

Maple Grove Elementary School - Governing Board 2024-2025

Meeting Minutes

*** DRAFT ***

April 9th, 2025, 6:30pm in the Maple Grove staff room

1) Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:41pm.

a) Establishment of quorum

MEMBERS: Mathieu Young, Cathenna Michaud, Lorraine Deliva, Aaron Totton, Joanne McGee, Ria Rombough, Debbie Carbray.

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

PUBLIC: Patrick Whitham.

2) Land Acknowledgement

Read by Mathieu Young.

3) Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda by Cathenna Michaud, seconded by Debbie Carbray, voted unanimously in favour.

4) Approval of the minutes

a) February 12th 2025 minutes

b) March 12th 2025 minutes

c) March 26th 2025 (emergency) minutes

Motion to approve all minutes by Debbie Carbray, seconded by Joanne McGee, voted unanimously in favour.

5) Business arising from the minutes

a) 2025-2026 Governing Board composition & Principal Selection

Responses have been sent.

6) Regular business

a) School field trips

Grad trip

- May 15, back at school by 4:30pm
- Old Port: Voile en Voile, lunch at La Popessa, SOS Labyrinth, food trucks (time permitting)
- Ratio 1:10
- \$110-\$115 per student down to \$60 thanks to fundraising
- Part of the cost was funded by the grad fundraisers and by Ecole Inspirante Biodome
- May 16 from 8:30am-1:30pm
- For the K4's

- Transportation by school bus
- Ratio 1:3
- Explore animals and habitats linking it to in-class learning
- Costs covered by a cultural grant

Neurodivergent Field Day

- June 12, 9:00am-2:00pm at PCHS
- 10-15 students are chosen to attend
- Transportation by school bus
- Ratio 1:1
- No cost

Closed classroom

- Requesting blanket approval to take the children out of the school within a 5km radius
- By foot or by city bus
- Ratio 1:1
- No cost

Motion to approve all Arla, Debbie, unanimous.

b) Daycare field trips

None.

7) Reports

a) GB Chair

Autism Acceptance Week is a success so far.

b) Principal

Highlights:

- Autism Acceptance Spirit Week is underway!
- Maiden Kindness Pep Rally March 28th!!!
- Vaccinations, very few tears were shed
- Literacy Night was amazing, the turnout was incredible. Thank you to Literacy Unlimited for their support!
- Doctor's Day generated a lot of questions.

FYI - Upcoming activities:

- April 15/16 Variety Talent Show
- April 25 Spring play "The Maple Tree"
- McGill Research opportunity for parents/children (Grades 4-6)
- March 26, K4-K5 Closed Classroom: Caden's Lighthouse.
- March 13th: Parent Teacher interviews
- March 19th Teddy Bear Project (Heart & Hands) Grade 4.
- March 20th Holocaust guest speaker & Glitch! Bouge de là
- March 26th Grade 4 vaccinations & Cosmodome
- April 3rd 5 pm - 8 pm: Literacy Night in association with Literacy Unlimited!
- April 15th, Qui Lira Quarter Finals @ Beechwood
- April 4th, Ecomuseum

- April 8th Doctor's Day (Heart & Hands)
- April 11, Geordie Theatre's performance of Jordan
- April 15th, Qui Lira Quarter Finals @ Beechwood
- April 28 will be a Ped Day due to the gym being used for federal elections; Ped Day on May 16 is cancelled
- May 6th Jr. Cross Country (May 8th rain date)
- May 9th Beekeeping as Medicine workshop

FYI Field trips/Activities/Events:

- June 6th, K4/K5 orientation Good Start and thank you to H & S for the t-shirts!
- Great News! Lunch time activities twice a week with Tonus! Tonus animators will engage students in the schoolyard in various activities to help with conflicts during unstructured time and encourage Maple Grove's healthy lifestyle commitment.
- 35 minutes junior/35 mins senior
- No student maximum
- Multi-sport activities
- No cost - funded through Mesure Ecole Montrealaise.
- April 14th through till the end of the year.
- For grades 1-6.
- Learn more about Tonus: <https://equipetonus.com/jeunesse/ecoles-primaires-et-services-de-garde/>
- Champions for life: K5, in-class workshop, no cost
- Minute to Win it: Grade 6 project for Health, games set up by grade 6 for the rest of the school in the gym, dates TBD, no cost

c) Teacher/Staff

Sylvie Turcotte:

- Registered 36 students from grades 5-6 for Halo. We are filling out goal sheets this week. There will be a lot of practices at lunch and after school. Hoping for good weather.
- Year-end celebration for June 16: inflatables and carnival-type games.
- Dance group is polishing up their routine for the May 1st competition.

Arla Connell:

- Grades 1-2 went to the ecomuseum on April 4 and Lachine library on April 1 by bus. Both outings were a big success.
- Cycle 2 archeophone was in grade 3 last week.
- Grade 4 going to Centaur theater to see a play this Friday, to the Cosmodome on May 29, and also has a beekeeper coming to visit in May.
- Talent show is next week. Hoping to have it open to families next year.
- Red shirt day raised almost \$300.00.

Maria Lazaris:

- \$250 was raised on Literacy Night
- Doctor Day was great, the students were very engaged
- Qui Lira Vaincra quarterfinals are next Tuesday
- Kindness Challenge has been well-liked by students
- Grade 6 is slowly getting into exam prep

- Graduation Day will be June 18

d) Daycare

No report.

e) Home & School

- Working on setting up Zeffy to help us with payment processing. Zeffy services only non-profit organizations. If it works out, we can streamline.
- Subway & Pizza lunches going well.
- Market on Apr 12 is postponed. Hoping to change it to May 10.
- BBQ June 5; looking at possibly having it catered this year, we are working on getting a quote to see if it's worth it. Fire truck and cavalry are confirmed.
- FundScrip went out yesterday, deadline June 9.
- Honey fundraiser is open – we've made sales already.
- Silent Auction is end-May, pickup at BBQ.
- SchoolStart supplies – waiting on supply list.
- Olivers Label ongoing.
- Scholastic offered us a 3rd book fair. We will hold it at our market on May 10. It's a BOGO sale.

f) PC Rep

No meeting since February 20. The next meeting on April 17 will be online. There is an advisory meeting today to set the agenda.

g) Commissioner

Report was provided. There were no questions or comments.

8) New business

a) Home & School approvals

- We would like to move the artisan market from April 12 to May 10.
- Scholastic offered us a BOGO book fair. We would like to do it the same day as the artisan market.

Motion to approve both items by Ria Rombough, seconded by Joanne McGee, voted unanimously in favour.

- Due to Graduation Day, we would like to move Subway lunch from June 18 to June 19.

Motion to approve by Cathenna Michaud, seconded by Debbie Carbray, voted unanimously in favour.

b) Subject Allocation – Quebec Education Act

There is minimum time that we need to be teaching. These are recommendations. We are resolving that we have increased Physical Education time to 2.5 hours per week.

Motion to approve by Cathenna Michaud, seconded by Lorraine Deliva, voted unanimously in favour.

9) Questions from the public

None

10) Varia

- Preliminary School Organization Plan 2025-2026
 - 23 homerooms
 - Would require a grade 1-2 combined class and a grade 5-6 combined class
 - K4/K4 closed classroom (we will have 4 kindergarten classrooms)
 - Sitting at 332 students for next year

Motion to approve by Cathenna Michaud, seconded by Debbie Carbray, voted unanimously in favour.

- School calendar 2025-2026

Motion to approve by Debbie Carbray, seconded by Arla Connell, voted unanimously in favour.

General contractor confirmed that work will be starting right after the last day of school and will continue straight through the summer. Still figuring out which part of the parking lot can be allocated as a second school yard; aiming for the side yard where the driveway is.

11) Correspondence/Consultation

- a) None.

12) Next meeting

- a) Wednesday May14th, 6:30pm (in person) in the Maple Grove staff room.

13) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Cathenna Michaud at 8:10pm.