



Willingdon Governing Board Minutes

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Meeting commences at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Halah Al-Ubaidi (community rep), Nick Batzios (teacher), Eugenia Carystios (vice principal, Senior campus), Kelly Cloutier (parent, alternate) Nadine Collins (community rep – Women on the Rise), Silvana Crigna (principal), Jessica Doubt (vice principal, Junior campus), Kristy Cuevas (Home & School co-chair), Lynn Grunberg (teacher), Felicia Maccio (teacher), Kristin McNeill (parent), Karyn Moffatt (parent), Laurice Morcos (teacher), Daniel Quinn (chair), Kevin Reeves (parent), Alex Ruaux (parent), Nadine Thomas (daycare tech member) and Kathleen Usher (teacher).

Regrets: Karen Kleihauer (parent) and Sharon Nelson (commissioner).

Minutes taken by Kristin McNeill.

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of agenda.

Moved by Kathleen and seconded by Nick.

3. Approval of minutes of March 24, 2025 Meeting

Moved by Karyn and seconded by Felicia. Adopted unanimously.

4. Business Arising

None.

5. New Business

a. Calendar 2025-2026

The principal presented the 2025-2026 school calendar. It was reported that this year, the school had two snow days. It was requested that the November 7, 2025 professional day that is indicated on the Board calendar also be included on the school's "Important Dates" document, also indicating there would be no daycare services that day. This is the only day when no BASE is offered.

Motion to adopt the calendar.

Moved by Nick and seconded by Kathleen. Adopted unanimously.

b. Important dates 2025-2026

The principal presented the Important Dates document. She noted it showed that Sept. 30 remains attestation day. The government has not responded about the possibility of changing it to a different day, as per the movement to make Sept. 30 dedicated solely as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Motion to adopt Important Dates.

Moved by Lynn and seconded by Kristin. Adopted unanimously.



c. Governing Board Bursaries for Grade Six Graduation

The vice principal of senior campus explained that every year the GB is asked if the school can use the Governing Board budget to allocate bursaries. For the total amount of \$250, a total of \$62.50 would be awarded to one student in each of the four graduating classes. The Home and School co-chair said it could contribute some funds to top up the award. The community rep at Women on the Rise said her organization could also contribute to make it an even \$100 each. The total amount will be presented at the May GB meeting.

Motion to adopt the proposal that this \$250 from GB funds be allocated to student bursaries.

Moved by Lynn and seconded by Nadine T.

6. Question Period

No questions.

7. Reports:

a. Principal (Silvana Crigna)

None.

b. Vice-Principal, Junior Campus (Jessica Doubt)

A written report was provided ahead of time. The vice principal of Junior campus reported that the Grade 4 vaccines went well; the school had a steelpan band event and anti-bullying assemblies.

c. Vice-Principal, Senior Campus (Eugenia Carystios)

A written report was provided ahead of time. The vice principal of Senior campus reported that two students presented at the Board-wide storytelling festival at Gardenview Elementary School in Ville St. Laurent. The Willingdon debating team participated in a debating tournament at Dunrae Gardens in Town of Mount Royal, with two students making it to a second-place finish in the finals. A presentation was made by XX on anti-bullying that had some important take-aways. Part of the Grade 6 Legacy Gift will include a service project: A school-wide hygiene products collection for each Grade 6 student to make an individual bag of products for people who are unhoused. New ECAs include an Art Club and a Coding Club. Exams. Exams will start on April 24.

d. Home and School (Kristy Cuevas)

The co-chair reported on dates of upcoming events: Spring Book Fair, the end-of-year Grand Finale and the just completed Food Drive.

e. Teachers/MTA

Kathleen reported that the staff calendar is full. In-class work on creative projects has been going well in the Grade 4 and 5 science classes. An Earth Day clean-up was organized via Éco-quartier NDG for all Grade 1 to Grade 6 students at both campuses. The Grade 6 mural project is a go, with funds coming from the Home and School. Miss B's fundraiser for the Leucan and Women on the Rise fundraisers will culminate in a "to shave or to cut" event on May 29 at Junior campus. Also that day, the honey sale will take place - the result of a Grade 6 year-long project about bees and honey. The Grade 5 overnight trip to CampsRep will take place June 5/6. The Halo race is on May 8.



Nick reported that the Spring Music Concert is coming up.

Lynn reported that Cycle 1 teachers were doing a pilot project to implement technology in the classroom. Teachers attended a workshop in April on technology. Teachers were preparing for Literacy Week. This included a cover page contest, under the direction of Nicolas Doyons, education consultant at the EMSB. Next year, teachers could take it on. The Cycle 1 music concert took place on May 30.

Felicia reported that Kindergarten classes focused on nutrition during the month of March. A consultant visited classes.

f. B.A.S.E. Daycare (Nadine Thomas)

Nadine T. provided a written report ahead of time. She added that May 12-16 is Daycare Appreciation Week. The May 16 PED day will include a Beaver Tail food truck. Registration closes on Mozaik on April 23, but parents can contact her directly to do registration.

g. Parent Advisory Committee (~~Alex Riaux~~) (SANDY)

No report.

h. EMSB Parents' Committee Representative (Karyn M.)

A report was provided ahead of time. Budget cuts faced by the Board were mostly made without direct impact on students. Budget cuts will continue next year. The EPCA workshops are available to parents. The GB email address discussion continues.

i. School Commissioner (Sharon Nelson)

No report.

j. Community Representatives

Nadine C. from Women on the Rise provided a report ahead of time. Happy to be chosen as a recipient of the Willingdon fundraiser.

Halah from NDG Community Council provided a report ahead of time.

8. Varia

Nothing to report.

9. Adjournment

7:20 p.m.

Motion to adjourn, Alex.

Principal's signature: _____ Date: May 26, 2025

Governing Board Chair's signature: _____ Date: May 26, 2025