

Royal West Academy

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING



Minutes - January 12th, 2016

Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Board of Royal West Academy held on Tuesday, January 12th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the library of Royal West Academy, 189 Easton Avenue, Montreal West (Québec).

MEMBERS PRESENT		
Anjali Abraham	Norm Gharibian (Parent delegate)	Ryan Ortiz
Samira Chawki	Gloria Koyounian (Secretary)	Lori Rinaldi (Chairperson)
Nijad Dahdah (left meeting at ~ 8:15 PM)	Jan Mateus	Patricia Taylor
Andrea Dillon	Michael Delis (Vice-Chair)	Deidre Dimock
Michael Mendelson	Karley McIlwaine SLA President	Chloe Ginsberg SLA Vice-President
Daniel Dupuis	Anne Monereau	
ALSO PRESENT		
Tony Pita (RWA Principal)	Steven Manstavich (RWA Vice-principal)	Chantal Juhasz (RWA Vice-principal)
Joseph Lalla (Commissioner)		
REGRETS / ABSENT		
Elysia Brian-Baynes (Comm. Rep.)	Dr. Minesh Sharma (Community Rep)	Sandy Roy

1. Welcome

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by L. Rinaldi. It was formally announced that the meeting was a public meeting.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by : G. Koyounian and seconded by: Taylor

RESULT: 16-0-0 (format ACCEPTED; REFUSED; ABSTAINED) UNANIMOUS

3. Business Arising

RWA representatives present at the time of the January 6th meeting included: N. Gharibian, A. Monereau, N. Dahdah and L. Rinaldi.

3.1 A. Webcast – January 6th meeting:

- Podcast of Michael Bergman from the January 6th meeting at the EMSB explaining elements of draft Bill 86.

3.1 B. Discussions:

- Discussion of draft Bill 86 included a Q&A session amongst members; answered to the best of the ability of those present.
- N. Gharibian shared his knowledge about upcoming meeting scheduled on January 16th at the Trinity United Church, initiative by CPC. The meeting is not open to the general public and no one with any particular expertise will be present.
- N. Gharibian extended an opportunity for anyone interested in attending to let him know. If permission is awarded to have a GB representative in lieu of Parent or Parent Alternate Delegate, he will confirm.

- Question was raised to the Principal to discuss his views on passing a Resolution Against draft Bill 86. He remained impartial and expressed that his role was that of facilitator answering questions/guidance about process.

3.1 C. Outcomes/Decisions/Resolution:

- It was decided that the initial vote to determine whether or not this Governing Board supports Bill 86 be by secret ballot.

Moved by: J. Mateus and seconded by D. Dimock

RESULT OF THE VOTE: 13-0-3 (format ACCEPTED; REFUSED; ABSTAINED)

MOVED

Subsequently, a MOTION was passed that read as follows:

"The 2015-2016 RWA Governing Board supports Bill 86."

The motion was MOVED by A. Monereau and seconded by D. Dupuis.

Following the vote by secret ballot, the Secretary, G. Koyounian counted the votes, which were validated by Vice-Principal C. Juhasz.

RESULT OF THE VOTE: 0 in favour; 0 abstentions; 16 against

UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST MOTION TO SUPPORT BILL 86.

Subsequently, a MOTION was passed that read as follows:

"The 2015-2016 RWA Governing Board agrees to present a Resolution against Bill 86, as per the modifications requested at the time of our discussions, based on the Sample Resolution received from the EMSB."

The motion was MOVED by A. Monereau and seconded by P. Taylor.

RESULT OF THE Vote: 16 in favour; 0 abstentions; 0 against UNANIMOUS

The governing board members also agreed not to send a copy of the Letter to Taxpayers at the present time. L. Rinaldi will provide a brief overview of Bill 86 for inclusion in RWA Bulletin that is scheduled for release in February, and will invite parents to communicate with the EMSB should they wish to sign the letter.

4. Question Period

Nothing to report

5. Varia

Nothing to report

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm by K. McIlwaine.

NOTE:

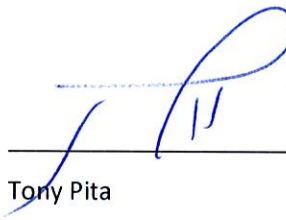
- Commissioner J. Lalla arrived at the meeting at about 7:45 pm and left at approximately 8:15 pm.
- N. Dahdah left the meeting at approximately 8:15 pm.
- D. Dupuis left the meeting at approximately 9:20 pm.
- Abraham left the meeting at approximately 9:24 pm.

The next governing Board Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, January 18th @ 7 p.m. in the school library.



Lori Rinaldi

Governing Board, Chairperson



Tony Pita

Principal, Royal West Academy

RESOLUTION Against draft Bill 86

Governing Board of Royal West Academy: Resolution Regarding draft Bill 86:

WHEREAS draft BILL 86: An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards, was introduced at the National Assembly of Québec on December 4th, 2015;

WHEREAS Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms confers minority language education rights;

WHEREAS Mahe v. Alberta 1990, clearly defines that minority language groups have the right to manage and control their education system and facilities;

WHEREAS the English schools are the fundamental hub of the English speaking communities they serve;

WHEREAS the Jennings Report: the Election System Study Panel 2015, makes recommendations to the Minister including allowing parent Commissioners the right to vote;

WHEREAS Bill 86 would confer additional powers over English school boards to the Minister of Education;

WHEREAS English school boards across the province boast some of the best success rates in the province;

WHEREAS the English community takes its responsibility to control and manage its schools very seriously with success;

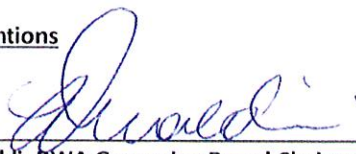
WHEREAS the Government of Quebec has offered no consultation to validate the changes proposed in draft Bill 86;

It was moved by **Dan Dupuis**; seconded by **Michael Mendelson** and resolved that the Governing Board of Royal West Academy:

1. Reject Bill 86: An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards;
2. Demand that the Government of Quebec acknowledge its duty to support and respect the constitutional rights of Anglophone Quebecers;
3. Demand that the Government of Quebec formally withdraw draft Bill 86.

Vote Result : 16 in favour; 0 against; 0 abstentions

Governing Board Chair's Signature: _____


Lori Rinaldi, RWA Governing Board Chairperson, 2015-2016

Date and location: Tuesday, January 12th, 2016 at Montreal-West, Québec Canada