

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting held at
Ste. Agathe Academy
26 Napoleon, Ste. Agathe des Monts, QC
Tuesday, October 4th, 2016.

Members Present:

Elementary Parents: Renée Beauséjour, Tania Collet, Melinda Lalonde

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

Elementary Teacher: Lindsay Redhead

High School Teachers: Mdelwa Mehlo, Julie Wilkins

Principal: Brian Sénécal (Interim)

Support Staff Representative: Chantal Paquin

Student Representative: Fiamma Saragosa

Secretary: Barbara Lanthier

Motivated Absences: Victoria Barrett, Jacqui Raill

1. Election of Chairperson

Renée Beauséjour nominated Sandra Morselli who accepted the nomination.

GB04102016-01

Renée Beauséjour moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion that Sandra Morselli be nominated to the position of Chairperson of the Governing Board for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

2. Election of Vice-Chairperson

Vivianne Cliche nominated Renée Beauséjour who accepted the nomination.

GB04102016-02

Vivianne Cliche moved and Jo Morrissey seconded the motion that Renée Beauséjour be nominated to the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Governing Board for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

3. Election of Secretary/Treasurer

Vivianne Cliche nominated Barbara Lanthier who accepted the nomination.

GB04102016-03

Vivianne Cliche moved and Jo Morrissey seconded the motion that Barbara Lanthier be nominated to the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the Governing Board for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

4. Election of Community Representatives

Jo Morrissey nominated Jacqui Raill for community representative.

GB04102016-04

Jo Morrissey moved and Lindsay Redhead seconded the motion that Jacqui Raill be nominated to the position of community representative to the Governing Board for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

Chantal Paquin nominated Victoria Barrett for community representative.

GB04102016-05

Chantal Paquin moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion that Victoria Barrett be nominated to the position of community representative to the Governing Board for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

5. Establishment of Future Governing Board Meetings

Members were proposed the following dates: Tuesdays, November 8th, December 6th, January 10th, February 7th, March 14th, April 11th, May 9th & June 6th.

GB04102016-06

Vivianne Cliche moved and Tania Colletet seconded the motion to accept the proposed dates for the Governing Board meetings for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

6. SWLSB Parents' Committee Representative

Jo Morrissey expressed interest to be the representative to the SWLSB Parents' Committee for the 2016-2017 school year. More often than not, Jo Morrissey will be attending the meeting via Skype.

GB04102016-07

Renée Beauséjour moved and Tania Colletet seconded the motion that Jo Morrissey be nominated as the representative to the SWLSB Parents' Committee for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

7. Alternate Parents' Committee Representative

Vivianne Cliche expressed interest to be the alternate parent representative for the SWLSB Parents' Committee for the 2016-2017 school year also via Skype.

GB04102016-08

Renée Beauséjour moved and Tania Colletet seconded the motion that Vivianne Cliche be nominated as the alternate representative to the SWLSB Parents' Committee for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

8. SEAC Committee

Sandra Morselli informed members that she believed that the mandate of last years' representative, Lisa Loveland, had come to an end. Sandra Morselli will look into it and give out more information at the next meeting. Lindsay Redhead mentioned that she knows of a parent who might be interested in being our representative.

9. Governing Board Internal Rules of Procedure 2016-2017

The 2016-2017 Governing Board Internal Rules of Procedures were sent to the members prior to the meeting for their review. There being no proposed changes, the rules will remain status quo.

GB04102016-09

Julie Wilkins moved and Chantal Paquin seconded the motion to accept the Governing Board Internal Rules of Procedure as presented for the 2016-2017 school year.

ADOPTED

10. Acceptance of Agenda

GB04102016-10

Julie Wilkins moved and Melinda Lalonde seconded the motion to accept the agenda with the following addition in Varia: **18.1** Citrus fund-raising campaign & **18.2** S.A.A. Website and Facebook

ADOPTED

11. Approval of Minutes

GB04102016-11

Chantal Paquin moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion to accept the minutes of June 6th as presented.

ADOPTED

12. Business Arising from the Minutes

Be it understood that GB parents are appreciative and thankful for all extra-curricular trips/activities held for S.A.A. students. However, parents do want to know what is being planned as extra-curricular activities during lunch hour and after school hours and are willing to offer parent participation to implement the activities. Parents mentioned their discontent in S.A.A. not having a staff representing as a RSEQ delegate. This is the

second year that S.A.A. does not have a RSEQ delegate resulting in the Girls' Rugby Team not being able to compete last year with other leagues, a very unfortunate situation especially when Rugby was being promoted four years ago as the S.A.A. sport to excel. S.A.A. students were also not able to take part in this year's regional schools' Cross Country Run due to the lack of representation at the RSEQ level. It was also mentioned that in August, information was sent to the administration to help launch a swim program for capable swimmers. The information will be sent again since there has been a change in administration.

Members were informed that Dan Wilmot, retired teacher, offered once again this year to coach the girls and boys basketball teams and Mark Morrissey, parent, will continue to coach the girls' rugby team. Both sports activities are being held after school hours. Gloria Cuccarolo is organizing Intramural Sports to take place during lunch hour. Members were also informed that PPO allocated funds for a Choir Program and that students will be polled to inquire on other interest they may have. Buses/taxis will be available twice a week to students who require transportation after the activities.

13. Question Period

None

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

14.1 Principal's Report (Brian Sénécal – Interim)

Please see attached.

14.2 Teachers' Report, Elementary (Lindsay Redhead)

No report presented.

14.3 Approval of Field Trips, Elementary

A request was presented for approval to allow the Grade 5 class to attend a community service activity at the S.P.C.A. Students will be transported via carpooling.

GB04102016-12

Julie Wilkins moved and Renée Beauséjour seconded the motion to allow the Grade 5 students to attend a community service activity at the S.P.C.A. in Ste. Agathe during the afternoon of October 14th.

ADOPTED

14.4 Teachers' Report, High School (Julie Wilkins)

The following outings will or have taken place:

Sec. 1 – Outing to Montreal on October 14th. They will visit historical places such as St. Joseph's Oratory as well as the Old Port and St. Viateur Bagel

Sec. 2 – Outing to Tyroparc in Ste. Agathe at the end of October

Sec. 3 – Went to a Canoe/Hiking/Camping outing at Lac Monroe, Mont-Tremblant on September 22nd and 23rd

Sec. 4 – Will be going to a Hiking/Camping outing to Mont du Diable in Ferme Neuve on October 12th, 13th and 14th

Sec. 4 – Went to Ottawa on September 29th to visit the Canadian Museum of Nature

Sec. 5 – Went to a Canoe/Camping Trip on the Rivière Rouge on September 21st, 22nd and 23rd

Sec. 5 – Went to Ottawa on September 29th to visit the War Museum.

While in Ottawa, the students met our local member of parliament.

The annual "Terry Fox Run" will be held on October 21st.

The secondary 5 class is planning the Remembrance Day activity.

Try-outs for the play to be presented next spring have begun.

The Student Council has begun to meet and is recruiting members. Two teachers will be assisting them in their endeavors this year.

14.5 Approval of Field Trips, High School

The following requests were presented for approval:

- Visit to McGill University, career exploration, for secondary 3 & 4 students with an option for interested secondary 5 students to attend.
- Outing to Théâtre en Scène, Salle Marie-France Danis, in St. Jérôme for all secondary 1 to 5 students to attend a play "Les Hauts-Parveurs" on March 6th 2017.

The grant "La Culture à l'école" was obtained to finance 75% of the outing, tickets and bussing. The PPO members present at GB have generously offered to finance the remainder 25% of the outing. Confirmation of the allocation will be confirmed once all members have been requested for their approval.

GB04102016-13

Tania Collet moved and Chantal Paquin seconded the motion to approve the Career Exploration outing to McGill University for secondary 3 & 4 students and interested secondary 5 students on October 28th.

ADOPTED

GB04102016-14

Julie Wilkins moved and Jo Morrissey seconded the motion to approve the March 6, 2017 outing for all high school students to attend the ``Les Hauts-Parveurs`` play at the ``Théâtre En Scène`` in St. Jérôme.

ADOPTED

14.6 P.P.O. Report (Renée Beauséjour)

The first meeting was held with 12 members and hopefully parent involvement will increase throughout the year. Expectations were discussed as was the main priority, fundraising. There is a balance of 2,000 \$ left in the budget and a goal to raise 5,000 \$ more through fund-raising events such as a wine raffle, auction, spaghetti supper, bagging, and used uniform sales. Approximate times of these events were scheduled.

The first fund-raising event planned is a bagging event scheduled for December at the Canadian Tire store in Ste. Agathe with the possibility of holding one at Mont Tremblant also. High School students will be bagging items at these stores.

GB04102016-15

Tania Collet moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion to approve to allow the P.P.O. to schedule a December 2016 bagging fund-raising events with the help of high school students.

ADOPTED

The subject of a student-exchange trip, in collaboration with other schools, was brought up. Julie Wilkins mentioned that Rosemere High School has an exchange trip planned with France. It was suggested to obtain more details from them and see if there could be a possibility of joining in on this trip.

Lindsay Redhead stated that she has connections in Germany from when she was teaching there. She offered to link up our school with families if there was an interest.

14.7 SWLSB Parents Committee Report

The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6th.

14.8 SEAC Committee Report

Sandra Morselli will inquire on date of 1st meeting.

14.9 Student Council Report, Elementary

A Bake Sale will be held once a month throughout the year to help fund two big activities planned for the students for the 2016-2017 school year.

14.10 Student Council Report, High School (Fiamma Saragosa)

The Student Council has started to meet and they are recruiting members.

Halloween activities are planned during lunch hour prior to the 31st of October. October 28th p.m. – movies are scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Costume Day will be on the 31st.

“Dress Down Day” will again be held on the last Friday of every month. Students will be reminded that they must donate a non-perishable item in order to participate which will be re-distributed to families in need.

Fiamma Saragosa and Maria Stadoleanu with the help of Renee Lozoff and Gloria Cuccarolo have initiated the raising of funds for students in need whom experience difficulty in paying for extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. Lindsay Redhead mentioned that our local member of parliament, David Graham, might be able to help us apply for the “Improving Communities Grant”.

14.11 Community Learning Centre (Chantal Paquin)

Our C.L.C. is now part of the “Chambre de Commerce” of Ste. Agathe des Monts.

Chantal Paquin participated in a meeting of “Heritage Canada”, which discussed the status of the English language in the communities. The next meeting will be hosted here by our C.L.C.

The “T.D.” reading club held various activities during the summer: library outings & camping.

Four dates have been scheduled to visit the “Manior Quatre Saisons” senior centre with some of our elementary students.

“Four Corners” will be hosting a “Kids – Let’s Talk” pre-school activity here at the C.L.C. The activity will be held every Thursday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. over a period of 8 weeks. Laura Young will be coordinating this language skills activity aimed for families with pre-school aged children. There will be a maximum of eight participants.

John Abbott College will be hosting their “Health Care Van” here at the C.L.C. next March. This is a free of charge activity for the community who may visit the health professionals for various medical issues: dental, medical, etc. Students interested in health care may also attend to obtain information about these careers.

15. Promoting S.A.A.

To be discussed at the next meeting.

Members agreed to discuss **16. Correspondance** after **17. Question Period** and **18. Varia.**

17. Question Period

None

18. Varia

18.1 Annual Citrus Fundraiser (Chantal Paquin)

A proposal was presented to hold the Annual Citrus Fund-raising Campaign to commence during the Thanksgiving week-end with the arrival of the fruit in late November or early December.

GB04102016-17

Lindsay Redhead moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion to approve the Citrus Fund-raising Campaign.

ADOPTED

18.2 S.A.A. Website/Facebook

The item was discussed under **Principal's Report**.

16. Correspondence

Governing Board members received a request from Teacher Council to amend the school fee and co-curricular activities policy for trips of which students are charged \$50 or under. Their suggestion was to allow students with fees unpaid to take part in activities/trip as long as they paid the activity/trip fee.

Mdelwa Mehlo stated that teachers concerned are aware and appreciate the difficulties the administration has in obtaining the school fees which are an integral and important part of the school budget. Mdelwa Mehlo suggested that we should look for common ground to benefit all students and not condemn them because of the financial status of their family.

Sandra Morselli informed members that never in her knowledge has a student been penalized due to family financial constraint. The administration has always paid for students whose families have financial constraint out of the school budget and that she is aware that the fund for extra-curricular and co-curricular activities/trip that was implemented this year has already been used for these families.

Members were informed that the policy put in place has resulted in a success rate of 94% for the elementary students and 81% for the high school students three weeks into the compulsory date of schools fees to be paid. So far no student has been penalized as the administration, in accordance with the policy, allow parents to make financial arrangements thus permitting students to take part in any activities.

Jo Morrissey stated that last year, governing board members thought long and hard before passing the motion, having expressed similar concerns as those raised by the teachers. Members were assured by the administration that no student would be penalized because parents were unable to pay. Members were also assured that as long as a payment plan was put in place and being adhered to in good faith, no student would ever be left out. It was made clear to members that the policy was being proposed to address just a few cases driven more by belligerence than poverty. It was with this assurance that governing board passed the motion to approve the policy.

GB04102016-16

Jo Morrissey moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion to allow **motion # 11042016-03** to remain status quo.

Adopted with 1 abstention (Lindsay Redhead)

19. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

GB04102016-18

Julie Wilkins moved and Vivianne Cliche seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

ADOPTED

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Morselli, Chairperson

Brian Sénécal, Interim Principal

Barbara Lanthier, Secretary

Addendum:

On October 12th, Governing Board Members received from the SWLSB Parents Committee a brief by the English Parents Committee Association in regards to Bill 105. The SWLSB Parents' Committee reviewed the brief at their October 6th meeting and passed a motion to reject Bill 105. The SWLSB Parents Committee is requesting for Governing Board members to consider their position on it too.

GB12102016-01

Be it resolved that Governing Board Members agree to pass a motion to reject Bill 105.

Adopted

On October 14th, Governing Board Members received a request to offer to interested Grade 5/6 students sporting activities such as basketball, soccer and cosom hockey. The activities are organized by the RSEQ, Festival Sportif Amicale, and take place during school hours or ped days. The mode of transportation will be carpooling by parent volunteers. Price per student will be \$10 to \$15. Approximately 12 students will be participating. The dates are as follows: Friday, October 28th – Mini Soccer Futsal, Friday, November 11th – Mini Basketball, Friday, November 25th - Mini Soccer Futsal, Tuesday, January 31st – Mini Basketball, Friday, February 17th – Mini Soccer Futsal, Friday, March 31st – Mini Cosom Hockey, Friday, April 28th – Mini Cosom Hockey, Thursday, May 18th – Mini Soccer Futsal and Friday, May 28th – Mini Soccer Futsal.

GB14102016-01

Be it resolved that Governing Board Members approve to allow the Grade 5/6 students to take part in the Festival Sportif Amicale organized by the RSEQ.

Adopted

On October 26th, Governing Board Members were requested for their approval to the following:

- 1) Halloween Dance for all elementary students to be held on Monday, October 31st in the afternoon.
- 2) Various activities for all elementary students to be held every Friday afternoon.

GB26102016-01

Be it resolved that Governing Board Members approve to allow a Halloween Elementary Dance to be held on the afternoon of Monday, October 31st.

Adopted

GB26102016-02

Be it resolved that Governing Board Members approve to allow various activities to be held for all elementary students every Friday afternoon.

Adopted with 2 voting Against (Jo Morrissey & Sandra Morselli)