All in favour; motion unanimously passed.

#### **4. Adoption of the Minutes of Meeting #4 – January 16, 2025**

It was moved by Ms. Misaiphon, seconded by Ms. Di Zazzo, to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. No objections, 2 abstentions; motion passed.

#### **5. Business Arising from Minutes**

Ms. Stroz-Breton asked whether a teacher has stepped forward to replace the GB teacher member who resigned at the end 2024. Ms. Ancona responded that no teacher has volunteered to join GB.

Ms. Stroz-Breton inquired about the success of the February registration week. Ms. Ancona shared that the projected enrollment is 158 students for the upcoming year, similar to this year.

Ms. Ancona followed up on agenda item 7.6 from the January meeting regarding the installation of bicycle racks near the school. She shared that the letter from the GB to our Borough Counsellor, Jérôme Normand, received a positive reply. Mr. Normand shared that the city will be able to install 2 bicycle racks on J.J. Gagnier near the school entrances.

#### **6. Question Period**

None.

#### **7. New Business**

##### **7.1 Electronic Vote (29 January 2025)**

On 29 January 2025, it was moved via email by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Berry, to approve moving the Cabane à Sucre field trip activity from April 10 to April 8 due to a change in availability of the venue. All in favour; motion passed.

##### **7.2 Spring Concert Rehearsals**

Ms. Ancona presented the proposed schedule for Spring Concert rehearsals on the day of the Spring Concert (24 April 2025).

Pre-K to Gr. 2 students will leave the school at 9:30am to rehearse at the venue and return to school at 12:15pm.

Gr. 3-6 students will leave the school at 12:35pm to rehearse at the venue and return to school at 3:15pm, in time for dismissal.

It was moved by Ms. Berry, seconded by Mr. Rosciano, to approve the schedule for the spring concert rehearsal.

##### **7.3 Transfer fund 3 to fund 5**

Ms. Ancona shared a proposal to transfer funds from fund 3 to fund 5. Fund 5 is empty, because the allocation was smaller than expected. Ms. Ancona also outlined some of the expenditures that happened so far this year from fund 5. Costs increased relative to previous years due to higher prices in general, costs for buses, office supplies, special activities, etc. also increased. The UFLI literacy program was very costly. Fund 3 is a healthy fund, so a transfer is needed to support fund 5 expenditures.

Motion put forth by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Mr. Rosciano, to approve transferring \$5,000 from





fund 3 to fund 5. All in favour; motion passed.

#### **7.4 Budget Building**

Ms. Ancona shared information about the budget building activity, and the GB reviewed the documents provided. Ms. Ancona provided recommendations for priorities for GB's consideration.

Motion put forth by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Mr. Gonçalves, to approve the budget priorities and guiding principles as recommended by Ms. Ancona, with the addition of principle iv as the last guiding principle, as follows:

Budget Priorities:

1. Schools with populations below 400-450, provide additional support in the form of a Vice-Principal (Full or Part-time) or release a Staff Assistant (Full or Part-time) and reduce their teaching time/workload.
2. Increase the number and hours of professionals (Psychologist, OT, SLP, etc.) and support staff (Behaviour Technicians and Attendants).
3. Increase special funds for school yard project (structures) and library renovations.
4. Roll-over 100% of Fund 5 (Operating Budget), Fund 5 (Caretaking Budget), and Fund 6.
5. Increase Resource Support.

Guiding Principles:

1. i) The Council of Commissioners and Administration will continue to inform and pressure the *Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec* (MEQ) to redress funding shortfalls to which the EMSB has been subjected.
2. iii) The Board recognizes the growing challenges faced by schools in respecting their per capita allocations and shall therefore review such allocations with a view to maintaining or possibly increasing these grants, subject to the Board's financial framework. Should the MEQ budgetary parameters include a cutback, a reduction may be considered (this was previously in Appendix E).
3. v) Staffing ratios for school and centre-based staff will be reviewed annually and be readjusted where deemed necessary, in keeping with the Board's commitment-to-success plan. (Appendix C – Staffing ratios currently in force for various classifications of personnel in schools/centres)
4. vi) All allocations to schools and centres that are governed by specific lifespans and purposes must be spent within these parameters and integrated in the context of schools' educational projects. Unspent balances at year-end in these budgets will be added to the school's or centre's appropriations for the following school year as per the guidelines established for the rollover of these funds (Appendix E), if CMAC/RAC recommends it and Council approves it
5. iv) When evaluating capital expenditures, priority shall be given to projects that significantly reduce operating expenses.

All in favour; motion passed.

#### **7.5 Service Providers 2025-26**

Ms. Ancona presented the results of a parent survey regarding the school's service providers, and the GB discussed the results and shared feedback for each service provider.

Motion put forth by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Mr. Gonçalves, to approve all external service providers for the 2025-2026 school year with the exception of LifeTouch for photos as a result of concerns with customer service and survey results, offering the contract to Green Apple instead. All



in favour; motion passed.

## **7.6 Lunch caterer 2025-26**

It was moved by Mr. Gonçalves, seconded by Ms. Di Zazzo, continue with Merenda as the lunch-time caterer for the 2025-2026 school year. All in favour; motion unanimously passed.

## **7.7 Daycare services during ped day outings**

Ms. Stroz-Breton shared concerns about accessibility to daycare services on ped day outing/special activities days. Many parents rely on daycare services on ped days, so activities involving higher fees, that often also include a lower cap for the number of students, could pose challenges to certain parents.

Ms. Agnello shared that the main limitation is staffing; unfortunately, it wouldn't be possible to continue to offer in-school daycare services during outing days. If parents have financial challenges that would limit their access to daycare services, Ms. Agnello shared that the daycare is flexible and open to discussing alternative payment plans. Ms. Agnello and Ms. Ancona also shared that this is common practice throughout the EMSB.

# **8. Reports**

## **8.1 Commissioner**

Ms. Perera shared the following points:

- \$2.6 million deficit for the school year affecting the EMSB due to Ministry cuts to the education system budget. EMSB department directors will determine how to implement cuts based on Ministry criteria, but as a result, certain vacant administrative positions in both the school board and schools will not be filled. This will not affect any adopted GB budgets; the EMSB is committed to honouring school budgets that have already been approved. The budget cuts will take effect as of the end of March, because the budget is allocated to the school board incrementally.
- Council approved the 2023-2024 EMSB Annual Report on 4 February 2025. EMSB students achieved a 95.9% success rate – highest in its history and compared to other boards, service centers, and private schools. The target for future years will be 92%.
- Budget building process document consultation package sent to GBs.
- Supreme Court of Canada announced it will hear a challenge to Bill 21. EMSB remains at the forefront of this legal challenge.
- The Court of Appeal has heard the EMSB's challenge on Bill 40. Its decision is pending.

## **8.2 Principal**

Ms. Ancona shared the Principal's report.

- Dream Big Foundation donated Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal (OSM) tickets to our students, who greatly enjoyed the event.
- Carnival day was a great success. The weather wasn't ideal, but overall it was a great experience and the children had a lot of fun. 130 students attended.
- Personal Development Community Involvement Animator (spiritual community animator) led





a Black History Month event, which included a musical presentation by a live band and animated dance.

- Parent/teacher interviews were successful, Ms. Berry and another volunteer supported the event.
- The schoolyard committee is meeting regularly and working hard to realize this important project. Still waiting for confirmation about a Ministry grant, and other funding options will be explored if the expected grant doesn't come through.

### **8.3 Teachers**

Mr. Negrii shared the teachers' report. The spring concert preparations are underway and going smoothly. The students and teachers are excited for the event.

### **8.4 Daycare**

Ms. Agnello shared the daycare report. Deadline for issuing tax slips was Feb. 28.

Tomorrow is a ped day, 43 students are attending: strike a light and ultra tag.

Next 2 ped days are activity days: April 25 will be Recreo-fun in Saint Bruno, and May 9 will be Parc Omega.

It is 8:28pm, and Ms. Misaiphon moved, seconded by Ms. Di Zazzo, to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

### **8.5 RPC**

Mr. Rosciano shared the RPC report. Two members of the administration were present to respond to concerns about the educational plan.

Another point was about EMSB parents' committee shared/resource email accounts. The EMSB stance is that these are not allowed, but the parents were asking for the reasoning behind it, and they didn't seem satisfied by the responses they were given, which were non-committal. Some school governing boards are using shared/resource email accounts anyway, or other un-secured methods (Whatsapp groups, etc.) despite the EMSB's policy, and EMSB representatives present at the last RPC meeting seemed unwilling to discuss revising the policy.

### **8.6 PPO**

Ms. Misaiphon shared the PPO report. The pizza fundraiser is going well so it will continue until the end of the year. The upcoming bowling night fundraiser is set for May 3; more details to follow.

## **9. Varia**

### **9.1**



## 10. Next Meeting/Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting put forth by Ms. Misaiphon, seconded by Ms. Berry. All in favour; meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Signatures:

  
Principal

05-01-25  
Date

  
Governing Board Chair

2025-05-08  
Date

