



MINUTES OF MEETING
November 27, 2023, 7:00 PM
RWA Library

Members Present

David Stolow (Parent)	Jessica Houde-Woytiuk (Parent)	Alison Crump (Parent)	Renée Figlarz (Parent)	Vanessa Harrar (Parent)
Jade Lawson (Parent)	Tanya d'Alessandro (Parent)	Alison Aylward (Parent)	Eric Lamoureux (Parent Substitute)	Krikor Bijian (Parent Substitute)
Jeff Bateman (Teacher)	Jason Chen (Teacher)	Ginette Purdy (Teacher)	Sheila Macleod (Teacher)	Jessica Fogel (Teacher)
Leigh Partington (Teacher)	Chad Dumond (Non-teaching Professional)	Tonica Spencer (Non-teaching Staff)	Eve Bercuvitz (Student)	Eva Theodosopoulos (Student)
Joseph Lalla (Commissioner)	Elysia Bryan-Banes (Community Representative)			

Regrets/Absences

Steven Manstavich (Vice-Principal)	Michal Wineberg (Non-teaching Professional)	Mahesh Sharma (Community Representative)	Nancy DuPaul (Teacher Alternate)	Marie-Claire O'Neil (Teacher Alternate)
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Also Present

Tony Pita (Principal)	Catherine Lumsden (Vice-Principal)	
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Guests

Two guests joined the meeting.

1.	Welcome
	Meeting called to order by D. Stolow at 7:01p.m.

2.	Reading and Approval of the Agenda
	No items added to the Agenda. Agenda approved.

3.	Adoption of the minutes
3.1	Approval
	Meeting of October 23, 2023 Motion to approve the minutes of October 23, 2023. Moved by A. Aylward; Seconded by J. Lawson Vote: Carried unanimously

4.	Business arising from the minutes
4.1	Information
	Community Representatives Confirmation T. Pita welcomes Elysia Bryan-Banes, 1998 RWA graduate, as a continuing community representative on the RWA Governing Board and confirms that Dr. Mahesh Sharma also accepted our offer to continue as community representative.
4.2	Information
	Fundraising Clarification T. Pita reports that the EMSB confirmed that the school can continued to do raffles and 50-50 draws as long as parents are present in the building.
4.3	Approval
	Rules of Operation Motion to approve the Rules of Operation with the changes reflected pursuant to the email circulated to GB members. Moved by G. Purdy; Seconded by J. Chen Vote: Carried unanimously

5.	New business
5.1	Information
	Budget update 2023-2024 T. Pita provides an update on the 2023-2024 budget and explains the different fund categories.

5.2	Approval	<p>Science Fair Day 2024</p> <p>T. Pita explains that the number of Science Fair submissions has increased this year. Given the number of students who will be participating in Science Fair, he requests that the Science Fair be a non-teaching day; that is, considered a school day, but with no classes to allow all students to participate.</p> <p>Motion to approve the Science Fair Day, on February 15, 2024 as a non-teaching school day. Moved by J. Fogel; Seconded by J. Bateman Vote: Carried unanimously</p>
5.3	Approval	<p>Rescheduling of Tyndale Early Dismissal (if necessary)</p> <p>T. Pita explains that the scope of the RWA Tyndale week is significant and asks GB for approval to move the PM early dismissal on the Friday of Tyndale week. The grade that wins the "Penny Wars" wins an early dismissal. Because Science Fair is a non-teaching day, this early dismissal may need to be rescheduled.</p> <p>Motion to approve rescheduling the early PM dismissal on the Friday of Tyndale week at the discretion of the Administration. Moved by G. Purdy; Seconded by S. Maclead Vote: Carried unanimously</p>
5.4	Approval	<p>Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Action Plan</p> <p>C. Lumsden provides an overview of the plan and the process that was followed to complete the template. Staff Council approved it as is.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion about the possibility of considering an online suggestion box as well as a physical one.</p> <p>Motion to approve the Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Action Plan. Moved by J. Bateman; Seconded by C. DuMond Vote: Carried unanimously</p>

5.5	Discussion	<p>Educational Project Consultation with Governing Board</p> <p>C. Lumsden explains the process of consultation on the RWA Educational Project, and the various groups included in the consultation: teaching staff, support staff, Board professionals, community group members, students, and parents (on the PPO). Meetings with the consultative groups were led by the Administration and a summary of the school's Success Plan was provided. The Educational Project focuses primarily on the school's educational climate. A Google form was sent to consultative groups to invite further feedback. Responses and feedback were synthesized in an infographic (presented to the GB), which highlights positive elements as well as aspects to monitor or focus on.</p> <p>There were some suggestions about clarifying some of the bullet points in the infographic. A final version of the Educational Project should be shared with the Governing Board in the spring.</p>
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6.		Reports
6.1	Information	<p>Principal</p> <p>Report sent by email prior to the meeting. T. Pita highlights how proud he is of the students and staff given RWA's very high rating in the latest Fraser Institute rankings of high schools in Québec.</p>
6.2	Information	<p>Student Life Association</p> <p>SLA organized a successful Halloween Dance for Sec. 1 and 2 students. They would like to organize a dance for Sec. 3, 4, and 5 as well.</p>
6.3	Information	<p>Parent Delegate to EMSBPC</p> <p>Report sent by email prior to the meeting.</p>
6.4	Information	<p>Commissioner</p> <p>Two reports sent by email prior to the meeting, one referring to Bill 23, which represents a big win for the Québec English School Boards Association, and the second related to the English Montreal Student Advisory Committee. There are 24 students, with 2 representatives from each of the 12 high schools. They meet once a month and discuss various educational issues. They are consulted by the EMSB on matters such as the budgeting process.</p> <p>J. Lalla also discusses changes to the boundaries for school board elections, which will be in place as of November 2024. Montreal West will be attached to Côte Saint-Luc and Hamstead, rather than NDG.</p>

6.5	Information	Home & School T. Pita reports that a group of parents repaired the garden shed and fixed the planters. The EMSB paid for the replacement. The parents are planning a painting weekend.
6.6	Information	Foundation T. Pita provides an update. The Foundation will be sending a pamphlet to parents/guardians through the students. The Foundation is seeking funding to support the active learning classroom project. Furniture for the first classroom has been selected.
6.7	Information	PPO Report sent by email prior to the meeting. E. Lamoureux speaks to the report and notes that the PPO has seven members. T. Pita adds that the parents on the PPO were the parent group consulted on the Educational Project.

7.	Correspondence
	<p>Two emails were received.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oct. 30, 20023 from an RWA parent, S. Chalkoun, expressing her concern with the homework level at RWA. She shared a YouTube video from a private school, which T. Pita watched. T. Pita commented that it is interesting to see how another school is managed and noted differences between public and private schools. D. Stolow clarified that the Governing Board does not have the authority to establish homework levels for students as this is not a role of the GB in the Education Act. 2. D. Stolow also reports on his email exchanges with Joanna Duy, Chair of the PPO (who was present at the GB meeting), about how the PPO can prepare reports for GB meetings and about some of the ideas discussed by the PPO.

8.	Varia
	J. Houde-Woytiuk asks whether parents of children with a Certificate of Eligibility who are in the French sector were seeking to transfer to RWA given the context of the potential extended strike in the French sector. T. Pita responds that RWA doesn't accept winter admissions.

9.	Question Period for the Public
	<p>E. Lamoureux asks about the policy for cell phone use in classrooms at RWA. He shares the perspective of students who do not have a cell phone with them at school and are asked during class to use phones for learning activities.</p> <p>T. Pita explains that the policy is that students can use a cell phone in class only for a learning activity with approval from the teacher. Students can use their phones before and after school, and during recess and lunch. The consequence for cell phone use that goes</p>

	<p>against the policy is to lose the phone for 5 school days during the day. The policy is reviewed every year. T. Pita will discuss with teachers.</p> <p>E. Bercuvitz adds that one of her teachers commented that more and more Sec. 1 students do not have cell phones. She also comments that the school has iPads and laptops for teachers to integrate in their classes if they want to do an activity.</p> <p>Joanna Duy, PPO Chair, asks if RWA would consider running a survey to all parents as part of the Educational Project consultation. C. Lumsden explains that the resources are not available to run that kind of survey and analyse the data. RWA identified the PPO as the parent consultative body for the process.</p>
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10.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: January 10, 2024</p>
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11.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Moved by J. Chen; Seconded by T. D'Alessandro Vote: Carried unanimously</p>
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Respectfully submitted:

Tony Pita, Principal

David Stolow, Chairperson