



## Royal Vale School Governing Board

Minutes of the meeting of March 19, 2024

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Minutes of the Governing Board meeting held March 19, 2024, at 7pm, via Teams

**Present:** A. Batsis, E. Girolamo, A. Di Domizio, S. Halaris, V. Hatchwell, H. Magonet, N. Malhamé, S. Nabi, R. Schulz-Peissel, D. Szanajda, E. Savage, S. Wen, E. Pervin, A. Pardo

**Also present:** O. Delaney (Principal), S. Spetsieris (Vice-Principal), C. Lagakos (Vice-Principal), J. Lalla (EMSB Commissioner), Marni Rubin (RVEHSA), J. Mustillo (RVEHSA)

**Absent:** A. Balandona, J. Bernas, S. Cherenfant, D. Lambiris, W. Ordon, L. Phaneuf, G. Ship, S. Sweeney (Community Representative).

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by A. Batsis at 7:04 pm.

### **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted by V. Hatchwell, seconded by N. Malhamé, and unanimously approved with the following additions:

- Date of agenda corrected to March 19, 2024
- Addition: 4.3 Community Representative

### **3. Adoption and signing of the minutes of February 19th, 2024**

On a motion by S. Nabi and seconded by V. Hatchwell, the minutes of February 19th, 2024, were unanimously adopted.

### **4. Business Arising from meeting of February 19th, 2024**

#### 4.1 Letter to DG re: bathrooms (Chair)

Letter to Director General was reviewed and unanimously approved to be sent.

#### 4.2 Boiler issue (Principal, Commissioner)

Commissioner J. Lalla sent email on Feb. 21, 2024, with follow-up.

Summary of email: As per EMSB management, the boiler is set to be replaced during the fall, in advance of the next winter season. We should be going to tender very soon with the objective to bring the file to the executive for approval within the next couple of months.



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### 4.3 Community Representative

Sharon Sweeney, employee at the NDG Community Council, has been appointed RVS's community representative. She was not in attendance but accepted the invitation after speaking with A. Batsis.

## 5. Information and Reports (Student and H&S reps)

### 5.1 Student Life report (Student reps)

- Feb. 17: In collaboration with Carrefour Jeunesse, a workshop was given to students on business plans and sale pitches. Tickets to a rage room were given as prizes.
- Saint-Patrick's Day: Students and teachers wore green. Stickers with clovers were provided to students. A competition of best dressed was held and the winners received a green prize.
- A second workshop on dentistry for secondary four & five students will be held at the end of the month.
- A dance will be held in April (TBC – April 4) for secondary students

### 5.2 RVEHSA report (President M. Rubin)

- Math & Science:
  - On March 20, elementary students in cycle 2 will take part of a paper airplane competition. There are dozens of volunteers and prizes.
  - The next Caribou contest will be April 2
- Staff Appreciation: The event went well. Staff thanked the committee chairs & volunteers. There was lots of engagement with kids to show appreciation.
- Pink Shirt Day: A survey was sent to teachers for feedback. Different activities are planned for the day.
- After School Program (ASP): Term 3 begins on April 2. Some new activities that will be offered are ASL, team-building, and My Green Thumbprint will continue (nature initiative with parent participation).
- Intro/Mini Enrichment Program (EP) for Kindergarten: This will be a 6-week program that begins in the Spring. It is simplified and offers a choice of 1-2 programs.
- Annual General Assembly: The Home & School AGM will be held on April 29. There are bylaws and constitution changes to vote on. One important item is the change to review engagement versus audits which, if approved, would begin in the 2025-2026 academic year.

## 6. First Question Period

- Question about bathroom renovations was asked. Summary on actions taken/to be taken were provided: girls bathroom was painted, beautification was done until renovation, and letter will be sent to Director General. If needed, amplification will be done through parent pressure.



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### 7. Discussion Items

7.1 Approval of 2022-2023 RVEHSA financial statement (RVEHSA Pres, Treasurer)  
Tabled. Will be sent as an electronic vote through email.

7.2 Approval of Educational Project (Principal)

The report was presented by S. Spetsieris. Motioned by V. Hatchwell, seconded by S. Halaris, and unanimously approved.

7.3 Budget Building Process (Chair)

Results presented by A. Batsis. Twelve GB members responded to a Google Form, giving quorum. Results, in order of preference:

1. Bathroom renovations
2. Extra guidance counsellor
3. Extra resource staff (0.5 for elementary & 0.5 for high school)
4. Additional caretaker
5. Auditorium renovation
6. Student supervisor

7.4 RVS Governing Board financial balance (Chair)

Tabled to next meeting.

### 8. Information

8.1 Administration's Report (Vice-Principals)  
Tabled to next meeting.

8.2 EMSBPC Report (D. Szanajda, H. Magonet)  
Tabled to next meeting.

8.3 Commissioner's Report (J. Lalla)

- MSAC (EMSB Student Advisory Committee): Monthly meetings held at different high schools on a rotational basis. Two students from each school, teachers, and commissioners. This committee participates in a lot of consultation and J. Lalla reports at commissioner meetings. GB should invite these two students to our meetings.
- Bill 21 update: EMSB appealed and won. The government appealed the win and won so this Bill is effective. This item will be discussed at the next council meeting (March 26) to see if EMSB will bring this to the Supreme Court. As of now, approx. 1.5 million dollars have been spent on this and it is probable that a Supreme Court appeal would cost the same amount.
- Bill 96: EMSB legally challenged this bill on its own. Latest directives order the use of



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more French within communications inside English school. On this specific aspect, all eight boards put in a total of seventy-five million dollars to help challenge this specific directive.

### 9. Varia

None

### 10. Second Question Period

None

### 11. Adjournment & Closing

On a motion by A. Di Domizio and seconded by R. Schulz-Peissel, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, in-person, at the school.

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*Andr Batsis*

A. Batsis  
Chair, Royal Vale Governing Board  
2023-2024

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*Oki L. Delaney*

O. Delaney  
Principal, Royal Vale School