



Royal West Academy

GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

February 24th 2020

RWA Library

MEMBERS PRESENT				
Antoine Tetreault (teacher)		Norm Gharibian (parent)	Earl Rubin (parent)	Kenny Bodanis (parent)
Sheila Macleod (teacher)	Sofia Del Raso (student representative)	Vicky Princz (parent)	J. Roskies (parent) *left at 8:32	Andrea Dillon (teacher)
A. Monereau (parent)	Alex Plawutsky (student representative)	D. Stolow (parent)		J. Bateman (teacher)
Leigh Partington (teacher)	Anna Supino (support staff)	Ryan Ortiz (parent)	Dr. Mahesh C. Sharma (Community representative)	Jacqueline Stein-Elman (parent)

ALSO PRESENT						
Angela Vaudry (principal)	Christy Tannous (vice- principal)	Steve Manstavich (vice- principal)	Candice Madden (interim vice- principal)	Jody Mason (visitor)	Anne Marie Matheson (director general EMSB) *left at 7:24	Marlene Jennings (Trustee EMSB) *left at 7:24

REGRETS/ABSENT						
Charles Northey (teacher)	Suzanne Amro (teacher)	Stephanie Germain (Non Teaching Professional)	Joseph Lalla (commissioner)			

1. Welcome

Meeting called to order by **A. Monereau** at 7:03 PM.
A. Monereau thanked everyone for being here.

2. Approval of agenda

Point 3 will be an address by Ms. Jennings
Motion of amendment of agenda.
Moved by **J. Stein-Elman** ; Seconded by **E. Rubin**
Vote: **Passed**

Motion of adoption of agenda.

Moved by **J. Stein-Elman** ; Seconded by **V. Princz**

Vote: **Passed**

3. Ms. Jennings addressed the board.

Ms. Jennings is visiting many governing boards. She spoke of the recent trusteeship and the government's actions. She hopes that the school board will ensure that students receive the services they require through good governance, particularly through the subsidiary model. The partial trusteeship ends May 6th. The government may extend the mandate of the trusteeship for another 6 months. She spoke about the government and their response to the request for expansion and the new auditorium.

K. Bodanis asked if the board had any other deficiencies, apart from the financial one Ms. Jennings had mentioned. Ms. Jennings replied as an example that there are some IT issues with accounting at the adult centers.

4. Adoption of Minutes from the Meeting of January 9th 2020

Motion of adoption of minutes from the meeting will be tabled.

Ms. Monereau will send the minutes for the next meeting.

5. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION (EMAIL VOTE) TO BUDGET BUILDING CONSULTATION

This motion will also be tabled.

6. First Question Period

No questions

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

7.1 Sexuality Education program

C. Tannous said that the exemption process has been sent out (forms on p. 2 must be filled out). Parents can only request exemptions from certain parts of the curriculum, not the entire program. The document must be filled out for each child being exempted. Parents must have a meeting with administration.

7.2 CODE OF ETHICS – RWA CELL PHONE POLICY REVIEW

Ms. Mason, guest parent, addressed the board. The code of conduct does not reflect actual practice in the school. As an example, Ms. Mason pointed out that cell phones should be left in lockers and that there could be an exception. She suggested that the code of conduct should be reviewed for this. If students are expected to participate in an activity that requires a device, then the school should furnish it as it is now an educational tool.

After a long exchange of idea it was suggested that we create a sub-committee to review this policy

Motion for a sub committee comprised of parents and teachers to make an analysis and a proposal.

Moved: K. Bodanis

Seconded: N. Gharibian

For: 14
Against: 2
Motion passed
Volunteers requested

R. Ortiz, N. Gharibian, A. Monereau, A. Plawutsky, S. Macleod, A. Dillon plus one of the guidance counselors.

8. REPORTS

8.1 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- **STAFFING:** We have had a change in replacement teachers for Mme Ouellette's post. Please note that Mme Ariane Gouin replaces M. Fidèle Mouafo. Further, we are in the process of finding a permanent replacement for M. Jérôme Guay (Mme Le Templier resigned on February 14, 2020).
- **WINTER CONCERTS:** Our Winter concerts took place on January 15 and 16. Secondary 2-3 students, as well as the Jazz and Honour Bands performed for parents and staff under the leadership of Ms. Purdy, Mr. Van Alphen and Mr. Bowles (substitute teacher). As always, spectators were blown away by our students' talent.
- **CARNIVAL DAY:** On January 21, our SLA students organized a variety of activities for our student body including tubing, hockey, and Cabane à Sucre visit, to name but a few. We would like to thank Mr. Zigby for leading the SLA students in this well-attended and appreciated activity day.
- **JOURNÉES DE LA PERSÉVÉRENCE SCOLAIRE 2020 (JPS):** I attended the launch of Réseau Réussite Montréal's (RRM) Journées de la Persévérance Scolaire on February 17. The theme this year is a focus on the Arts and the role that the Arts play in dropout prevention. The event was attended by the chairperson of RRM, our own Director-General of the EMSB Ms. Ann Marie Matheson, the Minister of Education Jean-François Roberge, Mayor Valérie Plante, as well as a number of other dignitaries. A number of students were also in attendance, performing and offering testimony in how the Arts contributes to their school success. The spokesperson for JPS is Laurent Duvernay-Tardif, who wowed the crowd with his sense of humour and dedication to the JPS initiative.
- **NEW YORK CITY AND STONEHAM TRIPS:** During the first week of February, our secondary 5 students headed to New York City, while our secondary 2 students hit the slopes in Stoneham. Our students had a great time and were happy to come home despite the snow storm they travelled through to return. Thank you to Mr. Aiken and Ms. Belina for their leadership and organization of the New York trip and Stoneham trip, respectively.
- **SALON DES INVENTIONS AND SCIENCE FAIR:** Our annual Salon des Inventions and Science Fair were held this past February 12 and 13, respectively. The events were well attended and left all who attended in awe of the talent and ingenuity of our students.

We would like to thank Ms. Kissin, light and sound student team led by Mr. Manstavich, caretakers, Mr. Bateman, Mr. Zigby and students, Grade 7 science teacher judges for their contribution to the Salon des Inventions.

Thank you to the judges who took the time to evaluate the Science Fair projects and shared their enthusiasm for science with the students, our generous donors who contributed cash and prize donations, and of course, all the visitors who supported this year's Fair by attending. We would also like to thank Ms. Dillon, Ms. Fogel for their leadership throughout the planning and day of the event, and Ms. Abraham, Ms. Darouach, Ms. Gehr, Mr. Girardin, Ms. Kissin, Mr. Lambert-Kirouac, Ms. Liscio, Mr. Nemeth, Mr. Ohayon, Ms. Partington, Mr. Zigby, Ms. Haghighat and Mme Montpetit for their contributions to the Science Fair. We would be remiss if we didn't thank our caretakers Mr. Miniaci, Mr. Gould, Mr. Laurie and Mr. Stewart for their ongoing flexibility and hard work. A special thank you to Ms. Jennifer Pevec, who coordinated the entire event again this year. Our students' success is directly related to the dedication and contribution of these people. Thank you.

- **STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK:** This past week, February 17-21, our staff has been treated to breakfasts, lunches, and other goodies graciously offered by our Home and School Association. On behalf of the school team, we wish to thank them for their dedication to our school and for giving our staff the accolades they so richly deserve.
- **SUPPLEMENTAL EXAM PERIOD (2020-2021):** The Educational and Technology services department of the EMSB have confirmed that the Supplemental exam period for the next school year will occur in December 2020. This is a change in tradition, as they are usually held in the month of January.
- **MID-YEAR EXAM PERIOD (2020-2021):** Mid-year exams will occur in the week of January 25 – 29, 2021

8.2 PARENT DELEGATE REPORTS

Report given orally

8.3 STUDENT LIFE ASSOCIATION REPORT

No report

8.4 HOME AND SCHOOL REPORT

SLA held a breakfast for students (croissants, bagels, etc) to raise money.
SLA held a thrift day at lunch today

8.5 FOUNDATION REPORT

Foundation fundraiser: Pub Quiz Night

- February 21 event has been cancelled
- April 17 event expected to be held
- Profits expected around 600\$

Update on Auditorium renovation

- Some delays have occurred in the timeline. The EMSB is expecting to go to tender in September 2020.
- Discussion re: Naming of Performance Arts Centre

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 BUDGET UPDATE

Budget was discussed. Monies received from Junior Booty was discussed (2300\$)

9.2 INDIA EXCHANGE

Tabled.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

10.2 DRESS CODE

A parent is requesting to change the uniform.
The uniform was discussed.

11. VARIA

Math Flow Chart
Tabled

12. SECOND QUESTION PERIOD

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

8:48 PM

Moved: J. Bateman

Seconded: D. Stelow

Respectfully submitted:


Anne Monereau
Chairperson


Angela Vaudry
Principal

