

# RWA



# News

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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2023

### Words From The Admin



Principal Tony Pita (right) with Vice-Principal Steven Manstavich (left) and Vice-Principal Catherine Lumsden

#### Into the Final Third

The days are getting a little longer, spring sports are starting to train, and Royal West Academy students embarked on their third and final term for this academic year. Read on for a glimpse into how the last few months have unfolded.

#### EMSB Student of the Month

Royal West Academy is thrilled to announce that two Secondary V students were presented co-recipients of EMSB Student of the Month for January. Marilena S. was nominated for her tireless work as co-president of the Student Life Association, organizing many school activities and for being an advocate for students' rights and recognition. Raphaëlla E.'s passion to educate our community about living with type 1 diabetes drove her to start the Ambassadors of Diacare. She also organized an information seminar at the MUHC and hosted a session at RWA on Blue Shirt Day, mobilizing guest speakers, overseeing site logistics, and conducting fundraising.

#### Winter Concert

The music department hosted the annual Winter Concert at Westmount High School in January. All music students from Secondary II–V demonstrated their

growth as musicians while the ECA ensembles showcased the pieces they have been working on.

#### Musical

This year's musical, *Into the Woods*, featured familiar characters, lots of humour, and a diverse cast of RWA students (*see page 6 for details*). A huge congratulations to all involved—the many hours of preparation were apparent and definitely paid off.

#### Tyndale

All the pennies have been counted and the tally is in! Through various fundraising efforts, RWA raised \$9647 this year for Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.



#### MVP Basketball

Secondary V students Mia S. and Tian C. were selected to participate in the GMAA All-Star Basketball Game. The students were on opposite teams but each won MVP of their respective teams!

#### Variety Show

In January, Wagar auditorium graciously hosted the RWA Variety Show (*see page 8 for details*). The large audience was regaled with song, dance, music, and martial arts. Proceeds of the event went to Chez Doris. Congratulations to all performers, crew, and organizers.

#### Winter Carnival

Over 700 students stepped outside of the classroom for a day to enjoy some physical activity (*see pages 4 & 5 for details*). Activities at this year's carnival included



skiing, tubing, bouldering, winter survival, and hockey. A wonderful day was had by all!

### Diversity Caravan

On the December 2 pedagogical day a group of RWA students participated in part 1 of the Diversity Caravan ECA project. Diversity Caravan is a multicultural project that provides an opportunity for RWA students to explore the unique cultures and faiths of the world in their own city of Montreal!



On this first trip, students enjoyed the day exploring traditions and practices of the Western faiths and visited the Islamic Centre of Quebec mosque, Congregation Shaar Hashomayim synagogue in Westmount, and the Notre-Dame Basilica of Montreal.



### Robert A Peck for Excellence in French

Based on the 2021–2022 academic year, five RWA students attained a mark of 100 per cent, earning the Robert A. Peck Prize for excellence in French. The students are Phoenix T., Kelly C., Noémie E., Ella E., and Naomi R.



### Secondary II and IV Ski Trips

Although extreme weather conditions cut the trips a little short, ski trips in early February were thoroughly enjoyed. Secondary II students enjoyed skiing and other activities at Stoneham Mountain Resort and Secondary IV students went to Mont-Sainte-Anne. A special thanks to Ski Evolution, Mr. Zigby, and all the teacher chaperones.

### Education and Advocacy

Royal West Academy participated in the Green Square campaign and other initiatives for Action Against Islamophobia Day. Royal West Academy efforts were featured on City News. Students shared their family stories to honour International Holocaust Remembrance Day during dedicated Mindful Minutes in January. Daily activities were held throughout February to celebrate Black History Month—events culminated in a virtual assembly entitled Tracking Black Canada.

### Invention Convention

All Secondary I students got creative for the return of the Invention Convention. Congratulations to all participants! Prizes were awarded to:

- William B. & Noah B. – most creative
- Samuel B. & Michael C. – most useful
- Leili L. & Abby I. – best marketing
- Elodie S. & Lyla K. & Sienna E. – silliest
- Tavia L. & Kaleeah V. & Marketa A. – funniest



## Science Fair

Upper graders participated in the Science Fair with some very impressive projects. Prizes were awarded to:

- Sophie I. – Award of Excellence
- Eolande M. & Katerina T. – Award of Excellence
- Maya Y. & Aselin B. – Health Sciences Award
- Eve C. & Jaya K. – Behavioural Sciences Award
- Dominic L. & Tanner S. – Engineering, Computer Science, and Robotics Award
- Tian C. & Naomi R. – Third Place Overall
- Lucas A. & Jun B. – Second Place Overall
- Cassidy E. & Lauren E. – First Place Overall

## CRC Robotics

The Senior Robotics teams competed in February, distinguishing themselves with a second place in programming, third place in video presentation, top five finish for robot and kiosk design, and an overall fourth place finish (*see page 9 for details*).

## University of Waterloo Competitions

Computer science students wrote the UofW Computer Science competition while all Secondary III–V students wrote the UofW math competitions in February. The competitions are written by students across Canada.

## Bouldering Wall

Royal West Academy added a bouldering wall in the Memorial Gym recently, largely subsidized by a government grant earned by the physical education department. The wall will be used by physical education classes and ECAs. The different coloured holds indicate difficulty levels.



### The Active Learning Classroom Fundraising Campaign

The Active Learning Classroom campaign, launched in November, is well underway! **Active Learning Classrooms** include furniture that is designed to promote individualized learning, facilitate movement and collaboration between students and teachers, and has been shown to increase engagement and motivation among students.

Over the next several years, more and more classrooms will be identified to undergo this transformation.

**During the 2022–2023 school year, the objective of this pilot project is to raise \$80,000 for three classrooms:**

- Room 301 Math and Science
- Room 313 History and Ethics
- Room 209 English and Drama

**Give Today!**

**Please support Royal West Academy's Active Learning Classroom Campaign.**  
**Visit [rwaf.ca](http://rwaf.ca)**

Attending the **Dance Show** in March?  
Visit the RWA Foundation table to say hello.  
**We look forward to meeting you!**

### Want to get involved with the Foundation?

To learn more about the campaign or to find out how you could get involved with the Foundation, contact us at [info@rwaf.ca](mailto:info@rwaf.ca).

**We are currently looking for both a volunteer Treasurer and Secretary to join our team.**

# Skiing and Snowboarding

By Edmond P.

The Winter Carnival is back after two years of a pause due to the pandemic. It takes place on a school day, offering activities such as tubing, winter survival, in-school activities, and skiing and snowboarding. It is an excellent day to celebrate such winter festivities. I chose to go skiing with other skiers and snowboarders. I will explain why this day is such a good opportunity for those who enjoy these sports.

The trip to any mountain worth its salt is a tedious one. Chances are a student would require a parent or guardian to act as a chauffeur. Said chauffeur would have to dedicate their entire day to the trip, either participating in the activity or waiting out its duration. This complicates going to the mountain because both people must align their schedules. The Winter Carnival solves this problem because transport is provided by the school. Although the transit lasts just as long as it would with a parent or guardian serving as chauffeur, it feels shorter as the students are often accompanied by their friends, bringing me to my next point.

The Winter Carnival is likely the only time in the year (aside from other dedicated ski trips) when so many friends can visit a ski resort simultaneously. As I mentioned before, planning a trip to a mountain requires a lot of organization as well as coinciding schedules. This problem is eliminated thanks to this event as any student who would have otherwise gone to school can visit the mountain with their friends. This feat would have been practically impossible with so many people in any other circumstance.

My experience with the Winter Carnival has been a very positive one. As an avid skier, any opportunity to visit a resort is appreciated, and it provides exactly that. It is an excellent opportunity for friends who share an interest in skiing and snowboarding as this is one of the few opportunities they have to go together at the same time.

## Carnival Tubing!

By Antonella B.

Mid-terms for all students are a very stressful time, especially with exams and schoolwork. To give students a break and help them relax every year, Royal West Academy hosts a special Winter Carnival during the month of January.

Tons of fun activities are presented to students as a fun little escape from classes. This year's options, such as skiing and snowboarding, in-school activities, bouldering, hockey, and even winter survival courses were given. The most popular among these options was snow tubing.

Tubing, a fun winter activity, where you ride an inflatable tube down a mountain, is a great opportunity to make new friends and bond with the ones you have. The exhilaration of sliding down a mountain in a group can really bring people together. Whether you screamed all the way down or couldn't contain your laughter, a good time is a good time.

Kids were driven in buses at 8:45 AM, and arrived around 10 AM at Les Glissades du Domaine des Pays d'en Haut ready to ride some slopes! When arriving, the fun started right away: all you had to do was grab a tube and hop on the chairlift. It was that easy, and people went again and again. There were a variety of different slopes you could slide down, such as the Vortex 360, Bobsleigh, and Rafting. One of the main attractions called "Tornado" had people in groups of eight or fewer sit in a circle in a tube while rapidly spinning down a mountain. "It was so much fun! There were so many different rides to go on," said Yael B., an RWA student.



Another special part of this experience was going up the chairlifts. You could see the beautiful natural scenery of Quebec. There were tons of different types of pine trees surrounding the mountains with light snow dusting all over them. The nature was so beautiful and peaceful to enjoy on such a bright and snowy day.





Overall, this day was such a fun experience. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had a great time. Winter Carnival is definitely one of the many highlights of a year at RWA and brings so much joy to students during a stressful period.

## In-School Activities

By Lauren T.

Every year, there are so many students who are able to enjoy our in-school activities. As an alternative to outdoor activities, Student Life Association (SLA) along with the administration put together in-school activities. These consist of fun indoor activities over the course of five periods, run by some very enthusiastic and energized SLA students and supervised by some very willing teachers. This year, SLA did it once again, with such a great outcome.

On January 24, six SLA students got ready to run activities. From 8:30 AM to 2 PM all kinds of activities were planned. Each SLA student was instructed to group 10–15 students and bring them to each station. After every period of 50 minutes, the groups would switch stations.

One of the activities was in the Foundation Gym, where the students played flicker ball, a team-building sport. Next, the students were guided to Room 104 to play *Just Dance*. After all the fun in 104, the students were then brought to the next activity, which took place in the Memorial Gym. The group leaders gave the students the opportunity to pick their favourite sport to play. For some, that may have been basketball, soccer, or volleyball, but all students, including the group leaders, participated.

One of the top favourite activities took place in Room 113, the art room. Depending on the group leader, the students were given a special person or thing to draw in their own artistic way. One of the group's instructions was to draw their group leaders and some did so very artistically. The last and best-planned activity is the school-wide hide and seek. All of the groups got together and had five minutes to hide around the entirety of Royal West Academy. The six SLA members got together and searched for all the students around the school.

In-school activities are one of the many things SLA puts together yearly. This year, the turnout was excellent. As one of the co-presidents of SLA said, "A lot of hard work



was put into the Winter Carnival, but we're so glad it paid off."

Ultimately, with the work of SLA and the administration, Royal West Academy was able to throw together a very successful Winter Carnival, coming back stronger than ever after the past few COVID-19 years.

## The Respiratory System

By Olyvia C.-B. & Gabrielle P. & Liliana R.

### Dr. Shapiro teaches students the wonders of the lungs

On February 16 and 17, Ms. Kissin's Secondary III science classes had the great opportunity to listen to Dr. Adam Shapiro, a pediatric respirologist at the Montreal Children's Hospital, who came and educated the classes on the respiratory system and its diseases.

The lung specialist shared the challenges of becoming a doctor, allowing the students an inside view of the path he took. Carefully explaining the steps, he taught them what is needed to consider that career path and how he managed to accomplish it. He talked about what motivated him to become a lung specialist, and how helping children was one of the reasons he decided to go into pediatrics.

Furthermore, he carefully explained each part of the respiratory system. He used realistic diagrams and pointed to the parts of a body to demonstrate the



## It Takes (More Than) Two

By Alice M.

A production team, band, and cast work together to create a junior version of *Into the Woods*

On December 22, I attended the Royal West Academy musical production *Into the Woods*, directed by Jordan Gasparik with musical direction by Chris Barillaro, written by James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim, and performed at the Wagar High School. This show, told equally through both story and song, follows seven main characters as they each set out on their own personal journeys. Like most of Sondheim's work, this show is quite hard to execute, but when done correctly, it is an unforgettable piece. A tale of friendship, love, and happily ever afters, this musical is a combination of all things good in the theatre world.

This show could not have been done without the dozens of people involved both onstage and behind the scenes in both casts, but I'd like to focus on some members of one cast of the wildly talented production:

- Isabella A.-F. (the Narrator)
- Ella E.L. (Cinderella)
- Ben A. (Jack)
- Brad C. (the Baker)
- Molly D. (the Baker's Wife)
- Phoebe C. (Little Red Riding Hood)
- Melody M. (the Witch)
- Ruven B. (the Wolf)
- Amélie C. (Rapunzel)
- Annabelle H. (Rapunzel's Prince)
- Eva T. (Cinderella's Prince)
- Nancy B. (Cinderella's Stepmother)
- Eden K. (Florinda)
- Joy K. (Lucinda)
- Gabrielle P. (Jack's mother)
- Audrey M. (Granny)
- Tallis L. (Cinderella's Father/Steward)
- Lilliana G. (Cinderella's Mother)
- Danny H. (Mysterious man)

breathing process, which kept the students engaged. He taught extremely well, being thorough, but also precise and captivating. His lesson not only prepared students for their upcoming test but did so in a memorable way that will aid them on many different occasions.

He then went on to explain his average day at work, and how he is faced with the difficult task of analyzing a patient's symptoms to figure out their condition. The class was given the interactive opportunity to analyze some of the cases he treats and try to figure out what condition that patient might have. Pictures inside the patient's lungs and x-rays were also explained in great detail, along with how they are cured. He also went into detail about Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia or PCD, a disease he explored and researched with a team to find cures. He now gets to travel all over North America to explain the disease and their research.

Overall, his presentation gave the class a great opportunity. They learned about our respiratory system from a great source; someone who has studied it for years, works with patients to cure any problems related to it, researches a new cure that has saved many lives, and not only is excellent at teaching how the treatment works but is also great at making the complicated respiratory system something that students were able to understand with ease. The presentation was a great way to appreciate what they were learning during science and the importance it had in our world.







Isabella was a wonderful asset to the cast in her confident and strong delivery, while Ruven brought a witty, bright take on his character to the stage. Brad showed a deep understanding of his role and gave a genuine performance, and Molly contributed a well-developed and carefully thought out version of her character. The performances of Annabelle and Eva were simultaneously creative and true to the story, while Amélie's Rapunzel was so convincing it was hard to distinguish her voice from that of Mackenzie Mauzy's (the movie adaptation's *Rapunzel*). Ella and Phoebe delivered beautiful performances, especially musically, where they were both given the chance to exercise their exceptional ranges. Lilliana and Gabrielle added depth and humour to the scenes they were in and Danny was excellent at being mysterious. Melody was exceptional both vocally and dramatically, truly making her captivating character her own. Ben performed one of Sondheim's notoriously difficult songs (*Giants in the Sky*) with ease and gave an overall admirable performance.



While all the performers were genuine in terms of their relationships with other characters, two truly stood out—that of Melody and her stage daughter Amélie, and the ones between Ella, Eden, Joy, and Nancy. The former two actresses created a beautiful, believable version of the connection between the Witch and Rapunzel, while the latter four portrayed a convincing version of the traditional Disney stepfamily dynamic.

Of all the musical numbers, both *Agony* and *On the Steps of the Palace* were among my favourites. The former being a brilliant and hilarious song, Annabelle and Eva surpassed my expectations. The latter, a number beautifully sung by Ella, had the audience sitting in awed silence. In terms of group numbers, the prologue was a shoo-in for first place. Being one of Sondheim's most difficult pieces in this show, it was so well executed. A beautiful introduction to the rest of the musical and the skilled cast, this number was extremely impressive and set a high standard for the production, which was certainly reached.

This show is one of my favourite musicals, and this production certainly did it justice. The show was wonderfully choreographed and blocked by Jonathan Patterson. The sets were wonderfully made and well put together. The costumes and makeup were beautifully done, especially the gowns of the stepsisters. The lighting truly added to the ambiance of the show, never missing a cue and flowing smoothly with the production. The sound effects were well-timed and chosen, and the band's music created by the band was exceptional.

I was engrossed in the show, and it seemed that the rest of the audience was as well. As a result of their emotional involvement in the performance, the audience would gasp or laugh accordingly. Overall, I definitely recommend this show. With beautiful voices, wonderful choreography, and amazing performances, this stunning musical was absolutely a must-see.

Many of the roles were double cast. Here are the performers for the Monday and Wednesday evening performances:

- Eve B. (Cinderella)
- Saule M. (Jack)
- Jacob R. (the Baker)
- Ashley M. (the Baker's Wife)
- Jane R. (Little Red Riding Hood)
- McKenna F. (Rapunzel)

## The True Variety

By Dominic A.

### The RWA variety show

On January 20 at Wagar High School, Royal West Academy's annual Variety Show took place. Every year the best of the best kids audition and show up to perform their extreme talent on stage. I have participated in two of said shows as a singer and I can speak for most when I say the show is electric.

The venue has great light and sound workers who elevate the quality of the show, turning a school talent show into a small concert for any who want to attend. The show's directors are Mr. Linton and Ms. Di Pietro, RWA's very own guidance counsellors and social workers. The two directors of the variety show are the most amicable and approachable people you will ever meet in your life, making the whole experience as a performer enjoyable and as stress-free as possible.

For the duration of time between rehearsal and performance all of the performers are in a state of anxiety and excitement, nervous about doing badly on stage and excited to do well on stage. As a performer, this is a great opportunity to talk to others and make new friends, seeing how everyone is in the same position. Once your name is called and you hear your song begin you are filled with the euphoria of symmetry and perfection.

The sound work, the light work, and of course your work as a performer all culminate together to create a magical experience for you and the audience. As an audience member, typically being related to a performer, seeing your loved one perform their heart out is an infinitely gratifying experience. The entire Variety Show's experience is not one that should be missed for a current or future RWA student.



## The Royal West Academy Choir

By Miriam H.

### A vocal music ECA

*"Then the singing enveloped me. It was furry and resonant, coming from everyone's very heart."*

—Anne Lamott (American writer)

The Royal West Academy choir is a musical extracurricular activity where students from all grades come together to sing and perform at school events, like concerts and assemblies. We are primarily an acapella choir, which means that we sing mostly without instrumental accompaniment. We meet every week to practice our songs, from mid-September through to May.

Choir rehearsals take place every Wednesday after school in the music room, and generally last until around 4:15 PM. We work on a large selection of songs for many different performances throughout the year. The choir is divided into three sections: Soprano I, Soprano II, and Alto. Each section learns a different part of a song, so when we sing together, it creates harmonies. Soprano I is the part with the highest range and often has the melody. Soprano II is a middle range, and Alto is the lowest. Choosing the part that best fits your voice is a good way to develop and train without straining it.

Being part of the choir does require commitment. You are expected to come to every rehearsal unless you have a valid reason not to, and you can't miss more than two rehearsals per concert period. Choir is a team effort: if one person doesn't know their part, it can knock other people off too. That being said, Ms. Macleod is reasonable, so if a lot of people have to miss it for another activity or event, rehearsal will be cancelled so nobody falls behind.

Choir is a great activity for anyone with an interest in music. It helps to develop basic skills like reading notes and having a sense of rhythm as well as providing general music experience. You also earn a cultural and community credit for participating the full year, and an opportunity to get practical concert experience in a less stressful way as part of a group. We learn a wide ranging repertoire of many different styles, from ancient Latin chants to modern pop songs. The world of music is huge, and the choir is a fun way to learn about it.





Anyone interested in auditioning should keep a lookout on the daily bulletin at the beginning of the year. Ms. Macleod will announce the beginning of auditions, and you can go see her to work out a time. The audition is very easy, and no prior knowledge or experience is required. We hope to see you next year!

## The Path to Joining the Grad Committee

By Melody P.

When I was in elementary school, my older sister was at Royal West Academy. I watched her experience high school and one thing that I remember her talking about all the time was the Grad Committee. The Grad Committee is a group of Secondary V RWA students chosen to plan the prom for their graduating class. My sister and her friends were chosen to be a part of this committee in 2018, and when I came to Royal West Academy in Secondary I, I knew that I also wanted to be a part of it when I was graduating.

When Secondary IV rolled around, I saw a post on the bulletin that it was time for the Grad Committee interviews. I had to assemble a group of 10 people so I asked my friends and we created our group. We made a PowerPoint presentation about how we would plan the prom the following year and presented it to Ms. O'Neil and the Grad Committee in charge that year. After waiting a week or so, we were excited to hear that we were chosen!

This year, my friends and I have been working hard to come up with the prom theme, the grad apparel, the decorations, the invitations, the venue, and everything else that goes along with planning the prom. But what makes a good Grad Committee? After interviewing Ms. O'Neil, the teacher in charge of the Grad Committee last year and this year, it was clear. When interviewing the groups, she looks for a variety of personalities in one group. "It's important to have people with different skills and interests so that there is always going to be someone who can take charge of different types of tasks," she says.

It's also important to have a group of people who aren't just friends with each other but also interact with other students and groups in the grade to be able to get everyone interested in the prom and take part in fundraisers set up during the year. She also looks for people who are organized and are able to take charge

of tasks and complete them. Being a part of the Grad Committee does take a lot of responsibility but it is so worth it because we get to help work on making our final year of high school the best it can be.

## Senior Robotics

By Jacob R.

Among the many extracurricular activities offered at Royal West Academy, one of my favourites is Senior Robotics. Every year, the Senior Robotics team spends months working on a robot to send to the Canadian Robotics Competition. The three-day competition, usually abbreviated to the CRC, takes place every February and brings together various high schools and CEGEPs from around the province to demonstrate what they have been working on for the past few months as well as for some friendly competition. This year's event took place February 16–18.

I was on the team last year, and I am proud to say that we did very well, scoring first place in several of the competition's categories. This year, the team hoped to do even better. Many of the components for the robot had been upgraded, with one of the biggest changes being the use of a new power distribution system which makes getting power to the motors much simpler. The team also designed a completely new chassis, which is smaller to meet this year's competition's tighter size restrictions.

Speaking of the rules, those for this year's competition are very different from last year's. In 2022, the game that the robots played was very complex and involved many different robots all performing a variety of tasks to score points. While this was still fun, it was fairly complicated, and difficult to follow if you had not read all the rules. This year, however, the game was very simple: the robots must flip over tokens and place them in towers to get more points than their opponents. Mr. Nemeth hopes this will make the game "much easier to follow and more exciting for the spectators."

While the robot is the team's main focus, there were many other requirements that we must fulfill. For example, the team had to create a website to present information about themselves to the competition's judges. We also had to build a kiosk to bring to the physical event and make a video which explains the premise and rules of the competition. Finally, each team also had to come up with a theme, which determined what their video, website, and kiosk would look like.



This year, the team chose to go with a Wall Street theme, but in previous years teams have chosen to go with *Avatar*, *Wall-E*, or *Portal* themes.

All these requirements mean that Senior Robotics has something to offer to many different kinds of students, whether they like engineering, art, programming, cinematography, or even just want to have fun building something and using tools. I therefore strongly encourage anyone currently in Secondary II, III, or IV to join the team next year and see what robotics is like.

## Indoor Track

By Jaydon E.

Over the years, Indoor Track has become more prominent in Royal West Academy around the students. It's spoken about by many students but many don't end up going. This year is different, and that's why I'm excited to write about it.

The students are fired up and want to not only win for themselves but to win a banner for Royal West Academy. A big part of this passion is Zachary E., someone who hasn't been running track and field for a long time, but he went to the outdoor track event last summer and he qualified for provincials. He did amazing while he was there. Not only did he win, but he got his friends to join Indoor Track and he spread the word, so more people could join to share the amazing experience together. In addition to Zachary, there were others that qualified from our school that also did amazing. This shined a light on the track, a more or less unpopular sport compared to basketball, soccer, and football, for example.

The Indoor Track and Field event is truly amazing and you can't experience something like it many times. Representing your school and running is amazing but, supporting your friends and schoolmates, and them supporting you while running is an indescribable feeling that you would have to experience yourself. Also, all the students that are in it are dedicated and hardworking and I'm sure they'll put on a show.

What's amazing about Indoor Track is that there's something for everyone to do. Whether it's short-distance sprinting or long-distance running. If running is not your thing there are field events that you can do. To summarize, there's something for everyone. Indoor Track is a place where you can demonstrate your abilities while having a blast. I'm hopeful that these

RWA students participating will inspire the younger generation to do so as well.

*"Run when you can, walk if you have to, crawl if you must; just never give up."*

—Dean Karnazes (*American runner*)

## The Governing Board Report

By Mr. David Stollow, Chair

Since the start of 2023, the Governing Board (GB) has met twice, on January 16 and February 23.

During our January meeting, the GB approved Royal West Academy's Safe School Action Plan, received information about the school's budget, and discussed, as we do each year, the GB's views on the school principal selection criteria that we ask the EMSB to take into consideration.

During our February meeting, the GB approved an amendment to the Grille Matières and the school calendar to change the tentative Pedagogical Day from April 17, 2023 to April 28, 2023. We also approved the Budget Building Process, which is submitted by the school to the EMSB and reflects the school's priorities regarding funding.

At each meeting, written or verbal reports are provided and presented by various parties, including the Principal, Teachers/Staff, Student Life Association (SLA), our parent delegate to the EMSB Parents Committee (the EMSBPC), our Commissioner (Joseph Lalla), Home & School, RWA Foundation, and RWA's Parent Participation Organization (PPO).

Our next meeting is on March 27, 2023, at 7 PM in the library. As always, parents are more than welcome to attend the Governing Board meetings and there is a question period during each meeting reserved for GB-related questions.







## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 16	Parent Teacher evening 2:30 PM–5:30 PM 7 PM–9:30 PM
March 17	Pedagogical Day
March 20–24	MindPOP Math
March 22	Home & School meeting @ 7:30 PM
March 24	Dance Show
March 24	Student Climate Change Workshop
March 24	Pedagogical Day
March 27–31	Social Justice Week
March 27	Governing Board meeting @ 7 PM
March 29	Secondary III Drama outing
March 31	Dessert Concert

**RWA**



**News**

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