

**St. John Fisher Elementary
Governing Board Agenda 2021-02-03
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Online via ZOOM**

Type of meeting: Governing Board – Regular 2020-21 #5

Distribution:

Parent Members: Angela Kovalak, Phil Lambert, Nadia Lawand, Naomi Proctor, Christina Cory

Parent Substitutes: Christine Archambault, Allison Gerhart, Mathew Knox

Staff: Nadine Emond, Michèle Larin, Martine Létourneau, Tania Nouvet, Sandi Hammock

Ex-Officio: Natasha Mentore, Evelyne Hornblower, Rebecca Cherry

Community Reps: Andrew Gunther

Invited: Judith Kelley

Agenda Topics

5.1	Call to Order & Welcome	N. Lawand
5.2	Land Acknowledgment	N. Lawand
5.3	Adoption of the Agenda	N. Lawand
5.4	Adoption of the December 9 th , 2020 Minutes *	N. Lawand
5.6	Questions from Public	
5.7	Business Arising	
5.7.1	Blood Drive	N. Mentore
5.7.2	Governing Board Training ☐	N. Lawand
5.7.3	Winter Safety/Parking	N. Mentore
5.7.4	School Calendar Adjustments	N. Mentore
5.8	New Business	
5.8.1	Open House Recap	N. Mentore
5.8.2	Budget Consultation 2021-2022*	N. Lawand
5.8.3	Mask Wearing on School Property	N. Lawand
5.8.4	Annual Report	N. Mentore
5.8.5	Black History Month	N. Lawand
5.8.6	Field Trips	N. Mentore
5.8.7	Rentals	N. Mentore
5.8.8	Principal Selection Criteria	N. Lawand
5.9	Reports	
5.9.1	Regional Parents' Committee *	C. Cory
5.9.2	SNAC-AGM	E. Hornblower
5.9.3	H&S Liaison	R. Cherry
5.9.4	Daycare	S. Hammock
5.9.5	Council of Commissioners' Minutes	J. Kelley
5.9.6	Teachers'	N. Emond
5.9.7	Principal's	N. Mentore
5.10	Questions from Public	
5.11	Correspondence	N. Lawand
5.12	Varia	N. Lawand
5.13	Adjournment: Next meeting April 7 th , 2021	N. Lawand

St. John Fisher Elementary – Junior Campus
Governing Board Minutes – 2021/02/03
7:02 – 8:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

Type of meeting: Governing Board – Regular 20-21 #5

Participants:

Parents: Christina Cory, Angela Kovalak, Phil Lambert, Nadia Lawand,
Naomi Proctor, Mathew Knox (alternate) Allison Gerhart (alternate),
Christina Archambault (alternate)

Teachers: Nadine Emond, Michèle Larin, Martine Létourneau, Tania Nouvet

Support Staff: Julieta Ascencio

Principal: Natasha Mentore

Commissioner: Judy Kelley

Community Rep: Andrew Gunther

Visitor(s): Evelyne Hornblower (SNAC), Rebecca Cherry (HandS),

Absent: None

Regrets: Andrew Gunther

AGENDA TOPICS

5.1 Call to Order & Welcome

N. Lawand called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Quorum was established with five parent representatives (including the three alternate parent representative).

5.2 Land Acknowledgment

N. Lawand read out the Land Acknowledgment statement to the GB members.

5.3 Adoption of the Agenda

N. Lawand asked that the adoption of the November 23rd, 2020 emergency meeting minutes be added to the agenda. However, the minutes are not available to for this meeting. This item will therefore be added to the next meeting's agenda.

20-21-27 N. Lawand then called for a motion to approve the agenda. It was moved by M. Létourneau that the agenda be approved with corrections. The motion was seconded by C. Cory and was unanimously resolved.

5.4 Adoption of the December 9th, 2020 Minutes

20-21-28 Motion duly proposed by N. Proctor and seconded by M. Larin to approve the December 9th, 2020 Minutes as presented with minor corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

5.6 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No questions from the public at this time.

5.7 BUSINESS ARISING

5.7.1 Blood Drive

N. Mentore explained that the blood drive was held Saturday January 16th, 2021. All the spots were filled and Hemo-Quebec conveyed to N. Mentore that holding the blood drive on a weekend day instead of a weekday was well received by all.

Proposed date for the next Blood Drive is next January 15th 2022. They date will be confirmed and discussed later.

5.7.2 Governing Board Training

N. Lawand mentioned the GB Training video has been posted and a PDF copy of the training has been added to the GB google drive.

5.7.3 Winter Safety/Parking

N. Mentore has had discussions with the police concerning the parking on Belmont Avenue.

There are some discussion on the possibility of dropping off children arriving by car at curbside and letting them walk to the schoolyard. However, it seems that most SJF Jr parents prefer to accompanying their children to the schoolyard as opposed to a curbside drop off like at the SJF Sr. school.

5.7.4 School Calendar Adjustments

N. Mentore explained that the school board has added a PED for the 2021 fall session, which is:

- Feb 15th, 2021 (was added as a School board PED day – No daycare that day)

Here is a summary of the approved PED days:

- January 25th, 2021 (changed from a school PED day to a school board PED day);
- January 18th, 2021 (proposed school PED day);
- Feb 8th, 2021 (school board PED day);
- April 23rd, 2021 proposed school PED day);

20-21-29 *Motion duly proposed by M. Létourneau and seconded by N. Proctor to approve the Feb 15th, 2021 (School board PED day) PED day presented by N. Mentore. Motion carried unanimously.*

5.8 NEW BUSINESS

5.8.1 Open House Recap

N. Mentore explained that the video presentation for the open house was a great success.

The video will eventually be available on the school website but is currently available on the School's Facebook page as well as the school board's website.

5.8.2 Budget Consultation 2021-2022*

The GB prepared an outline of a letter that will be sent in response to the Budget Consultation.

The issues raised during the meeting were the need for new windows; updated furniture that is more ergonomically suited for kids; lighting that is more suitable for learning; repairs to the building structure (cracks and leaks, issue with drainage and sewage smell).

GB recommended some environmentally friendly ideas such as the use of timers and occupancy sensors for the lighting as well as finding alternatives to plastic garbage bags.

It was also noted that more children are coming into the school with special needs. Therefore more psychologists and specialty resources (speech therapy, teachers' aides etc.) as well as reducing class sizes to allow for more one-on-one time with students. The current class ratio is not adequate.

Finally, an increase in funding for online teaching and training would be beneficial for the staff.

5.8.3 Mask Wearing on School Property

N. Lawand explained that the rule is that all parents who come on to the school property (especially during drop off and pick up) to remind parents to wear masks on behalf of the GB.

Will prepare a letter on behalf of the GB to prepare a letter to all parents.

20-21-30 *Motion duly proposed by M. Larin and seconded by A. Kovalak to approve the preparation of a letter to remind parents of the importance of wearing masks on all school property. Motion carried unanimously.*

N. Mentore reminded some parents that the community police and the schools have a partnership and their presence is normal.

5.8.4 Annual Report

N. Mentore presented the preliminary version of the annual report. The objectives from last year remained unchanged but due to COVID, it was difficult to assess because of a lack of data. Due to the change of the Principal.

Will be adopted by the GB at a later date.

5.8.5 Black History Month

N. Mentore mentioned that the teachers are doing activities in the class. The Principal and support staff will also be doing various activities (such as book readings, Black hair workshops, music, etc.)

- There will be a virtual book reading by a black author.
- The principal will be doing a black hair workshop with the students.
- Music teacher participate with music.

5.8.6 Field Trips

No fieldtrips requests presented.

5.8.7 Rental

At this time, the School Board is not permitting any rentals.

5.8.8 Principal criteria selection consultation

N. Lawand presented the letter that sent last year and the GB prepared the outline of the letter that will be sent in response to the Principal criteria consultations.

20-21-31 *Motion duly proposed by N. Proctor and seconded by M. Larin to approve the selection criteria with proposed changes. Motion carried unanimously.*

5.9 **REPORTS**

5.9.1 **Regional Parents' Committee**

Parents' Committee Meeting was cancelled. The meeting will be held next week.

5.9.2 **SNAC-AGM**

E. Hornblower presented the SNAC report.

SNAC report attached.

Please consult the following link to view SNAC meeting minutes:

<http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca/eng/minutes/page.asp>

5.9.3 **H&S Liaison**

R. Cherry presented the Home and School report.

Newsletter is available as of today. Next meeting Feb, 17th, 2021

Home and School report attached.

Please consult the following link to view the HandS newsletters:

<http://stjohnfisher.lbpsb.qc.ca/hsdocs.htm#News> and the meeting minutes:

<http://stjohnfisher.lbpsb.qc.ca/hs.htm>

5.9.4 **Daycare**

J. Ascencio presented the Daycare report.

A reminder that late pick up fees of 1\$ per minute will be applied.

No Daycare report presented.

5.9.5 **Council of Commissioners' Minutes**

Council of Commissioners report attached.

Please consult the following link to view council of commissioners' meeting

minutes: <http://www.lbpsb.qc.ca/eng/council/cminutes.asp>

5.9.6 **Teachers'**

N. Emond presented the teachers' report.

Teachers report attached.

5.9.7 **Principal's**

N. Mentore presented the principal's report.

Principal's report attached.

5.10 **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions from the public at this time.

5.11 **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

5.12 **VARIA**

None


5.13 **ADJOURNEMENT**

20-21-32 *Motion duly proposed by N. Proctor and seconded by M. Larin that the meeting be adjourned.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 7th, 2021

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Philip Lambert

 <p>Special Needs Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Please visit our website: http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca</p> <p>Email address: snac@lbpearson.ca</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SpecialNeedsAdvisoryCommittee/</p>	<p>SNAC Meeting Summary Report to the Council of Commissioners & Parents' Committee</p> <p>From SNAC Virtual Meeting January 20, 2021</p> <p>Pages 1 of 2</p>
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Report Card Change for 2020-2021

The Government has announced that they will be changing the weighting of the two terms this year. Originally they announced it would be 50/50 but they just announced they will have term 2 count for more than term 1. They didn't specify the exact weighting yet. The minister also pushed the date for the term 1 report card allowing schools a few extra weeks to provide them. Ministerial exams are cancelled for this academic year.

The government has also said they are putting more funding into tutoring measures and support for mental health concerns.

For any students in difficulty, teachers will be calling meetings (in person or online). As a parent you can also ask for a phone call or meeting if you have questions or concerns.

I.E.P.s for 2020-2021

Some I.E.P.s have already gone home, others will be with the Term 1 report card (in the coming weeks). The school board is still looking at making I.E.P.s online on the Mozaik Portal for next year, however the first report card will always be sent home also as it has to be signed. Parents may contact their child's teachers should they have any questions. You may also request an I.E.P. meeting with the school.

Creation of an I.E.P. Pamphlet

SNAC is currently proofreading a new I.E.P. pamphlet. They hope to have it finalized by their next meeting to start promoting to parents and schools. This is a summary pamphlet version of the I.E.P. Resource Kit

Parenting During the Pandemic Webinars - Centre of Excellence for Mental Health and LEARN:

Next Webinar is Tuesday February 16th at 7pm - Understanding the Impact of Loss on our Kids

Register at <https://learnquebec.ca/impact>


Recordings of past webinars are available: <https://web-sites.lbpsb.qc.ca/cemh/Webinars-Recordings>

SNAC Facebook Page

Thank you to the LBPSB schools that have begun to follow SNAC. We are receiving a lot of emails from parents, prospective parents as well as staff. The post with Dr. Henault's presentation we boosted reached over 4000 people !

Budget Consultation Response

SNAC is currently discussing their budget consultation response. They will receive a special presentation from Stephanie Stever during the February meeting to help them in the creation of this response.

 <p>Special Needs Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Please visit our website: http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca</p> <p>Email address: snac@lbpearson.ca</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SpecialNeedsAdvisoryCommittee/</p>	<p>SNAC Meeting Summary Report to the Council of Commissioners & Parents' Committee</p> <p>From SNAC Virtual Meeting January 20, 2021</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 2 of 2</p>
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Equity and Inclusion Task Force

Wonderful work is being done in this LBPSB task force. They are looking into having mandatory training for all staff regarding students with special needs and are considering including a frequency of training over the years. Very pleased to see that there are now children with special needs in the official videos of LBPSB. They are still requesting real life testimonies to be shared in order to be addressed by the equity and inclusion task force. They are 100% anonymous and can be send via email or press a button and record their voice. <https://boardsite.lbpsb.qc.ca/council-of-commissioners/task-force-on-equity-and-inclusivity>

FREE Online Tutoring for Elementary and High School

LEARN Quebec has openings for more tutoring spots. It is absolutely FREE for english families in Quebec. Their tutoring is always done online (not just due to COVID) and they are all qualified teachers. Visit their website <https://www.learnquebec.ca/home> to learn more or register your child.

Questions / Correspondence that have come in this month:

- **I.E.P.s - When are families informed of their child's needs?**
 - A family contacted SNAC after having received an I.E.P. for their child who has not been formally diagnosed yet. This family was unaware that their child was experiencing any issues at school and has now lost full confidence in the school and wanting to transfer.
- **School Selection & busing for students with special needs**
 - Several parents have written in asking which school provides the best level of support for students with special needs. Are they able to select the school that they would like to register in or is it mandatory to go to your local school. How does the registration process work? Will it affect busing if you select a school not in your local area? Are they guaranteed aide support?
- **New Government Issued Masks in High School - sizing issue**
 - Some students are wearing the government issued mask over their home mask as it is too big for the younger grades. Will there be smaller sizes being issued. Also, there are several varieties of colours at different schools - are all safe?

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer DiMarco

Chair of Special Needs Advisory Committee 2020-2021

snacchair@lbpearson.ca

<http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca>

<https://www.facebook.com/SpecialNeedsAdvisoryCommittee/>



ST. JOHN FISHER
HOME AND SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION



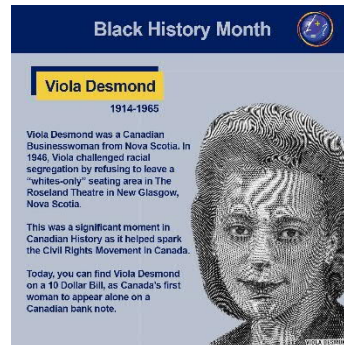
H&S Report to GB

February 2021

- H&S meeting took place on January 21st
- Book Bingo finished January 22nd. Winners from junior campus listed below
 - Michael A. – Gr. 2
 - Haley F. – Gr. 1
 - Alessandro J. – Gr. 1
 - Quinton H. – Gr. K-5
- H&S Newsletter coming out this week
- Teacher Appreciation week February 8th to 12th will be a little different this year as we show our appreciation from a distance
- Looking into fun activities for students (virtual activities or something delivered to the school). To be discussed at the next H&S meeting

Next Meeting Wednesday, February 17th at 7pm

Judy Kelley – Vice Chair of the LBPSB – Commissioner: Ward 4 - St. John Fisher Jr. & Sr., John Rennie, Lindsay Place, St. Thomas and Horizon High School
jkelly@lbpsb.qc.ca



Report from Council January 2021

- We continue to be living in unpredictable times. My thank you extends to everyone who is working to ensure our students have the best possible educational experience within the confines of our current public health crisis. It is not easy at home or at school.
- Appointments: With the upcoming and absolutely well-earned retirement of Cristina Prata, Jennifer Kurta, principal at LCCHS was appointed to be the new principal at JRHS starting on March 8, 2021. As well, two other appointments were confirmed: Deborah Dixon will become the principal at LCCHS on March 8, 2021, and Brian Swirsky, VP at PCCHS, January 18, 2021.
- Student Commissioners: Finn Poirier and Sophia Clarisse Pasia presented their report, and as always, they were thoughtful and articulate and very impressive. The Central Students Committee's two most recent questions of the month that might be of interest to you are:
November - How would you rate your stress level on a scale from 1-10 (1=lowest, 10=highest)? How are you living/coping with this stress and anxiety?
BHS: Varies, coping (phys activity), online learning has reduced stress
JRHS: High (7-9) but trying to cope, no break in classwork, mentally challenging, reduced stress being online.
LCCHS: Fast paced environment, a lot going on in everyone's mind, multiple changes, being at home does help with a sense of security and safety. Everyone is doing their best.
LPHS: 7-5 Staying home has helped gr. 10-11, Gr. 11 CEGEP Stress on how selection will be made, how application judgement will go about.
STHS: 7-10 Coping looking at things one day at a time, sleep is an issue, Break will be welcome for all, looking forward to having something else to think about.
(The comments above are taken directly from their report.)
December Student Question of the Month - "What can schools do to assure that there is more acceptance and diversity within their schools?"

Governance and Ethics Committee: *(This is an excerpt from the report)*

Annual Report of Student Ombudsperson - Me Isabelle Turgeon gave a thorough overview of her annual report provided to Council last November and answered various questions from commissioners regarding interventions held throughout the year. There was a small increase in the number of interventions held by the Student Ombudsperson, going from 64 in 2018-2019 to 72 in 2019-2020. Me Isabelle Turgeon expressed that considering the community's size, the number of requests for assistance and complaints remains small. She highlighted the role and the importance of the Ombudsperson in a School Board. Me Isabelle Turgeon explained that the interventions were mainly questions, and some were about COVID-19 protocols. It was also noted that most interventions involved only one contact with complainants, which could indicate that issues were likely resolved. The main worry communicated to her by parents was the fear of reprisal for making a complaint, which she addressed by explaining that a partnership of all stakeholders is in students' best interest.

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC): The committee reviewed a very data intensive document on the various transportation zones for the 2021- 2022 school year, precipitated in part by the transition of the campus of St. Thomas to the current Lindsay Place building. The content of this discussion, including the grandfathering of affected students, will be further discussed at their next meeting.

Resolution: The Council passed a resolution on the Inoculation of Staff against COVID-19:

*WHEREAS the Government of Québec has established priority groups for vaccination against COVID19; and
WHEREAS in most cases, teachers and school staff currently find themselves at the second to last step of the priority list unless there is an underlying health condition; and*

WHEREAS given that schools are to remain open, the staff of schools and centers in direct contact with students should be designated essential service employees and should be considered a higher priority under this vaccination list:

WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: THAT the request be made to the Minister of Education to advocate with the health authorities for the designation of the staff of schools and centers in direct contact with students, as essential service employees, in order for these staff members to be considered a higher priority under the vaccination list established by the Government of Québec.

Committees: Commissioners attended a Zoom workshop on Saturday, January 30th, where we were introduced to and fully informed of the duties, roles and responsibilities of the administrative team at the head office. This was of great benefit to old and new commissioners as a reminder of the internal workings of the LBPSB and the many people who support our entire network. We continue to work on our own roles and responsibilities as commissioners at these workshops and as a hybrid/blended Council with both sitting and acclaimed commissioners, several who are new to the job. There is always a lot to know and a lot to learn.

Please feel free send me questions and concerns at any time. It is an honour to represent the constituents of Ward 4 and to work for the LBPSB.

Warmly, Judy Kelley

All the best for a healthy February.



Teachers' Report

January 25th Professional Development Day

- Functional Motor Skills for Preschoolers
K5 Kindergarten teachers
- Seesaw for assessment workshop
Kathy, Marie-Josée, Monique ??
- Technology Café
- Namasté Martine Létourneau

Administration Report for St-John Fisher Jr. - January 2021

Holiday Activities/Schedule

Three days of holidays activities, including school storytelling, bingo, and fun class activities. It was a nice closure to the calendar year for all of our students.

School Improvement Plan - Measure 50531

Lines and games for the playground, garden Box, new play structure. This project was approved and we were awarded the project maximum of \$90 000. The sub-committee involved has not met to follow up on the details of the project, but will be continuing to meet so that we will be able to break ground before the new school year. The next step is to speak to the city of Pointe Claire to obtain a permit to make the modifications to our school yard.

Covid Information

Shut Down Plan (first week of January)

Plans have been put in place by all staff for online learning.

Covid Absence Reporting

Parents are expected to let the school know why their child is absent for school. We are happy that many parents are following through and supporting us.

Technology for Virtual Learning

Chromebooks were distributed to families who had identified as not having

Reporting For Term 1

We had interviews to discuss progress in November 2020. Report cards were distributed on January 29th, 2021. No interviews will follow these report cards, but we will be setting up interviews a little later in the year.

Wi-Fi

The school's wifi has been updated. It was started before the holidays and completed before the students re-entered in January. The speed and connectivity have really improved.

Open House

Thank you to all the staff for helping put the brochure and presentation together. I would like to also thank those who agreed to be on camera for our school video. It was a beautiful mixture between the two campuses.

Air Filters

Filters in the school are changed every 2 months (as opposed to every three months - this was the past protocol). A regular maintenance check is done in between filter changes.

Black History Month

Online Assemblies	Author Akilah Newton - black author will be doing a book reading and then a Q&A session afterwards.(K/4 & K/5 and then grade 1 &2)
Black History at Home Family Challenge (to be introduced soon)	There will be a draw in each class for a chance to win the book that was presented in the assembly. Students who participate in the "I Have a Dream Mobile" challenge will have a chance to be eligible to win a copy of the book.
Music Class	Students will be learning some songs and participating in Gumboot dancing. If you have not seen this you can view this short video (https://youtu.be/gfAScKWSDjs). We will try to get a gumboot artist to do workshops with our students via Zoom.
Black Hair Workshop	I will be doing an in person hair presentation with classes that sign up (30-40 minutes).

Winter Carnival

Please see the [attached flyer](#) that will be sent out to families on Thursday via ERMS.