ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL
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Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 6th, 2026
Time: 4:30pm
Location: St. Gabriel School (in person)

Attendance

Present: Zena Wright, Jean Daniel Labbe, Joe Filippone, Corine Nicholson, Judith Tokgoz, Assunta Caruso, Andrea Truffa, Christine Chenier, Carol Clifton, Natalie Sztych, Nancy Souffrant, Ahlia Mathura.
Absent: None.

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of Agenda:
    - JD approved; Zena seconded.

2. Welcome of new members:
    - New Governing Board members introduced themselves.

3. Adoption of minutes from last meeting:
    - Approved by JD; seconded by Joe.

4. Governing Board Fund :
    - Discussed using the funds (250$) for grade 6 scholarship, as was done last year. Approved unanimously.

5. Public questions:
    - No questions were raised.

6. Business arising:

6.1. Role of Governing Board; No questions. Approved unanimously.
6.2. Adoption of Secretary: Joe nominated; Zena seconded the nomination. Approved unanimously.
6.3. Adoption of Chairperson: JD was nominated by Carole; seconded by Joe. Approved unanimously.
6.4. Adoption of Treasurer: Joe volunteered; approved unanimously.
6.5. Hybrid approach to GB: Carol approved; seconded by Zena.
6.6. Internal rules of GB: Determined that In-person meetings will be scheduled at 4:30 pm and virtual meetings at 6:30 pm; approved unanimously.
6.7. Code of conduct: The Code was adopted unanimously.

7. Principal's report:
    - It was requested that the Principal be allowed to approve any field trip costing less than 25$. JD approved; Andrea seconded.
    - It was requested that the Principal be allowed to approve any fundraising initiatives as long as the cost is less than 5$. JD approved; Andrea seconded.
    - It was requested the Board allow E-votes for certain questions that could arise outside of regularly scheduled GB meetings. Zena approved; Carol seconded.
    - Principal to request 600$ from PPO for open house and 1500$ for motivational messages and staircase project. Approved unanimously.
    - Our new Community Officer (Catherine) shared some workshops offered by SPVM. The students will attend the following workshops:
        - Vaping (for grades 5 and 6 only)
        - Halloween Safety.
    - The Community Development Agent (Caitlin) is working on developing alliances with non-profits like Big Brothers & Big Sisters and seeking grants for the school.
    - Boite a lunch activities began last Friday.
    - A total of 2170$ was raised as part of the Terry Fox fundraising.
    - Building update:
        - Work is in progress. Sealants being applied before brick can be laid again (brickwork will have to wait until summer break)
        - Currently awaiting the inspection to determine whether it is an "open building" or "closed building". If it is determined that in its current state, the school is a "closed building" then we will regain usage of the schoolyard.
        - The schoolyard will need to be revamped after the brick is put up.
    - St Gabriel Way being promoted through assemblies, teachers' presentations to students.
    - The hot lunch program has not yet started for this year, pending budgets. Multiple options discussed as possible alternatives or supplemental resources. GB open to supplementing with these, pending what will be provided by Generations. Principal to follow-up with Generations and get back to GB.

8. Teachers' Report

- Reinforcing school values and positive behaviours using visual aids, reminders, artefacts such as the reflection sheet and lessons (e.g CCQ course).
- Teachers are currently discussing what field trips they would like to organize for the year.
- ECO-School initiatives have begun: composting in the classrooms, milk carton recycling.

9. Parent Delegate Report:
    - None.

10. Daycare Report:
    - Collection ongoing.
    - Ped days should all cost less than 30$ like last year. For last week's ped day activity, the children made their own pizzas from scratch.
    - Oct 26 ped day activity will be pumpkin decorating.
    - Ongoing programs for daycare students:
        - Mother Goose program for K4/K5 kids.
        - Grade 1 - reading club.
        - Grades 2 to 4 - once per week, science and art with Concordia students.
        - Grades 5 & 6 - mentoring with sports (bullying, hormonal changes, emotional regulation, courage)

11. Home and School Report:
    - Fundraising has started (Chocolate Bar drive).

12. Varia :
    - Community Report (Ahlia) :
        - Working with our Community Development Agent preparing information for parent-teacher night so parents can know about the community services available to families and upcoming events
        - Shared an overview of current initiatives, upcoming halloween and holiday season events. Details/flyers to be shared by e-mail.
    - No update on after-school activities until we receive the budgets.
    - Paid after-school activities: principal to share some options with GB.
    - Next GB meeting dates:
        - Nov. 3 at 18:30 on-line
        - Dec. 8 at 18:30 on-line
        - Jan. 12 at 18:30 on-line
        - Feb. 16 at 18:30 on-line
        - Mar. 16 at 16:30 in-person
        - Apr. 15 at 16:30 in-person
        - May 11 at 16:30 in-person
        - June 15 at 16:30 in-person