Willingdon Governing Board

Minutes January 25, 2022

Present: Aurora Flewwelling-Skup, Carmen Nicolas, Lucas Reindler, Karen Negrete (Home and School), Maya Doughan, Joseph Lalla (EMSB), Kathleen Usher, Tracy Lyall, Laurice Morcos, Lara Belinsky, Laura Primiano, Virginie Cambost (PAC), Cornelia Mandoiu, Nick Batzios, Matt Follett, Eric Lamoureux (Michael Creamer off and on)

- I. Chairperson's Remarks/Welcome. Tracy Lyall read out the Land Acknowledgement.
- II. Approval of Agenda
 It was suggested to move Principal Selection Criteria to the end of the agenda. The amended agenda was approved by consensus.
- III. Approval of minutes from November 30, 2021. The minutes were approved by consensus.
- IV. Business Arising
 - a. COVID Response Update. Carmen explained that whole classes are no longer notified of cases in the school. Still, the administration continues to monitor case number and report them to the school board. On February 18, a vaccination clinic will be held on campus. A second rapid test distribution is coming this Friday. Others pointed out their disappointment that the government has only now begun an awareness campaign about the need for vaccination.

V. New Business

- a. BASE daycare presentation and letter. Carmen explained that the BASE daycare would like to make a presentation to all parents to explain how it works, preferably within a week or two to begin the process of hiring and setting it up. They are open to feedback. A letter is needed from GB to formally request a BASE daycare at Willingdon.
 - Eric moved that the Governing Board formally request of the EMSB the opening of a BASE daycare at Willingdon for August 2022 and that we send a letter to the EMSB to that effect immediately. Seconded by Matt. The vote was unanimously in favour of the motion.
- b. Cycle 1 ERC in French approval. Carmen explained that last year Willingdon was told it needed to add 150 minutes of English instruction to Cycle One. In order to not lose too many minutes of French in Cycle One, Willingdon has decided to teach 60 minutes of ERC in French by the homeroom teacher. A resolution to that effect was presented. Eric moved in favour of the resolution. Kathleen seconded it. The vote was unanimously in favour of the motion.
- c. Our School Survey Result presentation. Maya explained the Our School Survey, which is aimed at grades 4, 5 and 6 across Canada every year. She presented the feedback to the GB and explained the role of COVID, student difficulties understanding the questions, and anxieties over moving to Senior Campus in affecting some results.
- d. Principal selection criteria (Moved to the end of the agenda)
- e. Mesure_Protegee_collect_info. Aurora shared a government document, which Carmen then explained, regarding monies allocated by the government to school boards and then to schools for various measures to support students, such as tutoring,

cultural outings, and library budgets (Fund 6). A resolution confirming that the monies allocated to Willingdon were actually spent for their intended purpose was presented to the Governing Board. Eric moved the adoption of the motion, confirming the total amount of \$65 714.00. Matt seconded. Unanimous.

VI. Question Period. No questions were sent.

VII. Reports

- a. Principal. Carmen explained that registration for kindergarten began this week, electronically. As of today, 101 have registered, equaling 5 solid kindergarten classes. Students of other grades will be able to register next week. We may potentially have a pre-K next year, pending construction of a new bathroom. Report cards will be out February 11, with parent-teacher interviews to follow, by invitation or request.
 - Workshops on sexual diversity for Grades 5 and 6 have begun, including workshops with parents. Workshops for other grades are coming soon.
 - Parents of current students must re-register soon electronically in order for the school to plan for next year.
- b. Vice-Principal Junior Campus. Maya did the report for both vice-principals. Cycle 2 and 3 students have begun a debating club, including some enriched students. CO2 monitors have been installed around the school. Grade 4 students will be receiving a guest speaker on diversity and inclusion.
 - The Grad chocolate sale is coming February 11
 - The yearbook committee is working on the yearbook.
 - The Respect campaign is receiving guest speakers on Black History Month in February and on women's rights for March.
- c. Vice-Principal Senior Campus. See above.
- d. Home and School. Karen explained that not much is going on due to the pandemic stopping in-person events. Pizza lunch and FroYo continue. Holiday themed events had to be done virtually. Treats for staff will be given out the week of February 7. There will also be a book fair coming up. Fundraising for the year has largely wrapped up.
- e. Teachers/MTA. Kathleen spoke for the MTA. Returning to online teaching and then to in-person teaching with no new protection measures has been difficult. Teachers are always happier to be in-person with the students, but they would prefer a science-based plan be implemented from the government as it makes its decision. Everyone just wants to keep everyone safe and healthy.
 - Lara explained that Willingdon has received its cross-country skis with great joy. Nick explained that the Music Club choir auditioned for the chance to sing the national anthem. It was scheduled to perform at the hockey game at the Bell Centre last week, but the game was cancelled. Hopefully, it will be rescheduled.
 - Laurice explained that the students are preparing their presentations for l'art oratoire. There will not likely be a regional competition this year. They will also prepare their storytelling presentations in English.
 - Cornelia thanked Home and School for the Santa Bus presentations for kindergarten. All are happy the students are back in school. The One Hundred Days celebration will be coming up in February.

Kathleen explained that Green Committee is working on washing out milk cartons and dealing with composting at Senior campus. Grade 6 students are working out their tree presentations.

- f. EDP. Nothing to report.
- g. PAC. Virginie explained that there is a group of 5 parents working on the beautification of the school yard. They wish to link up with Dr Kat to offer support. PAC was disappointed that the proposal to redo the yard at Junior Campus was not approved. Carmen explained that the project was postponed, and will not likely be implemented next year either, but it will be incorporated into a larger renovation in the coming years.
- h. EMSB Parents' Committee Representative. Tracy explained that the last meeting went until 11 PM and only covered Internal Rules. There will be a parent conference coming up.
- i. School Commissioner. Mr Lalla had nothing to report.
- VIII. Varia. Tracy spoke about Global School Play Day, a day for student-directed play next Wednesday, to be considered for next year.

V. New Business.

- d. Principal Selection Criteria. Carmen left the meeting in order for GB to discuss these criteria. Aurora posted the existing criteria for discussion. Lara moved to adopt the document. Lucas seconded. Unanimous.
- IX. Adjournment. Lara moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:29.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Lamoureux

Principal's signature

Chairperson's signature