



## 2024 – 2025 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

**Monday, October 7, 2024**  
**St. Monica Elementary School**  
**7:00 p.m**  
**In-Person**

**ATTENDANCE:** Andrew Mangal, Principal, Joseph Lalla, Commissioner, Lynn Watson, Karen Bejjani, Sandra Flores-Carpinteyro, Joanne Hall, Jesse Corbeil, Nicholas Sitaras, Elena Raznovan, Jennifer Young (Grad Committee Co-Chair), Anne Doan (virtual)

**REGRETS:** Leighton Jacobs

### 1. Opening Remarks

1. **Principal Andrew Mangal** welcomed everyone and reviewed the Responsibilities of the Members of the Governing Board and Rules of Contact covered in the Governing Board Manual – Pages 4.5 and 4.6. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Mangal until the 2024 – 205 Chair was elected.

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

- 2.1. Mr. Mangal motions to adopt the agenda:
  - First: Jesse Corbeil
  - Second: Elena Raznovan
  - **Unanimously approved.**

### 3. Composition of Governing Board

- 3.1. Governing Board Chairperson Selection: Jesse Corbeil nominated and accepted.
- 3.2. Governing Board Secretary Selection: Elena Raznovan nominated and accepted.
- 3.3. Governing Board Treasurer Selection: Anne Doan nominated and accepted.
- 3.4. Governing Board Community Representation Selection & Approval

Three community members were nominated:

1. Margaret Ford, Centre jeunesse Benny
2. Nadine Collins (Women on the Rise)
3. Alejandra Pérez (NDG Food Depot)

Jesse Corbeil motions to vote through ranked ballot. The Top 2 partners are offered the position on the governing board, with the third partner being offered the spot if one of the two top ranked partners decline. Nominates Jennifer Young to count the ballots as the non-voting member in attendance.

**Motion is moved** by Elena Raznovan and seconded by Lynn Watson.

### 3. Composition of Governing Board (cont'd)

The vote was held and the results were:

1. Margaret Ford
2. Alejandra Pérez
3. Nadine Collins

Karen Bejjani left at 7:38 p.m. due to a family emergency.

#### 3.5. Governing Board Member Contact Information

Jesse Corbeil motions for Joanne Hall to collect and validate member contact information.

- **Motion is moved** by Nicholas Sitaras and seconded by Joanne Hall.

#### 3.6. Governing Board Meeting Dates

Jesse Corbeil motions for meeting dates to change to first Monday of the Month until January 2025. Meeting dates are as follows:

- November 4, 2024 at 7 p.m. virtual
- December 2, 2024 at 7 p.m. virtual
- **Motion is moved** by Joanne Hall and seconded by Elena Raznovan.

### 4. Approval of Minutes from the last meeting (June 17, 2024)

**Motion is moved** by Lynn Watson and seconded by Joanne Hall.

### 5. Business Arising from the Minutes: None

### 6. Reports

#### 6.1. Principal's Report

- Staffing challenges
  - Mostly resolved but missing one attendant
  - Teachers are fully staffed with only one outstanding role
- Bicycle path on Terrebonne
  - Principal Mangal noted significant safety concerns when loading and unloading children on the busses.
  - Officer Lapointe and Iacovella from SPVM will help advocate with the city to provide sufficient parking for the busses. Currently, the space allotted for school busses is insufficient and can not accommodate all school busses.
  - It is noted that when asked to vote on the implementation of the bicycle path by the city, all principals and local church voted against the project.
  - Mr. Joseph Lalla stated that he will continue to fight to have the bicycle path reconfigured due to safety concerns.
- September Corn roast
  - Peter and Margaret Ford helped St. Monica's put together a successful corn roast for the school's community. The event included a bouncy castle, hot dogs, roasted corn, and more!

## 6. Reports (cont'd)

- Indigenous issues
  - EMSB has a new consultant to help guide schools on topics that deal with indigenous learnings
  - The consultant shared concerns that schools were treating Orange Shirt day as more of a celebration than a remembrance and acknowledgement.
  - The guidance to St. Monica's was to implement a heart memorial in the front of the school that was a very successful and appreciated activity for the whole community.

### 6.2. Commissioner's Report

- Encouraged members of the board of to vote in the upcoming election and reminded the group of the importance of a good turn-out.
- Joseph Lalla left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

### 6.3. Regional Delegate's Report: None

### 6.4. Teacher's Report

- Lynn Watson shared relief that September a success.
- Most of the senior kindergarten kids come from junior kindergarten which allows for continuity and stability in teaching and community-building.
- Cycle 1 students went apple picking and engaged in apple-related activities
- Cycle III: Grades 5 & 6 participated in a soccer jamboree
- Grades 3 to 6 will start swimming at the NDG Sports Centre and will also go skating in the winter at the Doug Harvey Arena.

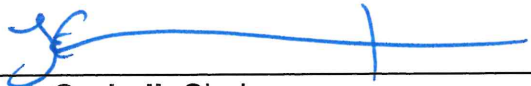
### 6.5. Daycare Report

- Sandra Flores also reported on a smooth September.
- Everything is going very well due the experience educators on staff.
- Daycare staff is actively preparing for four (4) Pedagogical days (Ped Days) in November.
- Sandra Flores left at 8:25 p.m.

### 6.6. PPO Report: None. Committee scheduled to hold its first meeting.

## 7. New Business

- 7.1. EMSB Nutritional Policy – Soda drinks, energy drinks and sharing of food
- Principal Mangal informed the governing board of a need to implement and enforce the EMSB nutritional policy, with particular focus on:
    - Prioritizing healthy snacks
    - No sharing of food to truly provide an allergy-free learning environment. This means not allowing parents to send in food to mark special occasions like birthdays.
    - No energy drinks, Gatorade, etc...
  - Principal is authorized to distribute food if necessary (for example, candy on Hallowe'en)
    - The governing board is aligned with the principal's recommendations and the Board's nutritional policy. The members brainstormed creative ideas to support the policy and implement it smoothly.
- 7.2. Grad committee
- Jennifer Young provided an update on fundraising efforts and next steps.
  - \$1,750 was raised at the car wash fundraiser.
  - Jennifer Young motions to approve 5 upcoming activities that were proposed by the grad committee:
    1. Movie night and bake sale on Thursday, November 28th, 2024
    2. Second fundraising car wash, scheduled for the last week of May or first weekend of June 2025
    3. Valentine's Day Dance / sokhop on February 13, 2025
    4. Valentine's Day Candy Grams
    5. Identify and solicit sponsors for additional funding stream
  - **Motion is moved** by Joanne Hall and seconded by Nicholas Sitaras.
8. **Date of next meeting:** November 4, 2024 at 7 p.m. virtual
9. **Adjournment** at 8:48 p.m.
- **Motion is moved** by Joanne Hall and seconded by Lynn Watson.

  
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Jesse Corbeil, Chairperson

  
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Andrew Mangal, Principal