

**Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting held at  
Ste. Agathe Academy  
26 Napoléon, Ste. Agathe des Monts, QC  
Tuesday, December 6th, 2016**

**Members Present:**

Elementary Parents: Renée Beauséjour, Tania Colleret

High School Parents: Vivianne Cliche, Jo Morrissey, Sandra Morselli  
(Chairperson)

High School Teachers: Mdelwa Mehlo, Julie Wilkins

Principal: Brian Sénécal (Interim)

Student Representative: Fiamma Saragosa

Community Representative: Jacqui Raill

Secretary: Barbara Lanthier

Also Present: Peter MacLaurin (Commissioner, S.W.L.S.B.)

Motivated Absences: Melinda Lalonde, Chantal Paquin

Absent: Victoria Barrett

**1. Acceptance of Agenda**

**GB06122016-01**

Julie Wilkins moved and Renée Beauséjour seconded the motion to approve the agenda with the following addition:

Under Varia 12.1: Loss of Academic Time

**ADOPTED**

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

### **GB06122016-02**

Jo Morrissey moved and Fiamma Saragosa seconded the motion to approve the minutes of November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with the following change:

5.7 (paragraph 3) should read:

M.E.L.S. has implemented a pilot project for the secondary 3 & 4 History Curriculum which the S.W.L.S.B. has agreed for its schools to take part.

**ADOPTED**

## **3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

Jo Morrissey suggested that we should inquire if there is a need of a daycare at S.A.A. It was felt that the service would be helpful in increasing our enrolment. Daycare services are available at Ste. Adèle and Morin Heights elementary schools. Julie Wilkins mentioned that not enough interest was generated by parents when surveys were done in the past.

Sandra Morselli will send a survey to all parents to see if there is a need for the service.

## **4. Question Period**

None

## **5. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **5.1 Principal's Report (Brian Sénécal – Interim)**

See attached report.

## **5.2 Elementary Teacher Report**

The annual "Holiday Craft Day" will be held this Friday. Parent volunteers will be helping teachers in the class with this activity.

Various clubs are up and running steadily: Reading, Baking, Math, Games and Girls' Club are meeting every week.

A few students from grade 6 joined the High School Soccer Team in a game at Lachute Regional High School.

The "Great Book Giveaway" held during the parent-teacher interviews was a great success and appreciated by many families.

## **5.3 Approval of Elementary Field Trips**

None

## **5.4 High School Teacher Report (Julie Wilkins)**

- The "Free the Children - 24 Hour Fast", a global and local initiative, will be held next January at Laurentian Regional High School. Students participating from our school need to raise 500 \$ as a group to be able to attend this event. They will be selling bracelets for 3 \$ and they hope to do another fundraiser to raise more funds towards this endeavor. Miss Tara Grant is the coordinator for this event.
- The Remembrance Day activity organized by the student council was a success. Community members were in attendance and a war veteran was an invited guest speaker.
- There will be a holiday gift exchange at all levels of the high school on the last day of class, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Sports activities and the play practice are still underway.
- Morning announcements to all students will be done in person by the Student Council members during the beginning of period one, when need be.

## **5.5 Approval of High School Field Trips**

There were no trip requests however approval of two fundraisers was requested.

- Approval to allow the secondary 5 students to sell bracelets to help raise funds for their graduation.
- Approval to allow the secondary 5 students to take part in bagging at Maxi in Ste. Agathe in February in conjunction with the CLC to help raise funds for their Prom.

### **GB06122016-03**

Tania Colletet moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion to approve to allow the secondary 5 students to sell bracelets to help raise funds for their graduation expenses.

**ADOPTED**

### **GB06122016-04**

Jo Morrissey moved and Julie Wilkins seconded the motion to approve to allow the secondary 5 students to take part in bagging at the Maxi store in Ste. Agathe in February in conjunction with the CLC to help raise funds for their Prom.

**ADOPTED**

## **5.6 P.P.O. Report (Renée Beauséjour & Jo Morrissey)**

- A profit of 143 \$ was made from the “Used Book & Uniform Sale” held during the last parent-teacher interviews.
- The “Holiday Card” sale is expected to make approximately 700 \$ in profit. Orders can be processed on-line.
- A newsletter will be sent to all parents in December and another one is planned for later during the year.

- A wine bottle fund-raising activity will be held after the holidays. Empty wine bottles will be collected for recycling, with a small profit being made from each bottle. More details to be sent to all parents at a later date.
- 200 \$ will be donated to help fund the elementary cooking club activities.
- The funding promised towards the “Culture à l’École” outing where all students will be attending a play is temporary on hold due to lack of information of cost pertaining to the outing.
- Funds will also be allocated toward the elementary “Holiday Craft Day” activity scheduled for December.

### **5.7 S.W.L.S.B. Parents Committee Report (Jo Morrissey)**

- The Enrolment Criteria was discussed. A resolution was passed to add a section in the Annual Student Re-registration Forms requesting that parents states why they are leaving our board and to which board they are going to.
- The proposed 3-year “Deeds of Establishment” for all schools was passed and accepted.
- The M.E.L.S. Pilot Project for the Secondary 3 & 4 History Curriculum was discussed at length. The “E.P.C.A.” feels that minorities are not well represented. The chair at the provincial table for social sciences, Dan Hedges, has informed Sandra Morselli that teachers had been unhappy with the previous content and that the new re-structured version is more balanced. There are two school boards participating in this M.E.L.S. project, including ours, S.W.L.S.B.
- Governing boards have been asked by the “E.P.C.A.” to submit three areas of concerns/needs that are important to their school. It was agreed that computer access (one device per student), transportation for student activities, and extra resources for smaller schools such as ours are the priority.

- The demographics and projection of student numbers for the S.W.L.S.B. territory are presently being studied which is a major concern due to the fact that student enrollment is on a rapid decline.
- School calendars were adopted for the next three years, pending G.B. and P.C. approval. As usual, our calendar must match that of the Commission Scolaire des Laurentides as they transport our students.
- Standing and bicycle desks are being purchased for use at McCaig Elementary school. Students using these desks have demonstrated increased levels of attention and success.

### **5.8 S.E.A.C. Report**

None

### **5.9 Elementary Student Council Report**

The last Bake Sale raised 222 \$.

A 746 \$ profit has been made in total since the beginning of the school year. It was decided to use 225 \$ from last year's fund of 580 \$ to purchase four much needed hockey nets for the elementary.

Funds from Student Council will also be used to allow all the elementary classes to a "Horse & Buggy" ride on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **5.10 High School Student Council Report (Fiamma Saragosa)**

A "Lumberjack Day" activity was held at lunch during the "Dress-Down" day at the end of November. Numerous activities were held such as tug-of-war, etc.

The holiday December activities are presently being planned.

### **5.11 C.L.C. Report**

None

### **6.0 Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Program**

The teaching staff would like this item to be tabled as we are waiting for directives from Complimentary Services Department, from S.W.L.S.B. The program needs to be updated to suit our needs. To be tabled for a later date.

### **7. Promoting S.A.A. (Jo Morrissey)**

We are still working on updating the S.A.A. website. The marketing workshop being offered at the board will help those involved in this project.

It was suggested that we should promote our school during the John Abbott College Health Caravan visit to be held later in March.

Tania Colletet also suggested that we could promote the school polos, etc. in the showcase near the front doors.

### **8.0 Secondary 3 & 4 History Curriculum**

Discussed under Item **5.7 S.W.L.S.B. Parents Committee**

### **9.0 Governing Board Budget 2016-2017**

The budget was discussed with a few changes proposed. Sandra Morselli will send an updated version to all members for approval via e-mail.

### **10. Correspondence**

None

## **11. Question Period**

- Fiamma Saragosa inquired if it would be possible to offer anxiety/stress workshops for elementary and high school students. Brian Sénécal will ask Chantal Paquin to look into offering the workshops.

Fiamma also brought up the fact that there seems to be a drug problem in the secondary 2 class. Some students were seen smoking drug “Bombs” in the wooded areas during recess. Brian Sénécal informed the members that the students involved are presently being addressed about this problem.

## **12. Varia**

### **12.1 Loss of Academic Time**

Jo Morrissey stated that some parents are worried about the loss of academic time in class, due to the student activities being held such as: weekly Friday afternoon activities for the elementary, movie watching at secondary level and students being pulled out of class by the behavior technician.

Renée Beauséjour said that it is felt that too much time is being taken away from academics for both the elementary and secondary sectors.

Jacqui Raill suggested that this information needs to be brought to the attention of the teachers for some feedback.

## **13. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned.

### **GB06122016-05**

Renée Beauséjour moved and Julie Wilkins seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra Morselli, Chairperson

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Brian Sénécal, Interim Principal

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Barbara Lanthier, Secretary

**Addendum:**

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, GB members received via email a revised GB Budget for their review, input and approval.

**GB14122016-01**

Be it resolved that GB Members approve the revised GB Budget sent to them for their review.

**Adopted**