



Our Lady of Pompei School

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2025-2026 Governing Board Meeting #2 Minutes

Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Members in attendance:

Governing Board Members		GB Meeting #2 Thursday, Nov 13
Agnello, Cathy	Daycare	Present
Berry, Natasha	Parent	Present
Bozzo, Virginia	Parent	Absent
Carrara, Bianca	Parent	Present
Di Stefano, Andrea	Parent	Present
Di Zazzo, Erica	Parent	Present
Ferraro, Silvia	Teacher	Absent
Latendresse, Jade (substitute)	Parent	Absent
Latin, Bianca	Teacher	Present
Morizio, Tasha (substitute)	Parent	Present
Negrii, Eugen	Teacher	Present
Ricci, Mirella	Teacher	Present
Rosciano, Giuseppe	Parent	Present
Stroz-Breton, Olivia	Parent	Present
Watson, Lynn	Teacher	Present

Administration: Lisa Ancona, Principal

Guests: none

Members of the Public: none

1. Welcome

- The meeting was called to order by Ms. Di Zazzo at 6:44pm.
- The secretary, Mr. Di Stefano, is taking the minutes.
- Ms. Perera, the EMSB Commissioner, is attending the meeting.

2. Additions to the agenda

Mr. Di Stefano requested the addition of "Amending OLP GB Rules of Operation" to varia under 9.1.

Ms. Stroz-Breton requested the addition of "Communication with Parents", "Daycare Outings", and "Fundraising Activities" to varia under 9.2, 9.3, and 9.4.



Commission scolaire English-Montréal
English Montreal School Board

3. Approval of the Agenda

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

4. Approval of the Minutes from GB meeting #1 – 29 September 2025

It was moved by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Carrara, to approve the minutes from GB meeting #1. 1 abstention, no objections; motion passed.

5. Business Arising from the minutes

Ms. Ancona provided some updates about changes that were required for the minutes from the previous meeting.

6. Question Period

None.

7. New Business

7.1 GB Code of Conduct

Ms. Ancona recommended that we reinstate the “Be objective” point that was removed from the code of conduct at our last meeting. She shared that its intention is to encourage members to always act in the best interest of students.

It was moved by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Carrara, to add a point to the GB Code of Conduct that states: “Place the interests of the school and its students above any personal interests”. All in favour; motion unanimously passed.

7.2 Field trips

Ms. Ancona shared that the government was cutting the field trip allocations by 20%. She also shared the timeline for the allocation of the remainder of the budget. Ms. Ancona asked that GB approve the following field trips on the assumption that they be free of charge. If, once the budget is allocated, and it turns out that the cost of these field trips cannot be covered by the budget, she will inform the GB and request the transfer of funds to cover costs.

- Cycle 3: Cirque de Verdun, Jan. 8, no cost to students
- Cycle 2: Centre des memoires montréalaises, Jan. 29, no cost to students
- Preschool: Cosmodome, March 17, no cost to students

It was moved by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Berry, to approve the field trips on the assumption that they be free of charge to students. All in favour; motion unanimously passed.

7.3 Daycare Handbook

Ms. Agnello shared updates to the daycare handbook. The price was adjusted to account for inflation, and she requested approval so it could be shared more broadly. Once approved, an English and French versions will be posted online.

It was moved by Ms. Morizio, seconded by Ms. Di Zazzo, to approve the updates to the daycare handbook. 1 abstention, no objections; motion passed.

7.4 Parking/Drop Off



Ms. Berry shared concerns about parents' difficulty in finding parking for student drop off in the morning. This year, an increased police presence at the beginning of the year exacerbated the issue and also caused significant stress for parents who struggled to find parking to leave their children.

Ms. Berry inquired about whether it would be possible to extend the drop-off area on J.J. Gagnier street (moving the traffic signs) to increase the amount of parking spaces available for student drop off. Ms. Perera agreed to contact the city to request that the drop off area on J.J. Gagnier be extended.

7.5 Increasing Enrolment

Mr. Di Stefano discussed the school's declining enrolment numbers and the urgent need of the school to find ways to increase student enrolment. To that end, he suggested the creation of a subcommittee to investigate this issue, identify potential recruitment strategies, and make recommendations for increasing OLP enrolment.

Due to some uncertainty about rules regarding the composition of GB subcommittees, it was decided that this topic be tabled until the next meeting.

7.6 Governing Board Operating Budget

The GB Operating Budget is \$250 again this year.

It was moved by Ms. Stroz-Breton, seconded by Ms. Carrara, to table the motion until next meeting to investigate the best way to use these funds. All in favour; motion unanimously passed.

7.7 GB Meetings Location/Format

It was moved by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Berry, to continue using the hybrid format.

8. Reports

8.1 Principal

Ms. Ancona shared the principal's report.

She thanked all staff and volunteer support for the Halloween event, which was a great success.

- 20% of budget was deposited, the remaining 80% should be deposited imminently.
- Potential continuation of homework program
- Robotics and tutoring are also scheduled to recommence.
- Parent/teacher conferences will take place in person on Nov 20.
- Scholastic book fair will take place on Nov. 19 for students, Nov. 20 for parents.
- Nov. 20 and 21 will be ped days.

8.2 Teachers

Ms. Ricci shared the teacher's report. Term 1 has come to an end, and the teachers are preparing for parent/teacher conferences.

8.3 Daycare

Ms. Agnello shared the daycare report. Last ped day was Oct. 27, and students dressed up in costumes and decorated pumpkins. The event was successful and all students had fun.

Enrolment is status quo, daycare is going well, and they are able to accommodate sporadic



requests.

Nov. 20 will be a ped day that will take place in the gym with Sports Life, who will hold activities for all daycare students from 9am to 2pm.

Nov. 21 is another ped day, and daycare students will take a bus to Recreofun in St. Bruno.

8.4 RPC

Mr. Rosciano shared the RPC report. Discussions at RPC revolved mostly around the budget. It was brought up that an RPC student literacy bursary would be cut due to budget restrictions. This bursary is normally issued to students every year to encourage student literacy by giving away free books to students. An RPC fundraising committee was formed to raise funds to hopefully continue to offer the bursary for students and continue to support student literacy.

8.5 PPO

Ms. Berry shared the PPO report.

- Halloween went well, they're very satisfied with the outcome.
- Planning for Christmas activities is beginning to ramp up

8.6 Commissioner

Ms. Perera welcomed Ms. Ancona, and all teachers, back for the new school year.

- Update on EMSB's ongoing court challenges: Bill 40, introduced to eliminate school board and replace them with service centres, is being fought because it would eliminate parents' decision-making power with regards to how their schools function. The supreme court sided with the EMSB, and this decision is being appealed by the provincial government, so the case is still open. Bill 21, introduced to ban religious symbols from public buildings, is also being contested. This is restricting teacher and staff freedoms and stifles diversity. The case is being brought to the supreme court, who will decide the future of Bill 21. Bill 96, to protect the French language, is also being contested because of the administrative and financial burden it imposes on our institutions, and because it undermines our minority rights as an English-speaking institution.
- Budget cuts: \$200 M budget cuts were initially introduced, and an additional \$510 M cut was proposed over the summer. Ms. Perera shared updates about different areas of the EMSB and its services that would be impacted. Unfortunately, these budget cuts would have the most negative impact on our most vulnerable community members.
- Petition in response to budget cuts by the Ministry of Education: a petition on the Quebec National Assembly website collected over 150 000 signatures. The QESBA, representing the EMSB and the 9 English-language school boards, has decided to take legal action against the QC government. QESBA requested an injunction to hold off on implementing the cuts until a decision is rendered. In response to this action, several concessions were made by Minister Sonia LeBel which allowed the EMSB to prepare a working budget. As a result, the court challenge was rescinded.

9. Varia

9.1 Amending OLP GB Rules of Operation

It was moved by Mr. Di Stefano, seconded by Ms. Carrara, to table this discussion until next meeting pending school board validation of what substitute members can be allowed to do.

9.2 Communication with Parents



Ms. Stroz-Breton brought up concerns about how the school can better communicate with parents, including with regards to GB meeting dates, updates with school activities.

Mr. Di Stefano also shared concerns about the amount and frequency of emails that parents receive from school administration. It was recommended that these emails be grouped or consolidated somehow to reduce the number and frequency of emails received by parents.

Ms. Berry has asked that the school be more transparent about long-term staff changes (extended leaves, etc.) that impacts students. Since this may have HR/union implications, parents don't need to know the specifics of a teacher or staff member's absence, only who is replacing them.

Ms. Carrara brought up an idea about a weekly or monthly newsletter to share updates in a more condensed format.

Ms. Stroz-Breton also shared concerns about the short notice for planning parent/teacher interviews to allow parents more time to book their appointments with teachers. It was noted that the school calendar – which includes dates for parent/teacher interviews – is shared earlier in the year in May.

Ms. Morizio shared information about guidelines in the GB Manual about how certain things should be communicated to parents. She also shared concerns about how teachers are sharing links to book appointments at different times, so parents with multiple children at the school have difficulty booking times that are close together. This year, some parents had large time gaps between appointments with different teachers.

Mr. Rosciano also shared concerns about how teaching assignments for different groups are not shared with parents prior to the start of classes. So parents often don't know who is teaching their students when school begins.

Ms. Ricci shared that she also experienced frustration as a parent when scheduling parent/teacher appointments, but unfortunately a better method for organizing these meetings hasn't yet been found.

9.3 Daycare Outings

Ms. Stroz-Breton shared concerns about the cost of daycare outing ped day activities, particularly because next week there are two consecutive ped day activities, which represents a significant financial burden for parents.

Ms. Agnello shared some information about the financial cost of these activities. She also noted that these concerns would be taken into consideration for future ped days, particularly during weeks with more than one ped day.

It was moved by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Stroz-Breton, to extend the meeting by 10 minutes. All in favour; motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Stroz-Breton also suggested exploring free activity options when possible.

9.4 Fundraising Activities

Mr. Rosciano shared that the RPC cancelled the Literacy award for students that was previously offered due to budget restrictions, so RPC members recommended fundraising to continue to offer the bursary.



Mr. Di Stefano shared that adopting a more aggressive fundraising strategy would allow OLP to increase the PPO budget and potentially offer more free activities and field trips to students, and that greater collaboration between GB and PPO may improve the financial stress placed on parents. Ms. Ancona highlighted the importance of not targeting the school's parents uniquely for fundraising, but aiming to attract donors external to the community, to avoid putting further financial stress on a community that is already financially disadvantaged.

10. Next Meeting/Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting put forth by Ms. Di Zazzo, seconded by Ms. Berry. All in favour; meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

The next meeting will take place on 4 December 2025 in hybrid format.

Signatures:

Principal

Date

Governing Board Chair

Date

