

Governing Board

St. John Fisher Sr. Elementary School

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – October 8th, 2014

Attendance:

Parents:	Bridget Bagshaw	
	Sandra Gesualdi	Secretary & Vice Chair
	Balgovind Pande	Chair
	Jennifer Pastor	
	Karl Santaguida	

Staff :	Rachel Ethier	Teacher
	Lise Lecompte	Teacher
	Linda Neron	Teacher
	Debbie Poirier	Librarian
	Laura Sulano	Daycare

Principal:	Tony Di Vittori
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Regrets: None

Public:	One
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1.1 Call to Order & Welcome

Having attained quorum, the meeting was called to order by Principal Di Vittori at 7:00pm. He thanked the parents and staff for taking the time to be part of the Governing Board. He also thanked the Board for their help in making decisions for our school.

1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

*14-15-01 It was moved by K. Santaguida to adopt the agenda with the following change: items **1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.3** and **1.6** to precede **1.3 Adoption of the Minutes** on the presented agenda. The motion was seconded by L. Sulano, and was carried unanimously.*

Please note that items 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.3 and 1.6 will follow and then the minutes will follow the numbering sequence as per the presented agenda.

1.4.1 Elections of GB Chair

14-15-02 *It was moved by L. Lecompte to nominate B. Pande to be GB Chair. B. Pande accepted.
J. Pastor seconded the motion, GB Chair, B. Pande was voted in by acclamation.*

1.4.2 GB Secretary

S. Gesualdi nominated herself to be GB Secretary. No one contested and she won the lottery.

1.4.3 GB Vice-Chair

14-15-03 *It was moved by B. Pande to nominate S. Gesualdi to be GB Vice-Chair. S. Gesualdi accepted.
J. Pastor seconded the motion, and was carried unanimously.*

1.6 Questions for the Public

Q1. *Does the school have a policy concerning when to not allow the students outdoors during recess (in regards to the weather)? There is concern that the students were indoors for many days last year.*

A. There is no set LBPSB policy but Environment Canada and the CLSC state that: At -28C frostbite sets in when exposed between 10-30 minutes.

Therefore if it's below -27C, the students will go outside. However, if it's -20C with a wind-chill factor to bring the temperature below -27C, the students will stay indoors.

For safety issues, such as if the yard is too icy and slippery, the students will stay indoors under these conditions also. Last year the playground wasn't ploughed and there was a lot of ice, and in turn, the students stayed inside because of the condition the yard. In previous years, the playground was ploughed and two big mountains were created, which caused some difficulty with supervision as one monitor had to be on either sides of the mountain.

This year, a request has been made to have the school yard cleared and to have the snow blown on to the field in order to not create the mountains. It was suggested that the number of days that the students stay indoors, be tracked and counted for this year.

Q2. *Who is responsible to repair the church parking lot (which is used by the school)? The potholes are severe and when filled with water, become invisible (very dangerous).*

A. LBPSB owns the land, the city clears the snow and uses the field. The church will begin a dialogue with the LBPSB and present the condition of the asphalt as a liability.

Q3. *Parental concern about hand washing before eating. What can be done to stay healthy?*

A. A suggestion was given that parents pack wipes in a sealed baggie so that the kids can wipe their hands before eating.

Sequence of numbers will appear as per the presented agenda as of this point.

1.3 Adoption of Minutes of June 6th, 2014.

14-15-04 *It was moved by D. Poirier to adopt the minutes of the June 2014 meeting with the mentioned correction to be made. The motion was seconded B. Bagshaw, and was carried unanimously.*

1.4 New Business

1.4.4 Internal Rules of Management (info)

No changes have been made to this document.

14-15-05 *It was moved by K. Santaguida that the SJF Home and School Association be given the mandate to manage fundraising campaigns. The motion was seconded by R. Ethier, and was carried unanimously.*

1.4.5 Daycare Parents' Committee

No request has been made to the Daycare to form a Parents' Committee. As in the past, GB will act as a liaison between parents and the school.

14-15-06 *It was moved by R. Ethier to decline from having a Daycare Parents' Committee. The motion was seconded by B. Bagshaw, and was carried unanimously.*

1.4.6 Community Representatives

S. Gesualdi will invite Lakeside Heights City Councillor, Mrs. Cynthia Horman to be a Community Rep. on the GB.

1.4.7 Commissioner's Invite to GB Meetings

A standing invitation will be extended to the Commissioner, following the forthcoming election.

Please note that in order to be on the LBPSB's electoral list, one has to file a request to have their name switched from the French school board's list to the LBPSB list; Having one's name on the LBPSB list will also ensure that school tax dollars are directed to the LBPSB.

14-15-07 *It was moved by L. Lecompte to send an invitation to the Commissioner to attend GB meetings. The motion was seconded by D. Poirier and was carried unanimously.*

1.4.8 H&S Liaison

S. Gesualdi agreed to rotate the role and responsibility of H&S Liaison with Wendy Gray, past president of H&S.

H&S review was given by Wendy Gray:

- Carla Di Silva is the new H&S president, parent of a grade one student.
- 69 members

- Jungle Sport was a success. The cost to H&S was about \$10 per student.
- Parent workshop is offered by Nurse Jill Sockett to the parents of Senior school students.
- Picture day went well (a little longer than expected but things ran smoothly).
- Fundraisers are The SJF Shindig & Silent Auction, Mabel's Labels and Fundscrip (this year the profits from Fundscrip will reduce the cost of bussing for fieldtrips. The profits from grade six parents will help reduce the cost of the Grad trip).
- \$4042.00 is the bank balance to date.

1.4.9 GB Income Statement (2013-14)

B. Pande presented the GB income statement for the school year 2013-14. The GB budget stands in good favor.

14-15-08 It was moved by K. Santaguida to approve the 2013-14 GB Income Statement as presented. The motion was seconded by R. Ethier and was carried unanimously.

1.4.10 Ratification of Approvals Via E-mail

1. French Author/Cartoonist's Visit to SJF-Sr

- Published author and TV personality (CBC kid's French television)
- All Grade 4 classes (individual class workshops)
- Date: Thursday, Oct 2nd, 2014
- Cost: \$5.00 /student (school subsidizing ~ \$3.50 /student)

2. Daycare Field Trips

- October 3rd, 2014 PED Day
 - Centre Pere Sablon
 - 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
 - Activities: swimming, espionage challenge (cycle 2) and obstacle challenge, cycle 3
 - Cost: \$15 /student (daycare subsidizing ~ \$18)
 - Cost includes the \$7 daycare fee
- October 24th, 2014 PED Day
 - G Plus Bowling & Grevin Wax Museum
 - 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
 - Bowling for 2 hrs and then visit the museum
 - Cost: \$15 /student (daycare subsidizing ~ \$18)
 - Cost includes the \$7 daycare fee

3. Grade 4 "Culture in Schools" Field Trip

- Visit to the Pte-Claire Library to meet children's author Alan Siberberg
- Date: Tuesday, October 21st, 2014
- 12:30 - 1:30PM

- Travel by school bus
- Adult to student ratio will be 1:13
- Cost: free (subsidized by the Culture in Schools grant and the school)
- Organized with the help of Ms. Suzanne Nesbitt - the head librarian at LBPSB

4. Grade 5 "Culture in Schools" Field Trip

- Pte-Claire "Then and Now"
- Social studies unit
- Visit Stewart Hall and guided tour through Pointe Claire Village Pte-Claire
- Dates: Tuesday, October 21st and Thursday, Oct. 23rd, 2014 (two homerooms per day)
- 8:30 – 11:00 AM
- Travel by school bus
- Adult to student ratio will be 1:13
- Cost: free (subsidized by the Culture in Schools grant and the school)
- Organized with the help of Ms. Suzanne Nesbitt - the head librarian at LBPSB

14-15-09 *J. Pastor proposed ratification of the above mentioned fieldtrips. The motion was seconded by L. Lecompte, and was carried unanimously.*

1.4.11 Field Trips (within walking distance)

14-15-10 *It was moved by K. Santaguida to approve that students be allowed to go on field trips within walking distance without having to get GB approval although parental permission is always requested. D. Poirier seconded the motion, and was carried unanimously.*

1.4.12 Student Enrollment Policy (consultation)

No changes have been made to this policy. This item will be tabled at the next GB meeting.

1.4.13 Concordia – LBPSB Workshop

October 18 and 19th (9am – 4pm); the fee is \$25, lunch included.

The topic is “Change your thoughts and you change your World, Explore your thinking traps”.

GB will cover the fee (for one GB member) to attend this workshop.

1.4.14 School Yard Embellishment

This project is progressing. The architects came to assess the space and will meet with the committee to present various options and plans for the school yard. The Embellishment committee includes Mrs. Sulano, Mrs. Cindy, Principal Di Vittori, Mme. Meilleur, Mr. D., and two city workers (Public Works City of Pointe Claire).

This project entails the school to contribute 1/3 of the cost, another 1/3 will come from the school board and a 1/3 will be paid by the government.

1.4.15 PELO Language Program

PELO will be offered to the students once again this year. A letter will be sent out. The language will be Italian; no other requests have been made to have any other language offered. A minimum number of students enrolled is needed in order for the program to be offered.

1.5 Reports

1.5.1 Regional Parents' Committee Report

No report.

B. Bagshaw is the SJF Regional Parent Rep. The next meeting is October 16th.

1.5.2 Teachers' Report

This report is included in the Principal's report.

1.5.3 Library Report

The library is open and running. There are many volunteers. The School Board updated the computer system. The bulletin board behind the circulation desk will highlight a word of the month. Students are asked to find 200 different ways to say that particular word. The word of the month for October is WENT. The 'word of the month' will alternate between French and English words.

1.5.4 Daycare Report

- The daycare enrollment is 171 full-time and 13 part-time for a total of 184. This is an increase from last year's total which was 161.
- We are bringing back the pizza & Subway lunch again this year with an increase of .25 due to the increase from both suppliers. This year's suppliers are Little Caesar's & Subway.
- Extra-Curricular activities will be offered in February to give consideration to the parents as there are many payments at the beginning of the year (school fees, school supplies, pizza/Subway lunches and all the PED days).
- 2014-2015 PED day activities are as follows:
 - a) November 27th, movie at Le Colisee. Transport by school bus.
 - b) January 19th, Centre Sportif Defi X-Out, gym activities
 - c) February 6th, Mt. Avila tubing
 - d) May 15th, SherifVille in Saint-Lazare – outdoor activities
 - e) June 1st, Maeva Surf (surf pool) and Sky Venture. The students are split into two groups; each group does one activity and then they switch activity.

As in the past, all trips are \$15. The daycare surplus is used to subsidize the cost of the activities. (Parent fees do not cover the cost of Daycare salaries therefore the government gives us funds per student registered).

14-15-11

It was moved by R. Ethier to approve the above listed Daycare field trips. The motion was seconded by B. Bagshaw, was carried unanimously.

1.5.5 Principal's Report

- Great start to the year. Smooth entry back to school and life at school is well underway.
- 393 students in 16 homerooms.
- New staff members welcomed to the school:
 - Angelee Haselden (324-Eng)
 - Melissa Briere (523-Fr)
 - Roxane Bilodeau (524-Fr)
 - Kate Poirier (Media Tech)
 - Danielle Nethercott (Resource-Fr)
 - James Brasseur (Phys Ed)
- We have two McGill student teachers, Ms. Kimberly Wong, working with Mrs. Lavery (Gr 6) and Ms. Elaine Francis working with Mrs. McCulloch (Gr. 6). Ms. Rene Kurba will be starting in November with Mme Ethier (Gr. 4).
- Media Tech program
 - Ms. Montcalm was a great help in organizing the start of the new school year. Her contribution and help is greatly appreciated.
 - We will continue with the goals put in place last year with some additions such as “coding”.
- Great attendance at “Curriculum/Meet-the-Teacher Evening”.
- Nineteen Gr. 6 students helped direct Kindergarten kids to buses, daycare, and meet up with parents after school (had many more volunteers than required).
- We have had 4 fire drills to date (one being during daycare), and one practice lockdown.
- School photos were done on Friday, Sept 12th. Retakes will be done on Oct. 15th. Thank you to H&S volunteers for their help.
- Junglesport a great success. Thank you, H&S!
- Interim Reports to go home this Friday, Oct. 10th.
- Terry Fox Run will be held on Oct. 15th.
- Grade 6 info:
 - LBPSB Tournaments to date:
 - Ultimate Frisbee
 - Handball
 - Band instruments have arrived and music fills the hallways.
 - We will be participating in the Board's Math Olympics (twelve Gr. 6 students)
 - Graduation date (tentative): Monday, June 22nd (afternoon)
 - Tentative date for the Pool Party: Friday prior to grad.
- School nurse met with the staff:
 - Epi-pen use
 - Info re: students w/ medical needs
 - Poster with info and pictures of students with serious health issues will be posted in public areas of the school.
- “Meet the School Nurse” info evening for parents (Oct. 16th at SJF-Sr)
- Grade 4 vaccinations:
 - Nov. 4th
 - May 5th

- To date have applied for the following grant:
 - Culture in Schools
 - Tristan Demer's (author/cartoonist) visit on Oct. 2nd (Gr. 4)
 - Meet children's author Alan Silberberg at Pte-Claire library on Oct. 21st. (Gr. 4)
 - Pte-Claire "Then & Now" social studies' field trip (Gr. 5)
- Community service (intergenerational project) at Bayview Seniors Centre and the Pte-Claire Legion has begun
- PELO language program: Have received the go ahead. Will send out letter to parents to gauge interest and numbers. This will determine if it will be offered at the Senior school.
- Rentals – karate will not be returning due to dwindling numbers. Basketball will be starting shortly.
- The H&S Silent Auction will be held on Oct. 23rd in the SJF Church basement.
- Our Remembrance Day assemblies are tentatively scheduled for Nov. 11th. Veterans will be present for the assemblies.
- Two weeks ago we had a visit from a group of Chinese teachers visiting LPHS. They had many questions about our school and educational system. Very impressed with our school.
- Will be continuing with the collaboration with SJF-Jr, LPHS, and the City of Pointe Claire
- Shave to Save (breast cancer fundraiser)
- Oct 31st, 2014

LBPSB Fundraiser initiative: Shave to Save; the Board - wide goal is to raise \$50,000. Students are asked to donate \$2 towards the fundraiser. An assembly will take place on October 31st in the gym. SJF's goal is to raise \$1,200 in order to have Mr. D, Mr. B., Mr. Wesley, Principal Di Vittori, and Mr. Victor all have their heads shaved for the Shave to Save cause.

14-15-12 *It was moved by J. Pastor to approve this fundraiser. The motion was seconded by L. Lecompte, was carried unanimously.*

Field trips:

1. Grade 4. Science Center: Story-time (light and sound effects in story telling). Nov 17th, 9:15am – 1:15pm. Ratio 97:16, \$21.
2. Grade 6. Grad Trip, same as last year (Cosmodome, lunch at Mozza, bowling). May 29th. Ratio 1:9 (102:12), \$55/day.
3. Phys. Ed.: Downhill Ski Club, Grades 3 and 4. T Mt Habitat with Rod Roy Ski School. Two days in January and two days in February. Ratio 1:5 on the hill, 1:10 off hill. \$190 - \$210 depending on the number of students. Cost of equipment rental is \$34 for the four days.
4. We Day – hosted by Free the Children. The school (through Social Action Team) is given 15 tickets free of charge. The school will pay for the bussing. Date TBA.

14-15-13 *It was moved by S. Gesualdi to approve the above mentioned field trips. The motion was seconded by L. Sulano, was carried unanimously.*

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.

14-15-14 *It was moved by K. Santaguida to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm. The motion was seconded by J. Pastor, was carried unanimously.*

**Next Meeting Date:
Wednesday November 12th, 2014 at 7pm.**