

**Riverview Elementary School
Governing Board Meeting #5
Tuesday January 26, 2021**

Attendance

Ariana Winn (Parent and Chair)
Linda Dalterio (Parent and Parent Committee Representative)
Sara Levis (Parent and Parent Committee Alternate Representative)
Tracey Brenie (Parent)
Melissa Ann Bourcier (Daycare)
Michelle Hermelin (Steiner) (Teacher)
Megan Ladd (Teacher)
Simone Viger (Community Representative)
Lucia Coretti (Principal)
Lori Morrison (Commissioner)
Helene Biniaris (Teacher)
Sterling Downey (Community Representative)

Regrets

Julius Archer (Parent)
Alexandra McDonald (Teacher)
Dimitri Panayotidis (Teacher substitute)

Public

Katlyn Hurley (Parent substitute)
May Ibrahim (Parent substitute & Secretary)

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Ariana Winn (Chair)

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement (by Ariana Winn)
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve the agenda: Linda Dalterio
 - b. Second: Michelle Hermelin
 - c. Motion Carried
3. Approval of the minutes of the December 15th, 2020 GB meeting
 - a. Some modifications were made by Linda Dalterio including: indicating that donations were to support programming; addition in relation to the stress being experienced by parents; and clarification on the legality of E-votes.
 - b. Motion to approve minutes from December meeting: Megan Ladd
 - c. Second: Linda Dalterio

d. Motion carried

4. Business Arising

a. 2020-2021 Annual Budget

- i. Ms. Coretti: The budget as well as a breakdown of the funds are usually handed out at the face-to-face meetings. The budget will be shared during the virtual meeting but this information should not be shared because there is a procedure for non-board members and/or parents to request access, etc.
- ii. Motion to approve budget : Linda Dalterio
- iii. Second: Tracey Brenie
- iv. Motion carried

b. Internal Rules

- i. That meeting has not yet been scheduled, this should be addressed at the next meeting

5. Public Question Period

- i. N/A

6. Reports

a. Principal

- i. Online learning: the first 2 days were a struggle, many technical issues came up, as a result the board has created an email address for parents who need tech support (helpline@lbpearson.ca). Teachers already have their helpdesk for technical support.
- ii. **Question** on if Masks should be worn during Gym.
 - a. **Answer:** Children are supposed to keep their masks on as much as possible especially when distancing is not possible. It is not enforced and under certain circumstances they can be removed (if children are running/exerting, if a child has asthma). Lanyards were purchased for when masks were not in use but many get lost and this is an added cost. In general, children are wearing masks during gym.
- iii. **Question** on Government exams: there is a concern that students will not be moving forward in an effective manner. If students' performance cannot be measured or benchmarked, how is the government going to determine if children should go to the next grade.
 - a. **Answer:** The government is currently not administering exams. However, teachers can still use those exams to carry out evaluations. The general opinion is that not having exams is the right decision, as there have been many absences, also the children missed a lot of learning last year when online learning was not mandatory. So board exams will be used internally to assess

students, and teachers will also administer their own in-house assessments that will speak more to the abilities of the students.

iv. **Follow-up Question** about government exams: Will children who did not write the exams this year be required to write them next year?

a. **Answer:** This year's exams are cancelled and students will not have to write them next year (for the current school year).

b. Teacher

i. **Question:** Are more/larger Snowshoes available as the ones the school currently has are quite small.

a. **Answer:** Ms. Coretti will speak to Scott about the possibility of obtaining these for more children/in more sizes.

c. Support Staff

i. N/A

d. Daycare

i. No questions were officially received.

ii. Question by Parent (Ariana) as to why the Olympics did not occur on Friday Jan. 21.

a. Answer (Ms. Coretti): This should be raised as a parent to the principal, and will be addressed through the usual process/channel for such requests, outside of the GB meeting.

e. Community Learning Center (CLC)

i. N/A

f. Parent Participation Organization (PPO)

i. New initiative at PPO for fundraising – Indigo Cookie dough fundraiser – the proposal has been shared on the drive. Has a good potential for a great return (36-42%) on the sale of frozen cookie dough tubs.

g. Grad (PPO Sub-Committee)

i. N/A

h. Commissioner

i. Last night at the Council meeting – a request was raised to have teachers and school staff to be prioritized by the Government for Covid vaccinations. Currently, they are scheduled for Step-9 which goes to May.

- ii. Recent changes: Ms. Deborah Dixon (former principal at Beurling Academy) & Ms. Jennifer Kurta are leaving their current posts for new positions. Concern raised by Linda Dalterio as to how Ms. Dixon's departure will impact the existing programs (PBL). Lori Morrison to raise this concern with the council.

i. Board Sector Parents' Committee (PC)

- i. There is an offer to join a program by the Bronfman Institute about resiliency – similar to the CLC programs.

j. Board Special Needs Advisory Committee (SNAC)

- i. N/A

k. Community Representatives

- i. The borough on Thursday will be holding online consultations regarding the skate ramp on Nun's Island. It would be great to get parents and youth involved in decisions that impact the borough.
- ii. Trying with all three schools to participate in projects related to robotics, drone piloting, to increase interest in these areas. The link has been shared with Ms. Coretti to see if there are any projects/programs that the schools might be interested in.
- iii. Centre de Pret (on Lasalle Boul.) is lending free equipment for outdoor activities. Ariana Winn will share the link to potentially share with the families. Also look into if this would be available for larger groups/school groups.
- iv. Initiative to request a closer hill for students to go sliding/sledding (other than Therien) so that bussing would not be required. There are several issues/restrictions with bussing due to Covid related measures. Ms. Coretti could write to the board (Sterling) requesting a closer project. Perhaps Buerling school could submit a request as well.

l. Governing Board Chair

- a. A budget consultation has been launched by the school board and has been shared on the drive. This needs to be reviewed by the Governing Board and any feedback provided by March 31st.

7. New Business

a. 2019-2020 Annual Report

- i. Ms. Coretti mentioned that it is a condensed report due to the closures last year, as well as the cancellation of certain programs. Instead, report cards were used for evaluating the educational project (only terms 1 and 2 grades were used since term 3 was just a Pass/Fail). The overall percentage of student success rates is high, but this might not be very representative due to the reasons afore-mentioned.

- ii. Report also covers programs/achievements in Wellness & Engagement.

b. Daycare programming

- i. Blanket approval at the beginning of the year with respect to ped day programs.
- ii. Mel – the school has had only two ped days so far since return from holidays. Following same protocols as start of the school year – managing bubbles. Daycare hours have gone down from 11 hours to 8 hours.
- iii. Currently number of registrations for ped days are low (below 35), if there is a need for additional supplies, the school can reach out to parents and/or the community.

8. Field trips

- a. N/A

9. Fundraising

- a. PPO update (Indigo campaign mentioned earlier in the meeting) – ongoing Domino’s pizza nights are successful so far.

10. Varia

- a. N/A

11. Correspondence

- a. N/A

12. Next meeting date

- a. Tuesday, February 16th at 6:00pm – online, via Zoom

13. Adjournment at 8:09 pm - Ariana Winn