



Maple Grove Governing Board

Minutes

February 23, 2021, at 6:00pm

Via Zoom

1. Call to order: Ria Rombough called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm

In attendance:

Admin: Dean Graddon

Staff Reps: Sylvie Turcotte, Genevieve Le Cavalier-Parant, Kathy Fournier, Debbie Zemnickis, Will Davidson, Peggy Scott,, Arla Connell

Parent Reps: Ria Rombough, Aaron Totton, Christina Allen, Cathenna Michaud, Amanda Lamb, Mathieu Young

Public: None in attendance

Regrets: Heather Townsend, Sarah Fortin, Monomita Roy

2. Land Acknowledgment – was read by Ria Rombough
3. Adoption of the Agenda –
Addition of 8b) Governing Board Composition
Motion to accept the Agenda by Peggy Scott, 2nd by Genevieve Le Cavalier-Parant - **Moved**
4. Approval of the minutes of January 26:
Motion to approve by Christina Allen 2nd by Cathenna Michaud – **Moved**
5. E-mail Votes – None
6. Business Arising from the minutes: - None
7. Reports:
 - a. Principal: Please see below for the report
 - b. Teacher/Staff –
Phys-ed department: Gymnastics since Christmas is over. Received money from the Home & School is being used to purchase items to be used during indoor lunch activities and recess.
Cycle 1: Thank you to the parents for the treats.
Presentation by ‘Inspiration Republic’ was very engaging and age appropriate
Today was ‘Pink Shirt Day’ (Anti-Bullying) – there were discussions regarding bullying and anti-racism.
Valentine’s was lots of fun too
Cycle 2: We are getting the students prepared to exams.
Using a pilot project – Sound Prints, which works on English Language, Art, reading & writing.
 - c. Daycare – Peggy Scott
Tax receipts will be available next week on Mozaik
Registration for next year will take place in April/May. K4 & K5 will receive paper copies, Grade 1-5 will happen on Mozaik.
The last few ped-days have been closed as only 12 students registered out of the 15 minimum. The Governing Board can change that number if the parents have a real need. If we lower the number of students, there could be an issue with staffing and could increase the deficit. Days where activities happen are the days where the daycare is fullest. Hopefully there will not need to be any more closed days. Pre-Covid we have not

needed to close the daycare. There really isn't enough ped-days to justify a change this year. This is not a decision for tonight. It should be rediscussed at the end of March. Full-time daycare staff are paid when the daycare is closed on a PED day. When the daycare is closed, they are assigned work to do from home. When the daycare is open, several additional part-time staff are required to meet the staffing requirements.

- d. Home & School – Amanda Lamb
The parents were generous that supported the Staff Appreciation Event.
We would like to have the fundraiser for Felix & Norton after March break. We are also looking to fix a date for the Silent Auction.
The bookfair sold approximately 52 books.
 - e. PC Rep – A representative from the PC Rep spoke at the National Assembly to request an Ombudsman for the English community.
 - f. Commissioner – Patrick Whitham – Not in attendance tonight
8. Correspondence/Consultations:
- a. Consultation on Criteria for Principal Selection
This is an annual exercise that at the Board level is used to check the criteria of Principal continues to jive with the feelings and needs of the school. The document sent last year was reviewed
Motion to make no change to criteria by Arla Connell, 2nd by Cathenna Michaud - **Moved**
 - b. Governing Board Composition
The consultation on Board Composition is another yearly matter regarding the number of people required for the Board. Proportionally we are in a good position. There is also the possibility of community members which are people from outside organizations that have contact with our school.
Q. Do we often have troubles getting enough members to apply for the position?
A. It depends on the year. In the past we have had too many people apply, and it has come to a vote at the schools AGM.
Motion to keep the Board Composition the same for next year, (7 parents 7 staff) by Peggy Scott, 2nd by Amanda Lamb
9. Regular Business
- a. GMAA Sportsmobile – Schedule Change (Greater Montreal Athletic Association)
This is the group that organizes the 'festival tournaments' like the Halo race.
They have a way to bring these events back into the school.
We would like to have them in the school at the end of May. May 30th 2x 1/2hr for the K4 – Grade 2 students and May 31st for 1 hr for the grades 3-6. The day may need to move depending on the weather. The cost is approximately \$1000/day. This funding would come from the monies allocated from the budgetary measure 15023. Strict Covid measures will still be in place.
Motioned to modify the schedule on May 30, 31 and have GMAA come to our school.
Motion by Mathieu Young, 2nd by Christina Allen – Moved.
10. Questions from the Public – No Public in attendance
11. Varia –
- Q. The playground fun ball net fell down, what happened?
A. It was broken by the snow removal company. The school board will likely have to pay for it to be fixed, as the snow removal company is not taking responsibility. There have been other complaints against the snow removal company.
 - Q. When are the class pictures set to arrive?

A. They have not been received yet; they should arrive soon. Mr. Graddon will call back and find out when they are expected to arrive. They are having a small issue with lack of materials, and Covid delays.

Q. Can we look at getting a new photographer? The outdoor pictures have the children squinting in their pictures

A. Mr. Graddon does not have the time to look for a new photographer. But if quotes were to come his way, he would be willing to look at them.

Q. Is the Optometrist that is planned to do eye exams on the students still going to happen?

A. We are waiting for a response from the school board to confirm.

Q. Is it true that some children have phys. ed. class in the hallway.

A. The kindergarten has their phys. ed. class in the hall outside the gym. It is a good wide space for them. The stage is now where the art & music class is. They are not disruptive to other classes.

12. Next Meeting: March 23rd @ 6:00 pm

13. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Peggy Scott at 7:12 pm

Principal's Report – February 2022

Staff Appreciation Week

I would like to thank our Home & School and the entire parent community for taking such good care of our staff this week. We have felt very spoiled!

Inspiration Republic Presentations

As a part of our Black History Month activities, all students attended virtual assemblies on Tuesday February 22. The presentations had an anti-racism theme and were very engaging and thought-provoking.

Registrations for 2022-2023

Current registrations for K4 and K5 are just short of the number required to open a third group, but we can likely expect to hit the necessary numbers. About 97% of our current students have been re-registered.

Overall, we are anticipating our total student population to increase slightly, as our current grade 6 group is our smallest grade level. Based on current numbers, we are anticipating 3 groups each in Grades 1-6. We are working with the school board on a plan to create a new classroom space.

The staffing process for 2022-2023 will be getting underway in March.

COVID update

After an initial surge when we reopened, the number of students absent for COVID-related reasons has been consistently trending downwards. Of the number of COVID absences reported daily on Mozaik, at least 2/3 have been absent due to a family member being symptomatic or positive. Relatively few of our students have tested positive themselves and, of those who have, most have been secondary infections after a family member tested positive.

With the adjustment Public Health announced (going back to two categories of symptoms), we expect even fewer students to be absent for COVID reasons in coming weeks.

A change to the mask mandate was announced on Tuesday by press release. As of March 7, students will no longer be required to wear masks when they are seated in class. They will, however, still be required to wear masks when moving around in class, in all common areas and on school buses. It will be made clear that students are still permitted to wear masks everywhere.

Unpaid School Fees and Lunch Fees

School fees and lunch fees that have not been paid have been referred to a collection agency as of this week.