



Cedarcrest Elementary School
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Commission scolaire English-Montréal
English Montreal School Board

**CEDARCREST SCHOOL
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 2024**

Attendees - Members:

Maria Argyriou, Andrew Mangal, Karen Der, Marylène Favreau, April Luong, Gianna Melillo, Jessica Sabatini, Khadija Shabbir, Jayshree Sirmour, Georgia Stamatopoulos

Absentees – Members: None

Public in Attendance: Lana Pisak, Elisa Gazzola

1. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was held in person. The meeting started at 6.41 PM.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

h) communication

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to adopt today's Agenda was put forth by Karen Der, seconded by Jessica Sabatini and carried by members in attendance.

4. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES FROM MAY 21, 2024 MEETING

Minor typos were corrected. Minutes were approved as drafted.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the May 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes was put forth by Gianna Melillo, seconded by Karen Der and carried by members in attendance.

6. BUSINESS ISSUES

a. PELLO 2025-2025

- This year: Greek, Spanish, Italian
- GB approves PELLO for 2024-2025

Motion to approve the holding of the PELO Program for 2024-2025 was put forth by Jessica Sabatini, seconded by April Luong and carried by members in attendance.

b. School Fees

- Lunch fees at Cedarcrest have not increased in multiple years and the school is running a deficit for this budget.
- Implementation of an increase of 6% which brings the price new price to \$245 per year
- New this year, lunch fees can be paid monthly

Motion to approve the new lunch fee rate of \$245 per year, per child was put forth by Marylène Favreau, seconded by Jessica Sabatini, and carried by members in attendance.

c. School supplies

- Copies of school supplies were provided for each grade
- Discussed the potential to have pre-made packages set up with retail store for the supply list, Principal Mangal will look into this. This was done with Staples in 2016-2017.

Motion to approve the school supplies list was set forth by Jayshree Sirmour, seconded by Karen Der, and carried by members in attendance.

d. Afterschool Programs

Soccer – Rocco Placentino

- Soccer program at Cedarcrest since 2014, lots of kids also play soccer in St-Laurent.
- This program is successful and is offered in 7 different schools
- Always on Mondays at Cedarcrest.
- 3 blocs throughout the year, 20-25 kids per group
- Price has been the same at this school for multiple years, 14\$ per class
- Positive feedback from teachers and parents.
- Donations: soccer balls to the school to use and Impact tickets annually for raffle

Motion to approve the continuation of Soccer Program from Rocco Placentino set forth by Marylene Favreau, seconded by Jayshree Sirmour, and carried by members in attendance.

Coding (TAV College)

- Potential new offering
- Fridays, 8 weeks, min 10 max 20 students, 15\$ per student per class
- School needs to provide computer, ipads, laptops
- Use free software to learn block programming
- BBC microbits by Microsoft platform
- Same workshop can be adapted to student's age and skill level
- Student will not be building the robot, only focus on the bloc programming

GB Recommendation: Assess with Mr Jonathan the relevancy and complementarity or not with his robotics and programming curriculum.

Chess

- Follow-up with Mr. Vincent as per last GB meeting.

Motion to approve chess afterschool program with Mr. Vincent, contingent him getting a Business Number set forth by Karen Der, seconded by Khadija Shabbir, and carried by members in attendance.

Karen, Khadija

e. GB Annual Report

- Review of GB report draft provided during the meeting
- Edited to add the special parent member meeting held on May 14, 2024.

Motion to approve the GB Annual Report with the above-mentioned addition moved by Gianna Melillo, seconded by April Luong, and carried by members in attendance.

f. GB Financial Report

- Annual budget was spent meeting meals and refreshments.
- Reminder to GB members that the funds are also available for babysitting or transportation if needed to attend the meeting.

Motion to approve the GB Financial Report moved by Gianna Melillo, seconded by Khadija Shabbir, and carried by members in attendance.

g. Construction update – Principal Mangal

- The installation of modular classroom is on track.
- There is good communication with the project team.

h. Communications

- Request from a parent member that the school and teacher communications be provided with more advance notice

7. REPORTS

a. Principal's Report: Andrew Mangal

- June is a very busy month
 - June 6th: Vernissage, école Montréalaise project K5 and G3 project was a success. This project has provided a different opportunity for students shine. The key is to make sure that these relationships and bonds that have been formed between these two grades follows through in the subsequent years. This type of partnership helps to improve the school culture and increases the sense of belonging.
 - K5-G3 going to the science museum
 - K4 Cooking Class with parents, June 11, 2024
 - G5 Montreal Old Port day trip, June 14
 - Grade 6 Graduation, June 19, 2024
 - Carnival Day, June 20, 2024
- Last school day for students is June 21, 2024
- Last week of June are pedagogical days, Packing days for teachers
- Overall, this was a good year with lots of positive changes to support and enhance the school's culture and pedagogy.

b. Teacher's Report: Marylène

- K5-G3: Project Montréal, create friendships, Science Centre
- K4 and parents made some pasta today
- Thank you to all parents that came to the Vernissage, it was a great success, high turnout

c. Commissioner's Report

- No report.

d. EMSB Parents Committee Report: Jessica

- Nothing relevant to report

e. Daycare Report: Georgia Stamatopoulos

- No report.

f. Home & School Report: Karen Der

- Comedy night 160 tickets sold, just under 7K raised net
- Hockey draw raised \$2600, 5K drop compared to last year for the raffle
 - The electronic raffle ticket purchase as opposed to handed out paper tickets has significantly impacted the success of this fundraising activity.
- Year end carnival preparations are going well

8. QUESTION PERIOD

- Only lunch fees can be paid online. It would be great if school supplies fees could also be paid online.
- K4 program: discussed the pros and cons of a half day schedule for a few kids. A teacher member has confirmed that this was originally considered however, it would be disruptive for the teachers.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Minutes By: April Luong

Signature: Chair, Karen Der