



Royal Vale School Governing Board

Minutes of the meeting of February 3, 2026 via Teams

Minutes of the Governing Board virtual meeting held February 3, 2026, at 7:00 pm via Teams.

Present: Andrea Batsis, Jonathan Mustillo, Howard Magonet, Karyn Pellatt-Caron, Vincenzo Monticciolo, Davy Lambiris, Nathalie Malhamé, Anthony Di Domizio, Alan De Aguiar Lopes, Stephen Concister, Marion Albrecht, Ellie-Rose Robichaud, Mayra Waygood, Benjamin Bacon, Olivia Catchlove (alternate), Sharon Nelson (EMSB Commissioner)

Also present: Despina Michakis (Principal), Christos Lagakos (Vice-Principal, High School), Ivan Spilak (Vice-Principal, Elementary)

Absent: Andale Evans, Ariella Pardo, Valerie Hatchwell, April Edwardson, Paolo Ruscito, Stephanie Suissa (alternate), Marni Rubin (RVEHSA, President),

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by A. Batsis at 7:02 pm. A. Batsis was secretary.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

On motion by H. Magonet and seconded by N. Malhamé, the amended agenda was unanimously approved.

3. Adoption & signing of minutes of the December 8, 2025 meeting

On a motion by M. Albrecht and seconded by N. Malhamé, the minutes were unanimously approved

4. Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of December 8, 2025

4.1. Pelo Program Follow-up

V. Monticciolo has forwarded information from the Italian Consulate to RVEHSA.

5. Information and reports (Student & H&S reps)

5.1. Student Life report (*student reps*)

Plans are underway for Valentine's Day in the elementary and high school. Decorations are being put up and some special events and treats will be distributed to students.

Plans are also underway for Pride Month.

5.2. RVEHSA report (*President*)

RVEHSA President M. Rubin sends her regrets. Report to follow at the next meeting.

6. First Question Period – No Questions

N/A



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7. Discussion items (votes required)

7.1. ABAV Action Plan E-Vote Results (Chair)

- A. Batsis reported the e-vote results from January 29th, 2026: 13 members voted in favour; 4 members did not reply; 0 members against.

On motion by P. Ruscito and seconded by K. Pellatt-Caron, the Royal Vale ABAV Action Plan, as presented in the accompanying document, was unanimously approved.

7.2. ABAV Action Plan Review (Principal)

- D. Michakis briefly reviewed the document and opened the floor to questions.

7.3. Elementary Educational Project (Principal)

D. Michakis presented the educational project for the elementary sector. A discussion and reporting were had on implementation and follow-up.

S. Nelson requested elaboration on tutoring for students who are struggling. It was clarified that the tutoring also includes students without IEPs but who may have language and literacy challenges.

7.4. High School Educational Project (Principal)

D. Michakis presented the educational project for the high school sector. A discussion and reporting were had on implementation and follow-up.

7.5 Elementary School Budget (Principal)

D. Michakis presented the document. An explanation to each section was provided. J. Mustillo asked about provincial budget cuts to education, to which D. Michakis explained that the funds in "Activités parascolaires" have been reduced compared to prior years. Fund 6 has been more affected as allocations have been decreased overall, but the school has been able to compensate (for ex. with no funding for PELO).

On motion from K. Pellatt-Caron and seconded by J. Mustillo, the motion to approve the elementary school budget was unanimously approved.

7.6 High School Budget (Principal)

D. Michakis presented the document. An explanation to each section was provided: Digital sets include laptop cards. Lunch supervision as there is less supervision of students during this time in the high school sector. Wellness includes events such as workshops and celebrations, including Accroche-toi au secondaire, which is meant to motivate students to stay in school, career fair, etc. Culture à l'école includes programs that teachers apply to for hosting workshops, such as art and dance for exposure to the arts. Further details were reviewed.

On motion from K. Pellatt-Caron and seconded by H. Magonet, the motion to approve the high school budget was unanimously approved.



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7.7 Academic & Career Guidance Content Planning Table -Elementary School (Principal)

D. Michakis reported on the document. Explanations ensued: ACGC and Sexuality Education are taught through CCQ (Culture & Citizenship in Quebec). For ACGC, teachers are required to review the document and report on what they will cover and when (for ex., the content is expected to be taught in Grades 5 & 6 but can also be introduced in other grades). P. Ruscito supports teachers by covering certain topics in the table.

A. Batsis asked how the teaching content is chosen by staff. D. Michakis explained that the topics are discussed as a whole but that each grade's teachers make recommendations and are supported and guided by the Sexuality Education and other specialists.

On motion from A. Di Domizio and seconded by H. Magonet, the motion to approve the ACGC Planning Table (Elementary Table) was unanimously approved.

7.8 Academic & Career Guidance Content Planning Table -High School (Principal)

D. Michakis reported on the document. Explanations ensued: CCQ and PDCIA specialists work with teachers on specific content. The Guidance Counsellor also supports student in the content and achieving results.

On motion from A. Di Domizio and seconded by V. Monticciolo, the motion to approve the ACGC Planning Table (High School sector) was unanimously approved.

8. Information and Reports

8.1. Administration's Report (*Vice-principals*)

C. Lagakos reported that the new school website is tentatively scheduled to be live towards the end of February/beginning of March.

8.2. EMSB PC Report (J. Mustillo and K. Pellatt-Caron)

Please see attached document for highlights from the January 2026 meeting.

8.3. Commissioner's Report (S. Nelson)

Commissioner S. Nelson reported that the next board meeting is scheduled for February 10th. Financial cutbacks remain the priority that the council will address, along with continued legal action. S. Nelson thanked Principal Michakis for acknowledging Black History Month, explaining her numerous roles in the community.

9. Varia

N/A

10. Second Question period (*Chair*)

N/A

11. Consultation: Selection Criteria for the Appointment of the Principal (Chair)



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D. Michakis, C. Lagakos, and I. Spilak left the meeting.

A. Batsis reviewed the consultation process for the selection criteria for the appointment of a principal that was sent prior to the meeting, along with the Director General Office's document of examples.

Upon review of the draft letter to be sent to the Sector Director and moved by K. Pellatt-Caron, seconded by N. Malhamé, the motion to send the proposed document with corrected dates and names was unanimously approved.

12. Adjournment & Closing Remarks (*Chair*)

- On motion by A. Di Domizio and seconded by H. Magonet, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:41pm.
- The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 7:00 pm in the School Library.

Andrea Batsis
Chair, Royal Vale Governing Board 2025-26

Despina Michakis
Principal, Royal Vale School