

## Maple Grove Elementary School - Governing Board 2024-2025

### Meeting Minutes

\*\*\* DRAFT \*\*\*

March 12th, 2025, 6:30pm via ZOOM

Meeting ID: 843 5993 6231

#### 1) Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

##### a) Establishment of quorum

**MEMBERS:** Mathieu Young, Lorraine Deliva, Vanessa Boodoosingh, Cathenna Michaud, Aaron Totton, Joanne McGee, Debbie Carbray.

**STAFF:** Aaryn Bradley, Sylvie Turcotte, Maria Lazaris, Arla Connell, Lianna Myrand.

**PUBLIC:** Nicolas Deschênes, Sarah Fortin, Patrick Whitham.

**REGRETS:** Peggy Scott.

#### 2) Land Acknowledgement

Read by Mathieu Young.

#### 3) Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to approve by Cathenna Michaud, seconded by Arla Connell, voted unanimously in favour.

#### 4) Approval of the minutes

a) February 12th 2025 minutes: tabled until the next meeting.

#### 5) Business arising from the minutes

a) (consultations to respond to in agenda item 10 below)

#### 6) Regular business

##### a) School field trips

- Qui Lira Vaincra quarterfinals on April 15: at Beechwood from 9am-11am, transportation via carpooling, 15-18 students (5:1 ratio), no cost to students
- Junior cross-country run on May 6 (rain date: May 8): grades 2-3 invited to participate and get to practice a bit during class time, grade 1 possibly to be invited depending on the ratios and buses (not decided yet), \$10 per student, ratio 1:10, parent volunteers are invited
- Eco Museum on April 4: grades 1-2, transportation via school bus, 4:1 ratio, no cost, to last the whole day
- Let's Go To The Theater on April 11: no cost, grade 4, at the Centaur Theater, 1:7 ratio, from 9:00am-12:30pm

Motion to approve all field trips by Joanne McGee, seconded by Lianna Myrand, voted unanimously in favour.

##### b) Daycare field trips

None.

## 7) Reports

### a) GB Chair

Things are going smoothly. Nothing to report.

### b) Principal

- **Winter Week** was a BLAST! The students danced, played games and laughed!
- The staff felt extremely pampered and valued during **Staff Appreciation** week. A huge thank you and hugs to our incredible Home & School!
- **Luc Baramba** for K4-grade 3 was interactive and energizing!
- **K art workshop** creating life-size abstract installations, was a success! **March 19** Field trip to “La Cenne” to watch actors perform with their art installations on stage.
- **ComicZine workshop for grade 5 was a hit!** French literacy through graphic novels, art and comic books - students created their own story.
- **Inspiration Republic** presentations on being a good friend and anti-bullying generated positive classroom discussions.
- **The Black History Leaders Exhibition** was a wonderful opportunity for our grade 6s to showcase their understanding, share their knowledge and be leaders at school.

#### ***FYI - Upcoming activities (in grey, previously discussed/approved at GB)***

- **Ongoing - March 12, 14, 19 & 21, AMCAL workshops for K4/K5:** games, stories and discussions that reinforce, encourage and support social skills.
- **March 21 Music concert at Lakeside:** MG to attend a music concert by Lakeside students.
- **March 13, 14 & 25: Grade 6 workshops on Healthy Relations by Portrait X:** students created a collaborative digital message and image promoting empathy online/offline. The digital creations will be combined into a mosaic, symbolizing the students' collective effort to foster empathy. Mosaic will be installed in the school.
- **April 15/16 after lunch Variety Talent Showing: Showcasing students' talents!**
- **April 25 Spring play “The Maple Tree”:** Daycare students are putting on a play for the school in the auditorium at Lakeside.
- **McGill Research Opportunity:** Parents/children (Grades 4-6) invited to participate in a parent-child emotion research study. Goal of the study is to inform future clinical practices aimed at supporting families, educators and professionals working with children and families on best practices related to promoting child emotion regulation.
- **March 26, K4-K5 Closed Classroom:** Caden’s Lighthouse (multi sensory exploration).
- **March 13th:** Parent Teacher interviews - teachers coordinated with parents on a need be basis.
- **March 19th** Teddy Bear Project (Heart & Hands) Grade 4: medical professionals will visit classes to address concerns and lower anxiety regarding upcoming vaccinations the following week.
- **March 20th** Holocaust guest speaker: Holocaust
- **March 26th** Grade 4 vaccinations

- **April 3rd 5 pm - 8 pm:** Literacy Night in association with Literacy Unlimited! LU received a grant to purchase 1 book per student. Students will showcase their literacy project for their families.
- **April 8th Doctor's Day (Heart & Hands):** Grades 5/6. Doctors visit classes and answer student questions (questions submitted in advance, anonymously).

***FYI Field trips:***

- **March 20th Glitch! Bouge de là**
  - Grade 1 and 2
  - **In class** movement workshop
  - FREE (Culture in Schools)
- **March 26th Cosmodome**
  - Grade 3
  - FREE - **Ecole Montrealaise**
  - School Bus
- **May 9th Beekeeping as Medicine workshop**
  - Grade 4
  - **In class**
  - Focus on First Nations
  - FREE

**c) Teacher/Staff**

*Sylvie Turcotte:*

- Had winter week activities; there was a lot of snow so it was very enjoyable
- Halo practices start on March 20 for interested students

*Maria Lazaris:*

- February 24 students presented black history leaders to other students, they did a great job and got a big round of applause
- Qui Lira Vaincra is like a trivia game for books the students have read; this is the most participation we've had in the last 3 years
- The dance team's bracelets fundraiser before March Break brought in \$410, to be put towards their costumes

*Arla:*

- Grade 5 project (rooms 501 & 502) from Learn Quebec (create something that reflects their relationship with the French language) is very interesting
- Kindness Month challenge by some of the teachers will go from the end of March to the end of April; teachers will catch students doing acts of kindness
- Autism month in April: activities will be organized
- Talent show: auditions started today and will continue tomorrow

*Lianna:*

- Amis de la Montagne outing before March Break for grades 1-2; learned about wildlife on Mount Royal, had a scavenger hunt, and made snow animals

**d) Daycare**

No report.

**e) Home & School**

- To staff: you are loved, we appreciate you very much; couldn't have done anything without Aaryn
- Coming up: book fair tomorrow & Friday (free Dogman comic book for the first few purchases)
- April 12 market: the planning will continue at the next meeting (next week)
- Grad committee comedy night raised \$640 (tickets); only 15-20 people came out because of bad weather; snacks brought in \$76.65 (leftovers will be sold at parent-teacher meetings tomorrow evening)

**f) PC Rep**

- February 20 was last meeting
- Calendars for next year were approved
- Report from Cultural Awareness Committee
- Pearson education Fun Run coming in May
- EPCA committee organizing 9 workshops on anti-bullying, self esteem
- PC was asked to go to Quebec City to present the impact of screens on children
- Some discussion about lunch fees – parents concerned that lunch fees were not separated from daycare fees
- Next meeting will be in April

**g) Commissioner**

The space at Lakeside is coming along great.

**8) New business**

**a) Home & School approvals**

Grad committee movie night on Apr 25: from 6pm-8pm, will ask for volunteers from Lakeside, \$5-\$10 per child; they will sell snacks

Motion to approve by Lianna Myrand, seconded by Maria Lazaris, voted unanimously in favour.

**9) Questions from the public**

None.

**10) Varia**

Arla Connell is on staff council. The meetings are the day before Governing Board. She would like access to the GB minutes before the staff council meetings. Mathieu and Lorraine confirmed that we will try to have them online a week in advance.

**11) Correspondence/Consultation**

**a) By-law 1 and 1E**

We will not reply, no response is necessary.

**b) 2025-2026 Governing Board composition**

We will reply that we will not change the composition of our board.

**c) 2025-2026 School Board Budget Consultation (due March 28th 2025)**

Leave this as status quo.

**d) 2025-2026 Principal Selection (due March 28th 2025)**

Revised last year's criteria and prepared the new letter to be submitted.

**12) Next meeting**

- a) Wednesday April 9th, 6:30pm in person.

**13) Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Cathenna Michaud at 7:56pm.