



Royal West Academy
GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

May 28, 2020

Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT				
Charles Northey (teacher)	Jamie Roskies (parent)	Norm Gharibian (parent)	Earl Rubin (parent)	Kenny Bodanis (parent)
Sheila Macleod (teacher)	Juliana Abrams (student representative)	Vicky Princz (parent)	J. Bateman (teacher)	Andrea Dillon (teacher)
A. Monereau (parent)	A. Tetreault (teacher)	David Stollow (parent)	Richard Leask (parent)	Anna Supino (support staff)
Leigh Partington (teacher)	Dimitra Jaimie Dimopoulos (support staff)	Elysia Bryan- Banes	Ryan Ortiz (parent)	

ALSO PRESENT			
Angela Vaudry (principal)	Christy Tannous (vice-principal)	Steve Manstavich (vice-principal)	

REGRETS/ABSENT			
Dr. Mahesh C. Sharma (Community representative)	Joseph Lalla (commissioner)	Candice Madden (vice-principal)	Jacqueline Stein- Elman (parent)
Suzanne Amro (teacher)	Stephanie Germain (professional non- teaching)	David Pivetta (student)	

1. **WELCOME**

Meeting called to order by **A. Monereau** at 7:01 PM

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion of adoption of agenda with numeration added.

Moved by A. Monereau ; Seconded by N. Gharibian

Vote: Unanimous

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JANUARY 9TH 2020**

Moved by C. Northey; Seconded by D. Stollow

Vote: Carried

Abstentions: 2

4. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 24, 2020 MEETING**

The following modifications were proposed.

Verbal report received by GB during the meeting for the parent delegate.

No report given for SLA.

Moved by K. Bodanis; Seconded by A. Tetreault

Vote: Carried

Abstentions: 2

5. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 19, 2020 MEETING**

Minor corrections were proposed to the minutes.

Moved by D. Stelow; Seconded by E. Rubin

Vote: Carried

Abstentions: 2

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**

6.1 **CHANGE IN SCHOOL FEES 2020-2021 FOR NEW UPPER GRADERS**

A motion was proposed to include new upper graders in the \$100 rebate approved by GB last meeting. The matter was discussed and A. Vaudry highlighted that the rebate is available because of additional government funding.

Another motion was proposed to normalize all school fees for all students from \$325 to \$225 for the 2020-2021 school year.

S. Macleod mentioned that some of our departments might be lacking monies and this rebate might reduce budgets, particularly for the music department.

Moved by N. Gharibian; Seconded by C. Northey

Nays: 2

Abstentions: 1

Vote: Motion carried

6.2 **CODE OF CONDUCT**

A. Vaudry described the modifications proposed by staff council. Parents must use appropriate channels to contact teachers. The bell schedule was also modified, as per the motion passed last meeting. The blackout period description was implemented clarifying that in-class evaluations that do not require student preparation after school can occur during this time. The requirement for RWA sweatpants to be worn under a skirt was removed. Any sweatpants could now be worn under the skirt in cold weather, as long as they are navy, grey or burgundy, and plain (solid colour). Electronic device policy was modified to permit students to use their own devices for educational purposes during class time. It was also modified to allow students to keep the devices in their school bag, as long as it is turned off.

A motion to approve the changes to the code of conduct with discussed modifications.

Moved by J. Bateman; Seconded by N. Gharibian

Vote: Unanimous

Motion passed

6.3 BUDGET UPDATE

A. Vaudry explained that reimbursements for cancelled trips are forthcoming (Fund 3). It may take months for the school to receive the reimbursements. This is also where some of the monies will come from for the ECA rollover. Fund 8 (India exchange trip) will be discussed at a 6.4. Fund 6 is additional allocations. Fund 7 is our IT budget and it will be rolled over exceptionally this year. All purchases must go through procurement and procurement shut down during the pandemic. Some of the funds are reserved for substitution and didn't get used. All budgets have very specific rules. The Ecole Inspirante fund was allocated for field trips. As RWA trips are planned a year in advance, it makes it difficult to efficiently plan the spending of this specific fund, since the amount of the allocation is not known in advance. Fund 9 is used to offset expenditures related to admissions, but will be reimbursed by the School Board. The budget is currently in deficit as reimbursement has not occurred yet.

6.4 INDIA EXCHANGE

The India exchange has been put on hold.

7. REPORTS

7.1 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

A. Vaudry announced she will be returning next year. She thanked A. Monereau for having the parent information meeting held after the last governing board meeting. Parents gave good feedback on the event. A. Monereau thanked A. Vaudry. A. Vaudry highlighted the decision by trustee Ms. Jennings to abolish 9 administration positions in the EMSB network. This means that RWA loses one VP.

7.2 PARENT DELEGATE REPORTS

Presented by Norm Gharibian

Our last face-to-face meeting for the EMSBPC was on March 12, the evening before the Friday closure (RWA had a PED day scheduled), and then extended shutdown was announced.

At that meeting, we postponed / canceled the Parent conference. Originally, we considered moving the event to November. Nothing has been decided yet.

We started discussion about a survey and marketing campaign to look at increasing EMSB enrollment. This too is on hold.

Food security for our vulnerable populations was also brought up at that meeting. This became even more pertinent when the effects of the closure became more evident. The school board, its partners and the government have made strong efforts to address this issue. The announcement of the Friday March 13th closure only came after our 10PM adjournment for the evening.

Since the closure, the EMSBPC and the EMSPCP Executive have been working virtually, formulating responses to the changing situation and expressing our various concerns and

expectations. The executive in particular have been meeting frequently and many times on the weekend in order to support our chair and keep our community informed.

We have written letters to the School Board and Government.

We have held zoom meetings that have been open to the public with direct information from the Director General, Ms. Ann Marie Matheson.

In addition, the work continues as we try to anticipate and shape what school will look like in September and going forward.

We are very fortunate this year to have one of our members, Katherine Korakakis, as the president of EPCA. In her roll at EPCA she has been meeting with the Minister of education, soliciting the EMSB parent body extensively on our views, reporting information quickly and frequently.

A concern that is somewhat getting lost in the current situation is the upcoming application of the new education act and the effects it will have on educational governance in the English public sector. I have raised the issue with administration during our EMSBPC meetings. To date little information has been available.

Our next EMSBPC EXECUTIVE Meeting is May 26 2020.

Our next EMSBCP meeting is June 4 2020. This will once again be open to the public. Look for details on the EMSB web site.

Both will be virtual.

7.3 STUDENT LIFE ASSOCIATION REPORT

SLA will be holding a virtual election. Parents will receive the ballot via email as well as their grade representative and executive candidates. Candidates have been campaigning on social media.

7.4 HOME AND SCHOOL REPORT

The uniform sale might be postponed in the fall, Home and School has not met since the pandemic.

7.5 FOUNDATION REPORT

There have been no meetings since school closure. Some renovation work will be done next year in the evenings and over the school breaks. Some of that work is throughout the school, including the auditorium, bathrooms and science labs.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 GB BUDGET

GB has a small budget available for volunteer recognition.

Roll over 267\$ to the 2020-2021 parent volunteer recognition evening to be held next year.

Moved by: J. Bateman, Seconded by A. Dillon

Vote: Unanimous

Motion passed

8.2 ROLL-OVER ECA FUNDS

A. Vaudry requested that GB rollover \$75 000 to next year's ECA budget from funds collected this year.

Moved by: J. Bateman; Seconded by S. Macleod

Nay: 1

Abstentions: 0

Vote: Motion passed

8.3 OPEN HOUSE 2020

A. Monereau suggested creating a video for open house next year due to possible pandemic restrictions. A. Vaudry said that there had been discussions with the school board to move towards a virtual open house. Schools have received recommendations and support from the Communications department to plan this.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence received where addressed at the parent information session.

Correspondence received since has been to thank us for having held the event. Parents have expressed feeling less anxious because of this event.

10. VARIA

10.1 The next meeting was rescheduled from June 8th to June 16th at 7 PM. Members may join at 6:45 PM, via Zoom.

All members agreed to this date.

10. ADJOURNMENT

9:33 PM

Moved: N. Gharibian

Seconded: A. Monereau

Vote: Unanimous

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



ANNE MONEREAU
CHAIRPERSON



ANGELA VAUDRY
PRINCIPAL

