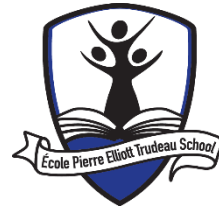


**École Pierre Elliott Trudeau School**  
**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA**  
**January 13, 2025 @ 6:30PM**  
**Online**



**PRESENT:**

**Voting members**

**Parents:** Hajar Bahir-Lapierre, Mark Carras, Gesua Catalano, Sandra Gabriele, Christi Milsom, Leslie Ning,

**Teachers:** Dina Simec, Jennifer Lacroix, Nadia Di Mattia, Rola Soueidan

**Other Staff:** Mary De Palma-Nitti, Mara Filippone (daycare)

**Non-voting members**

**Principal:** Tanya Alvares

**Com. Reps:** *positions unfilled*

**Commissioner:** Maria Corsi

**ABSENT:** Viktoria Grosko (parent), Patty Foschi (teacher – *on leave*)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 by S. Gabriele.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

R. Soueidan motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by, J. Lacroix; motion passed unanimously.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

J. Lacroix moved for approval of the Dec. 9, 2024 Governing Board meeting minutes. N. Di Mattia seconds the motion and it carries unanimously.

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**4.1 Update re: letter to the arrondissement**

- A “no stopping” sign has been installed on Chabot. S. Gabriele will follow up with Guillaume Champagne for further updates from the arrondissement.

**4.2 Daycare pick up – winter weather**

- A letter informing parents of the HopHop application was sent out.
- Parents will be allowed to wait inside for the winter months.

**5. Question period**

No questions were presented.

**6. New Business**

**6.1 New principal criteria**

- *T. Alvares left the meeting.*

- The new principal criteria is due by March 19. Discussion started tonight and will continue at the February and/or March meetings.
- Governing Board discussed the requirements and added specifics under the section on management skills. S. Gabriele recorded changes to be voted on at the next meeting. Governing Board members will receive the updated document by email and have the opportunity to suggest other changes before the vote at the next meeting.

## 7. Reports

### 7.1 EMSB Parent's Committee Report

- The EMSB Parent's Committee discussed recent cuts to the education budget. GB should start thinking about priorities for the upcoming *Budget Building Process*.
  - Commissioner Maria Corsi explained how the board takes the budget priorities into consideration and how the ranking process works.
- Draft calendars for the EMSB for the 2025-2026 year will be released shortly.
- A letter was sent to request an EMSB email address for each Governing Board chair to encourage continuity once future chairs are appointed.
- An email was sent to Governing Board members about an upcoming EPCA workshop on Parent governance
- Details from the Dec. 5 EMSB Parent's Committee meeting were sent to board members by email (see attached).

### 7.2 Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Maria Corsi talked about \$200 million in cuts to Quebec's public schools to be implemented by the third week of March 2025. The goal is to not have the cuts touch services to students. Some projects may be delayed. For example, the implementation of the Saint Raphael school project at Nesbitt will be delayed or prolonged.
- There was a launch event to present a new program for kindergarten orientation to be used for upcoming kindergarten registration at EMSB elementary schools.
- Several EMSB schools will be hosting open houses in the upcoming weeks.
- The next EMSB board meeting will be held February 4, 2025.

### 7.3 Treasurer's Report

- V. Grosko was absent.
- T. Alvares shared the final cost of the meal for the December meeting: \$393.21.

### 7.4 Principal's Report

- A letter was sent out regarding the lunch fees. There are two payments per year. The second payment is due by Jan. 29.
- The administration is currently busy with student registration. Sibling registration is coming up next. Registration will be open for everyone from Feb. 3 – Feb. 7, for which a form will be available online.
- The PET Open House will take place January 23, 2025 from 10-11am and 6-8pm. T. Alvares invited Commissioner Maria Corsi and all GB members to attend.

### **7.5 Teachers' Report**

- Proposal by D. Simec to take the K4 and K5 students to Funtropolis in Laval, from 8:45-1:30pm on June 20 (the last day of school). The cost will be \$18.95 +tx. per student and \$9.95 +tx. for parents who wish to join. Request for PPO to pay 641.93 for bus transportation.
- D. Simec motions to approve the trip and for the cost of transportation to be covered by PPO, seconded by C. Milsom. Passed unanimously.
- D. Simec described an upcoming trip for the K4 & K5 students to visit Intermiel on June 2, 2025. This activity will be paid for with the cultural funds, so there is no cost to parents.
- Proposal by D. Simec to request \$2000 (maximum amount; may be less) from PPO funds for the K4 and K5 students, for the end-of-the year, to cover the cost of a personalized gift for each student, to repair or replace equipment for a day of water games and outdoor activities and a for a pizza lunch with cupcakes.
- D. Simec motions to approve the trip, seconded by R. Soueidan. Passed unanimously.
- J. Lacroix reported on teacher initiatives to promote the school for open house
- There is also a grade 6 visit planned to the Holocaust Museum next week, connected to the grade 6 curriculum.
- N. Di Mattia mentioned that the grade 4 and grade 3/4 split classes will be selling honey at open house.

### **7.6 PPO Report**

- The Origami Masters raised \$154 during the holiday concert. They are planning to also have a table at open house.
- The PPO bake sale and coffee sold at the holiday concert raised \$431.20
- Hot coffee and coffee beans will be sold at open house.
- The second "Morning Community Coffee" is planned for January 29, 2025.

#### Seed sale – Ferme Tournesol

- Proposal for an upcoming fundraiser planned to sell seeds from Ferme Tournesol (herbs, vegetables, flowers) for \$5 per packet. The fundraiser will run Feb. 3 – 27 where parents can order online with a code. The seeds will be delivered at school after March break.
- N. Di Mattia motions to approve the fundraiser, seconded by L. Ning. Passed unanimously.

#### Valentine's Day Bake Sale

- Proposal for a bake sale for the children, during school hours, on Friday, Feb. 14 – Valentine's Day. Parents will be asked to donate or make baked goods.

- J. Lacroix motions to approve the fundraiser, seconded by M. Carras. Passed unanimously.

#### Staff appreciation

- Staff appreciation will be held February 24 – 27. Request for \$2000 for meals, decorations and gifts.
- L. Ning motions to approve the PPO funds to be used for staff appreciation, seconded by M. Carras. Passed unanimously.

#### Saint Patrick's Day Dance

- The Saint Patrick's Day dance is planned for Friday, March 14, 2025. Tickets will be sold to parents (\$10) and students (\$5). There will be 275 tickets available.
- J.Lacroix motions to approve the dance, seconded by N. Di Mattia. Passed unanimously.

#### Bowling Night

- A bowling night at Quilles G Plus is being organized for Wednesday, April 2, 2025 from 6-8pm. There will be 120 places available. Tickets will be \$20 per person.
- N. Di Mattia motions to approve bowling night, seconded by J. Lacroix. 11 votes in favour and one abstention.

#### The Scholastic Bookfair

- The Scholastic English bookfair is planned for April 22 – 24, 2025. Parent are invited to attend on April 24. All proceeds will go back to the school as Scholastic rewards.
- L. Ning motions to approve the bookfair, seconded by R. Soueidan. Passed unanimously.

#### Community Board Game and Pasta Night

- A community activity fundraiser, a board game / pasta night is planned for Thursday, May 8, 2025 in the school gym. All proceeds go to the school since meals donated from Le Doral.
- C. Milsom motions to approve the game night, seconded by D. Simec. Motion passed unanimously.
- M. Carras mentioned the possibility of introducing a non-cash option for fundraisers held at the school, i.e. for coffee and bake sales.

#### **7.7 Grad Committee**

- The grad committee will be represented at open house.

#### **7.8 Daycare/Lunch Report**

- Daycare is fully staffed.

### **8. Varia**

- M. Carras requested the Governing Board meeting materials (agenda, minutes, documents) be made available 48 hours before Governing Board meetings to give members time to read everything thoroughly.

#### **9. Next meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2025, online.

#### **10. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm on a motion by J. Lacroix, seconded by D. Simec. The motion carried unanimously.

*Minutes taken by Christi Milsom*

#### **Read-out from EMSB Parents' Committee meeting, December 5, 2024:**

*There were 3 (A, B, C) presentations from the EMSB staff, summarized further down:*

- *3 presentations delivered by EMSB staff (this was the bulk of the meeting)*
- *A new digital security/kid-friendly tool was identified for kids. It was developed by a police officer in Trois-Rivieres and is a bilingual website. It is targeted toward kids 8-11 years old and has a feature where a kid can anonymously send (i.e., without notifying police) a warning to someone that may be cyber bullying. The warning includes details on the legal repercussions that can occur as a result of cyber bullying.*
- *EMSB Parents Committee is writing a new letter to the EMSB asking for a response to a letter sent to EMSB re: standardization of the survey approach taken by EMSB schools when identifying/approving a Learning Project. This was before my time, but in essence there is a concern that EMSB schools do not follow the same procedures or requirements to adequately consult on the school's learning project. There is a request to standardize the survey approach - more to come.*
- *The Chair of the EMSB Parents Committee to sign a letter on road safety in support of a provincial Ombudsman to help address the issue at an institutional level and in response to rising rates of road accidents/deaths for students in Montreal. I will circulate the letter for discussion in January - signatures of the EMSB School GBs could be useful fuel to the fire.*
- *There were two community interventions, with one of note, below:*
  - *Sex Education is part of the CCQ curriculum, but there is a lack of bilingual/english texts on the subject. The Chair limited discussion on this topic*

*given the personal/values-laden nature of discussions around sex education and children.*

- *Jamie Quinn was noted as a resource of someone that could come in to speak with schools about sexuality education.*

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#### *(A) Truth and Reconciliation Programming*

*- This was done out of the Community Involvement Service by EMSB animators. Recently they hired 2 staff to conduct Indigenous education.*

*- When EMSB started out in this effort, they engaged with Indigenous community members who had children at EMSB schools. Through this, they were connected with Indigenous elders who indicated, first, that EMSB staff, teachers, etc. needed to receive education first so as to appropriately and meaningfully guide discussions with children.*

*- There are four areas of action:*

##### *1. Funding (for Indigenous youth)*

- *They apply annually for supporting funding from the GQC. This funding envelope exists for 4 years.*

##### *2. Resources*

- *They have developed a list of resources (age-appropriate) for use by teachers and others looking to access the materials. Specifically, they have*
  - *Age appropriate-texts in the Sora library system*
  - *Educational resources/teaching kits are available for teachers to draw from.*
  - *There are also activity books/guides available for teachers.*

##### *3. Cultural Programming*

- *EMSB is working with the "Native Montreal" organisation for long-term community supports that could be developed and go beyond schooling (e.g., longer-term cultural programming)*

##### *4. Professional Development*

- *EMSB has funded and worked on language of land acknowledgements; was involved in [Indspire2021](#); has paid for a number of Kairos Blanket Exercises (in my opinion, the Kairos blanket exercise is well worth it - I've participated in the exercise through my work)*

*Going forward, EMSB is looking to work with active and self-selecting schools to advance more robust programming beyond "Orange Shirt Day". More information and touch-points with the EMSB on this topic can be sent to [supportforindigenous@emsb.qc.ca](mailto:supportforindigenous@emsb.qc.ca).*

#### *(B) Bidirectional Language Learning Transfer + (C) STEAM*

*- EMSB is piloting new, focused Professional Development (PD) strategies, and have partnered with Concordia to measure their success. The intent is to select three schools (small, medium, and large-sized) - one from East, West, and Central Montreal - to pilot new PD strategies focused on (a) Bidirectional language learning transfer, and (b) STEAM.*

(B) *"The Literacy Project" looks to emphasize foundational knowledge / skills in reading for upper-year elementary school teachers, deploying "reading groups" to get kids more interested and engaged with understanding and talking about books they are reading. They also highlighted the UFLI program, which I understand is already in use at PET (and is in their view best-practice).*

- *They are also advancing a Digital Literacy project, but this is a small single-school project at this time. It focuses on things like understanding the framing of the digital media, looking at the author and understanding their perspective in writing a piece, exploring the data/truth of the matter, etc.*

(C) *STEAM, focused on earlier school levels (i.e., not high-school, where there are larger and more specific standardized outcomes for courses), is a PD approach that looks to identify 'teaching pairs' for projects or "Learning Evaluation Situations" to instruct students on at least 2 subjects simultaneously. E.g., taking a STEAM approach to addressing the declining bee population. Why is it happening? What can be done to deal with it? (Build a bee garden/pollinator hotspot!). The goal is to focus in on a subset of schools and base of teachers over a few years, with 5 PD days a year focused on the STEAM approach, so that there can be continued continuity with the STEAM approach in the school without EMSB needing to do new PD days on it every year - i.e., address institutional knowledge (which can be lost when teachers change schools).*