

**Verdun Elementary School
GOVERNING BOARD
MINUTES**

*Thursday March 14, 2024 – 6:00pm
VES Staff Room & Zoom*

Present: Patrick Bagstad, Daniel Bartlett, Tracey Brenie,, Deborah Devine, Dominic Durocher, Elizabeth Huyer, Lori McKergow, Danielle Michelin, Pablo Miyazono, Lori Morrison, Diane Tierney

Audience (non-voting):

Regrets: Chantal Condon, Sterling Downey, Simone Viger

1. **Welcome and Land Acknowledgement:** Patrick Bagstad calls the meeting to order at 6:13pm and reads the land acknowledgement.
2. **Approval of Agenda:**
 - a. Addition of the following items:
 - i. Field Trip - Chateau Ramsay
 - ii. Fine Line Serpents
 - iii. Earth Rangers
 - iv. Nutritionists
 - v. Band Exchange

MOTION #55: To approve the agenda with additions. Moved by Pablo Miyazono, seconded by Danielle Michelin. Carried unanimously.

3. **Approval of Minutes from February 8th meeting:**

MOTION #56: To approve the minutes from the February 2024 Governing Board meeting. Moved by Daniel Bartlett, seconded by Diane Tierney. Carried unanimously.

4. **New Business:**

- a. Extend Suspicious fish creative writing group from April 9th to May 21st.

MOTION #57: To approve the extension of the Suspicious fish program. Moved by Deborah Devine, seconded by Pablo Miyazono. Carried unanimously.

- b. Cultural Day - tabled to the next Governing Board meeting
- c. Survey promise changes in Health promotion programming in Quebec schools post COVID. Lori requires the Governing Board approval to begin a survey on the access to health care following COVID.

MOTION #58: To approve the Health survey as presented. Moved by Dominic Durocher, seconded by Daniel Bartlett. Carried unanimously.

- d. Students from Beurling Academy: High School Readiness Survey. Students from Beurling will come to the school to present a survey to our Grade 6 students. A condition is added by the Governing Board that the surveys must be done anonymously.

MOTION #59: To approve the Beurling Academy survey visit as presented. Moved by Tracey Brenie, seconded by Deborah Devine. Carried unanimously.

- e. Field trip to Chateau Ramsay in Old Montreal. On Tuesday April 9th, Grade 3 students will travel by school bus to Chateau Ramsay in Old Montreal. There is no cost to students.

MOTION #60: To approve the Chateau Ramsay field trip as presented. Moved by Daniel Bartlett, seconded by Danielle Michelin. Carried unanimously.

- f. Fine Line Serpents: Mme. Nancy has received funding through a grant to provide science activities for our students. On June 6th, lizards will be brought to the school for each class to see.

MOTION #61: To approve the Fine Line Serpents as presented. Moved by Pablo Miyazono, seconded by Tracey Brenie. Carried unanimously.

- g. Earth Rangers: On April 4th, Grade 3 and 4 classes will attend an online science presentation with Earth Rangers about biodiversity.

MOTION #62: To approve the Earth Rangers workshops as presented. Moved by Dominic Durocher, seconded by Pablo Miyazono. Carried unanimously.

- h. Nutrition Activity: On April 10th, the nutritionist from Hearts and Hands Clinic will come to do a fun hands-on activity about eating healthy food with Grade 3 classes.

MOTION #63: To approve the Nutrition Activity as presented. Moved by Daniel Bartlett, seconded by Danielle Michelin. Carried unanimously.

- i. Band Exchange: On Thursday May 16th, Grade 5 and 6 students in the lunchtime and afterschool band will travel by schoolbus to St. Edmund Elementary to play a joint band concert. There is no cost to students.

MOTION #64: To approve the Band Exchange as presented. Moved by Tracey Brenie, seconded by Deborah Devine. Carried unanimously.

- j. SEED Budget: Tracey Brenie presents the 2023-2024 SEED Budget.

MOTION #65:

- WHEREAS the Governing Board is responsible for adopting the School's Annual Budget proposed by the Principal, and shall submit the budget to the School Board for approval as per section 95 of the Education Act; and
 - WHEREAS the Principal shall prepare the Annual Budget of the School, (and) submit it to the Governing Board for adoption, as per section 96.24 of the Education Act;
 - WHEREAS the Governing Board of Verdun Elementary School has reviewed the proposed (2023-2024) budget as submitted by the Principal at the March 14, 2024 Governing Board meeting, showing revenues of \$420,897 and expenses of \$421,334 and giving a budgeted net result of \$ -437.00
 - WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, on a motion by Dominic Durocher, seconded by Pablo Miyazono, budget for the 2023-2024 school year be adopted.
- k. Selection Criteria for Principal. The current selection criteria for VES Principapl is reviewed. Additions:
- i. ADD TO #10: "locally or remotely"
 - ii. ADD TO #14: "Being an administrator requires understanding of the local community which can only be acquired with time and belonging."

MOTION #66: To approve the VES Principal Criteria as modified. Moved by Diane Tierney, seconded by Danielle Michelin. Carried unanimously.

5. Reports:

- a. Principal - see report below.
- b. LBPSB Parent Committee - The main focus of February's meeting was EPCA (English Parents' Committee Association) which supports the English language community. They noted a high number of requests from parents whose children are in the French school system. They are planning workshops on managing screentime with children, addictive substances, etc. Parents can sign up for the newsletter on epcaquebec.org. The next meeting is April 4th.
- c. Commissioner - see report below
- d. Community Report - no report.
- e. CLC - no report.
- f. Teacher - see report below.
- g. Support Staff - On February 26th, support staff voted on their collective agreement.
- h. SEED - Current programming is largely based on the weather - if it's a nice day groups are definitely outside. Ms. Tammy has a stagiaire working with Grades 1 and 2. Tax receipts are posted on Mozaik. Parents were asked to sign a form if they were not willing/able to provide their social insurance number. On the last ped day we went bowling with 59 students. On the next Ped Day (April 8th) the daycare is closed. On the May 10th Ped Day Ms. Tammy will be leading a painting activity.
- i. VESPA - no report.

6. **Public Question Period** - No questions

7. **Correspondence and Varia** - none.

8. **Adjournment** - 7:14pm

MOTION #67: Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned. Moved by Deborah Devine, seconded by Diane Tierney. Carried unanimously.

ATTACHED REPORTS

Principal's Report for Governing Board

March 2024

On our Region Ped day we worked on our Educational project. Due to a power shut down at school, we had to do it all on zoom. We were not able to complete it and I know we are not the only school. We will work to finish it on our next ped day.

The school held a very successful Scholastic book fair. Thank you so much to the committee!

We had our Special Needs Planning day where we began to look at the needs and planning for next year.

We had pink shirt day on February 28th where everyone wore pink and focused on being kind to others.

The teachers worked very hard to get all of their report cards and IEPs done and I have been working hard to go over all of them before they are ready to view on March 15th.

Commissioner's Report for Governing Board

March 2024

Commissioner's Report

Hello all,

With the upcoming eclipse coming in early April, the board has taken the proactive steps to cancel classes as the end of the school days coincides with when the eclipse will be at its fullest. Should you want to suggest protective glasses to your students, many borough locations are offering them at no cost, including at the Verdun library, beginning on March 18th. The glasses are in limited quantities.

March is Women's History Month, and it was so nice to see the activities across the schools in our board. The LBPSB is also featuring several women at our board on their Facebook page.

BGC Dawson will be holding an online workshop on autism in coordination with Giant Steps. Please see BGC's Facebook page or website for the link to register. It takes place on March 12, and March 19, in two parts.

Allion and LCCHS had a science lab event where kids from K4 visited LCCHS' labs and partook in some experiments; looks like it was a fantastic time.

Students in the grade 11 SN Math group competed in the 2024 Fermat Contest with U of Waterloo, outstanding!

The Verdun borough is still looking for ideas from our schools in how we can have the kids participating in the 150th anniversary. Please send me your ideas, and I will bring them to the committee during our next meeting, set for April.

Respectfully submitted
Lori Morrison
Commissioner for Ward 1

Teachers' Report for Governing Board:

- Book Fair - It was great to see parents in the school for this event.
- On Valentines Day, older students were paired with younger students to do valentine's day themed activities.
- Teachers worked hard to complete IEPs and report cards for Term 2
- As a school, we participated in Pink Shirt Day on February 28th. Teachers planned activities in their classes to teach about kindness and anti-bullying.
- Ms. Katie, Mme. Dipika, and Ms. Elizabeth have student teachers from McGill completing their final stage at the school.