

**Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting held at**

**Ste. Agathe Academy**

**26 Napoléon, Ste. Agathe des Monts, QC**

**Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

**Members Present:**

Elementary Parents: Renée Beauséjour, Melinda Lalonde

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

High School Teacher: Julie Wilkins

Principal: Brian Sénécal (Interim Principal)

Support Staff Representative: Chantal Paquin

Student Representative: Fiamma Saragosa

Secretary: Barbara Lanthier

Also Present: Hugh Cooke (High School Teacher), Peter MacLaurin  
(S.W.L.S.B. Commissioner)

Motivated absences: Vicky Barrett, Tania Colleret, Mdelwa Mehlo, Jacqui  
Raill

Sandra Morselli welcomed Hugh Cooke, Physical Education Teacher, who  
presented the following report:

Hugh Cooke informed us that he has been re-instated as our R.S.E.Q.  
(Réseau Sport Etudiant Québec) delegate for our school. Parents are  
thankful that S.A.A. now has a delegate as this will allow S.A.A. sport teams  
to take part in R.S.E.Q events.

Any event being planned must be brought to the attention of Hugh Cooke so that he may give pertinent information and register the activity/students on the R.S.E.Q. website. A ratio of one adult per fifteen students must be respected at the events.

## **1. Acceptance of Agenda**

### **GB08112016-01**

Julie Wilkins moved and Renée Beauséjour seconded the motion to accept the agenda with the following additions:

- Change in cafeteria hours (varia)
- Citrus Fund-Raising Campaign (varia)
- Daycare (varia)
- Motion of extra-curricular activities (varia)

**ADOPTED**

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

### **GB08112016-02**

Jo Morrissey moved and Chantal Paquin seconded the motion to approve the minutes of October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as presented.

**ADOPTED**

(with one abstention – Renée Beauséjour)

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

Renée Beauséjour and Jo Morrissey questioned the loss of curriculum time when the weekly Friday afternoon activities for the elementary students are held. They would like to know if a plan is in place to make up the loss time. Julie Wilkins stated that the activities are actually one hour long, approximately 10% of educational time, and are related to teaching as they have different themes every week.

Peter MacLaurin, Commissioner, also mentioned that other schools have similar activity days, such as “Wild Wednesdays” at Morin Heights, integrated into the weekly student schedules.

The P.P.O. commitment to fund 25 % towards the cost for the play the high school students will be attending in St. Jérôme (“Culture à l’Ecole” Grant) was revised due to the higher cost of the activity. Funding from P.P.O. will be less than 25% and will be confirmed at our next meeting.

### **4. Question Period**

Jo Morrissey questioned the use of cell phones by students during their class time as she was made aware of an incident recently when students refused to hand in their phones to a teacher when requested to.

Sandra Morselli reminded members that in the Code of Conduct, cell phone use is at the discretion of the teacher.

Julie Wilkins replied that some teachers let students use their phones to look up information or listen to music during reading time.

Fiamma Saragosa mentioned that not all students are using their cell phones for appropriate reasons during class time.

Brian Sénécal informed members that teachers have the right to request that students do not have their cell phones in class and may confiscate them if students do not obey. He also mentioned that he will be reviewing the policy with all students.

## **5. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Please see attached.

### **5.2 Elementary Teachers' Report (Julie Wilkins)**

- Girls' Club, for Grades 3 to 6, has begun with weekly meeting and activities.
- Baking Club has also started. The club bakes items for all students to be served after the school yard clean-up during the Friday afternoon activities.
- A "Board Game Club" will also meet every Thursday for Grades 3 to 6.
- A Basketball team for boys and girls from Grades 4 to 6 has begun practicing once a week and hope to play against other school teams in the future.
- 12 students participated in a Soccer Festival in Blainville in early October.
- The Apple Picking Activity day for the elementary was a great success with good weather.
- The annual "Terry Fox Day" was held despite the cold weather.
- Some Grade 6 students visited the "Quatre Saisons" senior home with the high school students.
- Grade 5 visited the local S.P.C.A. to learn how to care for cats. Another visit is planned for December.

- The Friday afternoon activities have begun. Students are grouped in their team colors and have so far participated in cross training, baking, soccer, baseball, races, etc. An emphasis is put on fitness and bonding of younger and older students.

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

The following activities were presented for approval:

- Craft Day (Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Holiday Breakfast (Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- Horse & Buggy Ride (Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>)

#### **GB08112016-03**

Julie Wilkins moved and Chantal Paquin seconded the motion to approve the Craft Day activity to be held on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**ADOPTED**

#### **GB08112016-04**

Julie Wilkins moved and Melinda Lalonde seconded the motion to approve the Holiday Breakfast to be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**ADOPTED**

#### **GB08112016-05**

Chantal Paquin moved and Julie Wilkins seconded the motion to approve the “Horse & Buggy ride” activity in Ste. Agathe or Val David during the afternoon of December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**ADOPTED**

#### **5.4 High School Teachers' Report (Julie Wilkins)**

- The late busses are running on Wednesdays and Thursdays for the after-school sports activities. The homework program will be scheduled on these days as well so students taking part will also have transportation available.
- The annual "Terry Fox Run" was held on October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The Sec. 2 class attended an activity at the "Tyro Park" in Ste. Agathe and the Sec. 4 class took part in a 3-day hiking trip in Lac Supérieur.
- Since the change in cafeteria hours, more students are participating in remedial sessions being offered during the lunch hour.

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

The following activity was presented for approval:

Holiday Breakfast for all High School Students.

#### **GB08112016-06**

Jo Morrissey moved and Julie Wilkins seconded the motion to approve the "Holiday Breakfast" to be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**ADOPTED**

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

- Events are being discussed and planned for the current school year.
- A "Used Uniform/Book Sale" will take place during the Parent-Teacher/Interviews on November 16<sup>th</sup>.
- A newsletter will be issued twice a year to parents with the contribution of students.

- Funding for both elementary and high school “Holiday Breakfasts” was approved.
- Out of the country School trips for our students are being looked at. There is the possibility of pairing up with other schools from our board in these endeavors. More information to follow at subsequent meetings.
- Requests for funds for activities are being put forth by teachers.

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

The new Director General reported that enrollment is the 1<sup>st</sup> priority of the school board. Schools need to be promoted more efficiently as students are leaving to attend the French school boards and private schools.

Peter MacLaurin stated that some families move to the Montreal area so their children may attend the E.M.S.B. Julie Wilkins mentioned that the “Sport Etude” programs offered by the Commission Scolaire des Laurentides attract many students.

The board has begun testing a pilot project in a few schools for the new History Program being developed for the secondary 3 & 4 class. The Parents Committee has concerns about the program as it seems to offer a rather narrow ideological view of some of the most conservative elements of Quebec’s Nationalist movements which seems to be the standard thought in our schools. The Parents Committee is requesting that Governing Boards review the Consultation Draft that was sent via Jo Morrissey’s Parents’ Committee Report to all GB members for their feedback.

Melinda Lalonde mentioned that our school website is poorly designed and does not offer enough pertinent information. Melinda had to call the school directly to obtain basic information when deciding if she would register her child here.

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

Sandra Morselli reported that Lisa Loveland's mandate was not renewed and that all positions have been fulfilled. There are however alternate positions still available.

## **5.9 Elementary Student Council Report (Julie Wilkins)**

The newly formed Student Council has twelve members this year. Meetings have begun and the following activities were held:

- Monthly Bake Sales were held. The following profits were raised. September: 275 \$ & October: 249.50 \$. November: to be announced. All the funds raised will be used towards the "Horse & Buggy Ride" activity planned for all elementary students on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- A variety of Halloween activities were held such as door decorating, costume parade and a dance. Prizes for the best costumes were allotted (free pizza lunch). Grade 6 won the door decorating contest and had a pizza party. Leftover funds from last year's Student Council covered these prizes.
- Events to come: Holiday Breakfast and "Horse and Buggy" ride on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

This year's Student Council has fifteen members. The first meeting was held during which activities for the school year were discussed.

The Halloween Week activities were held such as pumpkin relay race, movie, costume contest and pumpkin carving.

The Student Council wishes to inquire about the possibility of having a Hang-out spot/lounge for secondary 5 students during the lunch hour. Brian Sénécal replied that he will look into the request.

### **5.11 Community Learning Centre (Chantal Paquin)**

- The Four Corners activity “Kids Let`s Talk” for pre-school has begun and is held on Thursdays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Three spaces are still available.
- The “Beaver Brook Canadian Foundation” is awarding scholarships to seventeen students across Canada to participate in a two-week cultural visit to France. Students wishing to participate must write an essay to apply. More information will be made available to our students in the near future.
- Chantal Paquin, our CLC Coordinator, will be interviewed by “Four Corners” at T.V.C.L. Tremblant (English programming) on November 16<sup>th</sup> to promote our school.
- Some High School students will be visiting and entertaining the senior citizens at “Manoir Quatre Saisons” on November 23<sup>rd</sup> by singing and performing at the piano.
- The secondary two students will be participating in a math workshop “Steam” with Chrome-Books on November 11<sup>th</sup> during period 4. This hockey related mathematical activity is hosted by and paid for by the Montreal Canadians Hockey Team.

### **6. Review of Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Program**

Tabled until next meeting.

### **7. Promoting S.A.A.**

Jo Morrissey mentioned that the board is giving a marketing seminar and suggested that we could participate.

She also suggested that our school could be promoted and advertised during the “McGill Caravan” visit to our school next March.

## **8. Governing Board Budget**

Sandra Morselli presented the proposed 2016-2017 budget for members review and approval. Peter MacLauren voiced his disapproval of allocating funds to the SWL Foundation Galas. A discussion ensued with the members. Some members agreed that the funds should be allocated towards benefiting the school.

Sandra Morselli will present a revised budget at the next meeting for approval.

## **9. Correspondence**

None

## **10. Question Period**

None

## **11. Varia**

### **11.1 Change in Cafeteria Hours**

Renée Beauséjour inquired on why the cafeteria is no longer open during the 1:40 p.m. lunch break. Sandra Morselli informed members that for the last couple of years, the majority of the students purchase lunch at the noon recess break. As a result, it no longer made sense to remain open to serve a handful of students. Students still have access to the tables/space at the cafeteria to eat their lunch from home between 1:40 p.m. to 2:00 – 2:10 p.m.

### **11.2 Citrus Fund-Raising Campaign**

Chantal Paquin reported that this year's campaign made 14, 216.00 \$ in sales with a net profit of 4,062.00 \$. 15% of the profit will be spent towards the general school fund. Profit from the sales generated by the Sec. 4 & 5 class will go toward their senior class trip.

### **11.3 Daycare**

Julie Wilkins mentioned that there are daycare services available for our elementary students at "Fleur des Neiges" elementary in Ste. Agathe. It was suggested S.A.A. parents be informed of this service.

Sandra Morselli informed members that a Governing Board may organize a daycare for the school if the need is present.

### **11.4 Motions for After School Extra-Curricular Activities, High School**

The following activities were presented for approval:

Girls' Basketball practices to be held on Wednesdays.

Boys' Basketball practices to be held on Wednesdays.

Soccer practices for boys and girls to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Girls' Rugby practices to be held on Mondays.

Play Practice to be held on Tuesdays.

### **GB08112016-07**

Julie Wilkins moved and Jo Morrissey seconded the motion to approve the High School Girls' Basketball practices to be held every Wednesday after school.

**ADOPTED**

**GB08112016-08**

Melinda Lalonde moved and Julie Wilkins seconded the motion to approve the High School Boys' Basketball practices to be held every Wednesday after school.

**ADOPTED**

**GB08112016-09**

Melinda Lalonde moved and Chantal Paquin seconded the motion to approve the after school soccer practices for High School boys' and girls' to be held every Tuesday and Thursday.

**ADOPTED**

**GB08112016-10**

Julie Wilkins moved and Fiamma Saragosa seconded the motion to approve the after school rugby practice for the High School Girls' on Mondays.

**ADOPTED**

**GB08112016-11**

Renée Beauséjour moved and Jo Morrissey seconded the motion to approve the after school play practice for high school students to be held every Tuesday.

**ADOPTED**

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned.

**GB08112016-12**

Julie Wilkins moved and Chantal Paquin seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

**ADOPTED**

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 November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Governing Board members were requested for their approval to allow the soccer team, approximately 16 students from secondary 1 to 5 to take part in a soccer game against the soccer team at Lachute Regional High School on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Students will leave S.A.A. at 2:00 p.m. and return at S.A.A. around 7:00 p.m. Students will have to make arrangements for transport from school to home. The activity is at no cost to students.

**GB22112016-01**

Be it resolved that Governing Board members approve to allow the S.A.A.'s Soccer Team to take part in a soccer game against the soccer team at Lachute Regional High School on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Adopted**

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Governing Board members were requested for their approval to allow the Grade 5 students visit the SPCA on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Students will be transported via carpooling.

**GB25112016-01**

Be it resolved that Governing Board members approve to allow the Grade 5 students visit the SPCA on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Adopted**

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Governing Board members were requested for their approval to allow a friendly adult basketball team to rent out S.A.A.'s gym on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at \$40 and hour + a \$20 administration fee for a total of \$140.

**GB28112016-01**

Be it resolved that Governing Board Members approve to rent S.A.A.'s gym to a friendly adult basketball team on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Adopted**