

CEDARCREST SCHOOL
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
Monday November 21, 2017

Present:

Caroline Doré, Georgia Stamatopoulos, Civita Tudino, Tia Nicholls, Mauro Parissi, Mina Bilios, Raymond Ayas, Lorraine Belanger, Paula Estrusco, Stephanie Vezina-Tulli

Absent:

Ian Hanchet

Guests in Attendance:

Lydia Kansou-Johnstone

1. Welcome and opening remarks

2. Additions to the Agenda –

No additions to the agenda

3. Adoption of the agenda:

Moved by Georgia Stamatopoulos seconded by Raymond Ayas

4. Review of minutes from September 19th, 2017

5. Approval of minutes of September 19th, 2017:

Moved by Tia Nicholls seconded by Mina Bilios.

6. BUSINESS ISSUES'

a) Chairperson

Caroline Doré must unfortunately step down as Chairperson of the Board as her experience and expertise is required in other areas of the school, which in turn creates a conflict of interest. Decision was based on what was in the best interest of the school in general but foremost the children. The Board truly and greatly appreciates all that she has accomplished for the school in this capacity.

It was moved by Mauro Parissi, seconded by Paula Estrusco and unanimously approved that,

Lydia Kansou-Johnstone be appointed new member of the Governing Board
and

Tia Nicholls be appointed Chairperson

b) MESA

MESA report was circulated and presented by Ms. Tudino. A very detailed analysis of goals, historical results, targets and more importantly methods to achieve said targets was presented to the Board. Well explained and understood by all members.

It was moved by Tia Nicholls, seconded by Georgia Stamatopoulos and unanimously resolved that the MESA report be approved/adopted.

c.) Gym/changing clothes procedure

Issue raised that some children are losing clothes and bringing home other students clothing. Stephanie explained that the students are using the bins not only for their shoes, which was the sole purpose of the bins, but for their clothes as well. She is looking into methods to ensure this will not repeat itself in the future and will report back with action plans and results of said plans.

7. Reports:

a) Principal's report

- Civita Tudino welcomed all board members
 - On Sunday November 5th, there was a presentation by Dr. Gordon Neufeld, a psychologist and authority on child development at the Ruby Foo Hotel. The topic was to educate parents, teachers, caregivers and other professionals that work with children about the conditions and experiences necessary for children to thrive and reach their full potential. The Principal was pleased to see over 12 parents from Cedarcrest attend this presentation.
 - The Remembrance Day Assembly went very well. The students were attentive and well behaved during the veteran's visit and speech.
 - Most reports cards were distributed November 20th. Most parents have submitted their preferred interview times. This year the Parent – Teacher Conference will

take place all day November 30th from 8:30 am to 8:30 pm instead of spanning over 2 days.

- The Cedarcrest Open House is on November 21st and begins at 9 AM. Grades 5 and 6 students will lead small groups of parents on a full tour of the school.
- Teacher-led lunchtime activities include the following
 - Mentoring club (seniors)
 - Student Council (Gr 5-6) led Mme. Pion & Ms. Milonas
 - Outdoor Club (Gr 3-6) led Mr. Michael & Ms. Stephanie
 - Club de chant led by (Gr 3-6) led by M. Hanchet, Mme. Sylvie and Mme. Marylene
 - Club de loisirs (Gr 4-6) led by Mme. Erchiqui
 - Club de lecture (Gr 2) led by Mme. Arfanis
 - Dance Club (Gr 3-4) led by Ms. Amalia, Ms. Zineb and Ms. Taylor
 - Art Club (Gr 4) led by Ms. Jamal
 - Club de lecture (Gr 3) led by Mme. Karine
 - Indoor Intramural Sports led by Mr. Michael and Ms. Stephanie
- Acceleration Programs
 - The Ministry has allocated funds to the schools for Acceleration Programs enabling Cedarcrest to hire after school tutors.
 - This tutoring program is available for grades 3 to 6 as part of the after school program.
 - The teachers identified the students that would benefit from the program and letters were sent to their parents to invite their children to participate in the Acceleration Program.
 - Unfortunately none of the grade 6 students partook in the program and the Principal believes it is critical for these students to get the extra help particularly for Maths to prepare them for high school. The school will send out letters to the Grade 6 parents again to encourage them to enroll their children in this program.
 - The students are organized in small groups of 1 tutor per six students. It allows for a lot of individual attention but still allows time for collaborative exchange amongst the students.
- Student Council
 - Student Council's face painting fundraising activity was well received during the Halloween Event. They are considering an ornament decoration activity before Christmas as another fundraiser.
 - Issue regarding Home and School's approval of Student Council fundraising. Home and School responded that Student Council does not require the permission of Home and School for their fundraising.

- However, members observed that towards the end of last school year there were too many activities sponsored by Home and School and Student Council. It would be beneficial for Home and School to coordinate with Student Council in the scheduling of their respective events or fundraising activities to spread them evenly out. Ms Tudino encouraged the President to reach out to Mme. Pion and Ms. Milonas.

The school is planning a school wide outing for the students on Friday December 22nd. For this outing, the school will absorb the cost from its budget but Cedarcrest would greatly appreciate any financial contribution from Home and School. Details will only be announced later to avoid any disappointment if this surprise outing does not materialize.

It was moved by Tia Nicholls, seconded by Georgia Stamatopoulos and unanimously resolved that the school wide outing be approved

b) Commissioner's report:

He sends his regrets for not attending the meeting

c) Teacher's report:

No major items of interest to report as of yet.
Looking forward to Parent-Teacher Meetings.

d) Regional Committee report:

No meetings were held as of yet

e) Daycare report:

- All is progressing well
- Excellent feedback from students and parents regarding the activities held during Ped days.
- Pumpkin Decorating was a huge success
- Base Camp Activities well underway

f) Home & School report:

- Halloween Event

The recent Halloween Event surpassed all expectations. Members congratulated Halloween Committee Chair Kristie Baker.

Members noted the Haunted House was a resounding success enjoyed by students and staff.

The Principal noted that the cupcake decoration activity with Pius Culinary Centre started off well. However, the Principal was a little disappointed that the students were not given much time to decorate their own cupcakes. She conceded that Pius did have an 11:30 am deadline and the Pius chefs and parent volunteers probably worried that this activity would not finish in time. In the end the children did not notice and were very happy with this activity.

The President encourages all members to volunteer even if only for an hour or two. Members are not required to volunteer several hours at a time. Any volunteer time given is greatly appreciated by Home and School.

- Comedy Night

Comedy Night was a huge success enjoyed by members and staff who attended the event. Home and School would like to repeat this fundraiser event again sometime in May.

Tickets for this second Comedy Nest Event can be sold at the Family Night Event which is scheduled for April 13th.

- Misc Items

Breakfast with Santa, raffle tickets and bake sale activities in planning stages

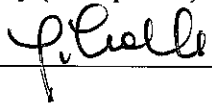
8) Question Period:

No questions were raised

9) Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm on a motion by Tia Nicholls seconded by Mauro Parissi

Minutes submitted by: Mauro Parissi

Approved by (Chairperson): Tia Nicholls



Approved by (Principal): Civita Tudino

