

Maple Grove Elementary School - Governing Board 2023-2024

MINUTES

January 10th 2024, 6:30pm

Via Zoom

1) Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.

a) Establishment of quorum

MEMBERS: Mathieu Young, Lorraine Deliva, David Marcogliese, Oumy Dia, Toni Lowe, Joanne McGee.

STAFF: Debbie Shizgal, Sylvie Turcotte, Kathryn Fournier, Lianna Myrand, Alicia Piercy, Peggy Scott, Arla Connell.

PUBLIC: Patrick Whitham, Aaron Totton, Gabriela Coutard.

REGRETS: Kevin Lariviere, Corie Jordan, Aarma Sheikh, Shayna Lee Angers, Pamela Sherman, Bianca Mayo-Viau, Terhemba Ambe-Uva.

2) Land acknowledgement

Read by Lorraine Deliva.

3) Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda by Arla Connell, seconded by Peggy Scott, voted unanimously in favour.

4) Approval of the minutes

a) November 8th, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes by Lianna Myrand, seconded by David Marogliese, voted unanimously in favour.

5) Business arising from the minutes

- a) The updated version of the MGGB rules of internal management now available (emailed to Governing Board members). Thank you to Sylvie Turcotte for her assistance in getting this done.

6) Regular business

a) School field trips

i) Holocaust Museum

- Interactive biography of the Holocaust & guided tour
- February 5, 2024 from 8:45am – 1:30pm
- 6 adults and 52 students for a ratio of 1:9
- No cost to the parents
- Transportation by bus

Motion to approve by Peggy Scott, seconded by Alicia Piercy, voted unanimously in favour.

ii) Cosmodome

- Initiation to astronomy as part of the space module of the science program
- March 26, 2024 from 9:00am – 12:00pm
- 6 adults and 45 students for a ration of 1:7.5
- No cost to the parents, covered by École Montréalaise
- Transportation by bus

Motion to approve by Arla Connell, seconded by Lorraine Deliva, voted unanimously in favour.

b) Daycare field trips

Cosmodome

- For the Ped day on January 26, 2024
- 10:00am – 1:30pm
- 7 adults and 60 students for a 1:9 ratio
- Total cost is approximately \$1557 (\$26 per student)
- Transportation by school bus

Motion to approve by Kathryn Fournier, seconded by David Marcogliese, voted unanimously in favour.

7) Reports

a) GB Chair

Welcome back, everyone. There is nothing to report at this time.

b) Principal

- November 9th we had D’Jembe drummers for the Cycle 1s
- Book Fair was November 9th and 10th. Thanks to Cat and the other volunteers who helped make the fair a success
- Remembrance Day commemoration at Lakeside on November 10th
- Reports were released on Monday November 20th.
- November 21, 22, 23 were strike days
- P/T Interviews were on Friday November 24th and Monday November 27th
- D’Jembe was here for K and K4 on Tuesday November 28th
- Wednesday November 29th was a Dress Down day. Donations were collected for PEF
- November 30th was our Comedy Night fundraiser benefiting the grads and organized by the Graduation Committee.
- A fence has been installed to create a K area in the schoolyard. It has been decided at a staff meeting to leave the area unplowed for this winter.
- Thursday December 7th there was Zoo Therapy for Grades 1 & 2.
- Thursday was also the K5 and K4 Christmas play from La petite valise.
- Strike Days were December 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14th
- There were lots of fun days the last week of school before the break, pj day, Pancake Breakfast with Santa, holiday hats and socks day, sparkle and shine day, and holiday sweater day. We also had a sing-a-long in the gym with the whole school.
- Today was our Volleyball Tournament for grades 5 and 6

Coming Up

- Verdun Circus School is on Thursday for grade 5 and Friday for grade 6.
 - Trouble will be visiting the school once a week for the next few weeks
- Our Open House is on January 19th

c) Teacher/Staff

Arla Connell:

- December was challenging
- We were glad for the holidays but are happy to be back at work
- End of term is coming up and everyone is getting their bearings as we go into term 2
- Open house is coming up
- Arla and Mr Peter will begin auditions tomorrow for a school play that will take place in June (grades 5-6 participating)

Sylvie Turcotte:

- There was a volleyball tournament today (39 kids participated and we had 5 parent volunteers)
- The next unit is gymnastics, so equipment will start going up in the gym

d) Daycare

- December was challenging at the daycare
- The staff is looking forward to the Cosmodome field trip (it took a year to get the date)

e) Home & School

- The Felix & Norton fundraiser brought in money, but it was about half of what we made last time. We'll take a break from it next year.
- BoSapin made approximately \$300. We'll know the exact amount when the cheque arrives.
- Book Fair made approximately \$2000 in sales.
- The Staff Wreath Auction was well-received. We sold about 12 wreaths.
- The Executives have spent a lot of time revising the Home & School constitution and by-laws to include some regulations concerning technology and to expand on & clarify existing regulations. The revision is done and it will be voted on soon.

f) PC Rep

The PC meeting was cancelled, so there is no report.

g) Commissioner

The last council minutes were sent out so we won't go through them all. Patrick Whitham invites everyone to email him with any questions.

8) New business

a) ABAV (Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Plan)

No questions or comments. Motion to approve by Oumy Dia, seconded by Lorraine Deliva, voted unanimously in favour.

b) School Budget

Debbie Shizgal went over the budget in detail.

- Question: Can we put the Governing Board budget toward the deficit? Answer: No, unfortunately we cannot do that.

Motion to approve by Peggy Scott, seconded by Kathryn Fournier, voted unanimously in favour. The Resolution was read by Debbie Shizgal.

c) Home & School fundraiser(s)

i) School dance

- February 23rd
- For grades 3-6 only (last year the younger children were running around and it was difficult to properly supervise the older children)
- Admission of \$5.00; tickets available at the door only, and we will stop selling tickets once we reach capacity (we will turn people away if we need to)
- To be held in the gym from 6pm-8pm
- Snacks will be sold but no food will be permitted in the gym
- Each child must be accompanied by adult
- Everyone must bring indoor shoes (both adults and children)

Motion to approve by Oumy Dia, seconded by Lianna Myrand, voted unanimously in favour.

ii) Grad committee leftover snacks sale

- The grade 6 students will go around selling leftover snacks from the comedy show
- We'll supplement from Costco with nut-free snacks
- \$0.50 up to \$2.00 depending on the snack
- To be sold before morning recess; we'll have parent volunteers to help out going class to class with a trolley
- No set date was decided yet; they'd like to do it twice if possible, with the first one in January (some snacks are expiring) and the second in April with concrete dates to be approved later by Debbie Shizgal
- This sale is to offset some of the field trip and yearbook costs

Motion to approve by Arla Connell, seconded by Lianna Myrand, voted unanimously in favour.

iii) Staff appreciation donations

- Requesting permission to ask the parents to donate an amount at their discretion to go toward our costs
- We'd ask via email
- Donations accepted by e-transfer or money in the red mailbox

Motion to approve by David Marcogliese, seconded by Lorraine Deliva, voted unanimously in favour.

9) Correspondence/Consultation

a) 2024-2025 Principal selection Criteria (due March 14th 2024)

Nothing to discuss now, but please take time between now and the next meeting to review it. We will discuss at the next meeting.

10) Questions from the public

None

11) Varia

None

12) Next meeting

To be held on February 14th 2024 via Zoom at 6:30pm.

13) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Peggy Scott at 7:18pm.