



# Minutes of Governing Board Meeting Children's World Academy



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2241 rue Ménard, LaSalle, H8N 1J4

**Date:** Tuesday, December 15 2015

**Time:** 6:55 pm – 9:50 pm.

**Present:**

Julieta Ascencio (JA), Maureen Besley (MB), Rebecca Best (RB), Sonia Bouchard (SB),  
Mélanie Bougie-Richer (MBR), Anita Coretti (AC), Frank Di Bello (FDB), David Estok (DE),  
Anila Erindi (AE), Karen Heather (KH), Suzanne Joly (SJ), Nadia Longo (NL), Maria Martinez  
(MM), Jennifer Millen (JM), Elisa Sebastiano (ES), Christopher Sweetnam-Holmes (CSH),  
Emmanuel Tremblay (ET),

**Absent with Reason:**

Devon Warnock and Mélanie Flores

**Absent without Reason:**

**Guests:**

None

## Meeting Agenda

- |   |                   |                       |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>1. Welcome / Regrets</b>                 |                   | J. Millen             |
| <b>2. Adoption of the Agenda</b>            |                   | J. Millen             |
| <b>3. Minutes from November 18</b>          |                   | J. Millen             |
| <b>4. Questions from the public</b>         |                   |                       |
| <b>5. Correspondence</b>                    |                   |                       |
| <b>6. Continuing Business</b>               |                   |                       |
| 6.1 Parent Concern Regarding Transportation | <b>(I; D; DE)</b> | J. Millen / D. Estok  |
| 6.2 Major School Change Up-date             | <b>(I; D)</b>     | J. Millen / D. Estok  |
| 6.3 Uniform Parent Survey to Parents        | <b>(I; D; DE)</b> | J. Millen/ D. Estok   |
| 6.4 Costa Rica Trip Up-dte                  | <b>(I; D)</b>     | J. Millen / D. Estok  |
| 6.5 Calendar Change                         | <b>(I; D)</b>     | D. Estok              |
| <b>7. New Business</b>                      |                   |                       |
| 7.1 November Revised Budget (School)        | <b>(I; D; DE)</b> | D. Estok              |
| 7.2 November Revised Budget (Daycare)       | <b>(I; D; DE)</b> | D. Estok / K. Heather |
| 7.3 Bill 86                                 | <b>(I; D;)</b>    | D. Estok              |
| <b>8. Standing Reports</b>                  |                   |                       |
| 8.1 Principal                               |                   | D. Estok              |
| 8.2 Daycare Report                          |                   | K. Heather            |
| 8.3 Teacher's Report                        |                   | Staff                 |
| 8.4 PPO                                     |                   | E. Sebastiano         |
| 8.5 Regional Parent Representative          |                   | M. Johnstone          |
| 8.6 Commissioner                            |                   | F. Di Bello           |
| <b>9. Field Trips</b>                       |                   | Staff                 |
| <b>10. Members' Open Forum</b>              |                   | All                   |
| <b>11. Adjournment</b>                      |                   |                       |

**(I) Information; (D) Discussion; (DE) Decision**

## 1. Welcome

## 2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion by MJ and seconded by SB.

**Resolution # 2015-12-15**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

## 3. Adoption of Minutes

Motion to adopt the minutes of November 18 by ET and seconded by CSH

**Resolution # 2015-12-15**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

## 4. Public Question Period

No guest

## 5. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

## 6. Continuing Business

### 6.1 Parent Concern Regarding Transportation

- Response was given to A. Wood in writing regarding her inquiries about transportation zones.
- The Transportation Advisory Committee of the school board decides which zones are eligible for free transportation. This plan is decided upon in the month of May. A sub-committee from GB will meet to make recommendations for CWA's transportation plan and forward the letter to the Mr. Josh Arless, the advisory committee's chair.
- The work on the Transportation Plan of the school board will only begin after registration and be finalized in May.

## 6.2 Major School Change

- Major School Change results in the Verdun/Lasalle/Lachine area are as follows:
  - ❖ Orchard and St-Lawrence Jr/Sr merge into St-Lawrence buildings offering French Immersion;
  - ❖ Verdun and Riverview merge into the Verdun Elementary building;
  - ❖ Closure of Lakeside Academy; (grade 7 students for the 2016-2017 school year will be attending their second choice school and current students will receive priority in transferring to other schools)
  - ❖ Allion to become a STEAM school (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math);
  - ❖ Review of transportation services to support re-zoning and mergers;
- Other changes across the board:
  - ❖ Increase in Français Plus schools;
  - ❖ Increase of Early Immersion schools;
  - ❖ Expansion of continuing Education (Beurling, Riverdale, PCHS)
  - ❖ Adult Ed and Voc available near Hudson/St-Lazare areas
- Proposal for CWA to communicate with parents about CWA's situation who received no immediate impact

## 6.3 Uniform Survey to Parents

- JM proposes to form a committee so as to create a survey to receive feedback from parents regarding quality and service from MONI, our uniform supplier.

## 6.4 Costa Rica Trip Up-Date

- What appeared to be positive feedback from the survey sent out regarding the trip to Costa Rica at the on-set of the planning with 25 – 30 parents expressing interest, the December 3 information session with specifics received only 10-12 families. With a cost of \$2700 per student for one week, only 8 families committed to the trip. Due to the low number, MF and M. Lavallée have cancelled the trip.
- CSH voiced the importance of continuing offering such opportunities.

## 6.5 Calendar Change

- Original position of the school board regarding change of pedagogical days into regular school days has changed. January 22 has been reinstated as a ped day. It is unclear what will happen regarding the other 2 ped days on May 20 and June 3.

## 7 New Business

### 7.1 November Revised Budget (School)

- The school has amassed a considerable deficit which comes from two sources:
  - ❖ Extensive cuts by the government to our daycare. \$30,000 of our operating revenue on an annual basis traditionally has come from the daycare (excluding other costs absorbed by the daycare in the past as Chromebooks, Francisation , PELO etc.). These funds were taken out of our revenue last year and as a consequence left us in a deficit at the end of the fiscal year in June.
  - ❖ The sports field has ended up costing us more than anticipated, and although we have repaid some costs, there is still a significant balance to pay.
- DE made the following proposal for approval:
  - ❖ 1. Repay the deficit incrementally over 3 years (roughly \$20,000 per year over three years);
  - ❖ 2. Continue to seek other sources of funding (already applied for a \$15,000 grant from the National Bank, fund-raising through PPO, city of LaSalle as its community members use the soccer field);
  - ❖ 3. Reduce spending in a number of areas (mostly administrative costs as well as amounts through consumables, capital costs, photocopying, etc).
  - ❖ 4. Reconsider the plan currently in place regarding the subsidy of school supplies. This plan will have to be revised as the school can no longer afford to absorb this cost on an annual basis;
  - ❖ 5. Use some of the IB allocation (from unused field trip funds from September to December) from classroom teachers to cover a portion of our deficit.

Motion to use IB fees allocated for field trips between September 2015 to December 2015 to be redirected towards the deficit by KH and seconded by AE.

**Resolution # 2015-12-07.1.1**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

Motion to accept the November Revised Budget by SB, seconded by NL.

**Resolution # 2015-12-07.1.2**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

## 7.2 November Revised Budget (Daycare)

- The impact on daycare services (as well as to the school overall) due to cuts to Government grants has been significant :
  - ❖ \$400 is allocated per student per year (the bigger the daycare, the bigger of cuts);
  - ❖ Ped day grant per day is \$7.93 per child cut from \$17.00;
  - ❖ Field trips will be more expensive due to cuts in government grants;
  - ❖ Parents may be offered the option of using daycare services on ped days but opting out of the field trip (a less expensive alternative).
- Not reflected in this current proposal, there will be an increase of \$.10 in daycare fees from \$8.00 to \$8.10 effective January 1, 2016.

## 7.3 Bill 86

- ❖ Proposed legislation that would abolish school board elections and give parents more control over school operations;
- ❖ Eliminate school commissioners;
- ❖ School council of 16 members with six (6) parents, one of whom is the parent of a child with a disability, two (2) school principals, one (1) teacher, one (1) non-teaching staff member and six (6) community members;
- ❖ Director General would also sit on the council as a non-voting member
- ❖ School Boards would still be responsible for overseeing departments such as student bus transportation and educational services, but most of the decision-making would be made by the school's parents and teachers;
- ❖ School Boards are also being strongly advised to merge services to reduce costs.
- ❖ This bill is in consultation.

## 8. Standing Reports

### 8.1 Principal's Report

#### Highlights included:

- ❖ Registration of 145 applicants for Kindergarten, 23 which are siblings (down from last year)
- ❖ Registration of 26 applicants for grades 1-6. (15 last year);
- ❖ Registration total of 171 (162 last year);
- ❖ DE thanked all the volunteers who helped make the Open House a success;
- ❖ DE thanked parents in organizing and participating in two human chains in support of teachers.
- ❖ Christmas campaign raised over \$4000 to support students at Verdun Elementary School;
- ❖ Breakfast with Santa, scheduled for Friday, December 18, will encourage composting and recycling. Cycle 3 students will be washing their plates and all utensils will be reusable;
- ❖ DE thanked parents who presented at the grade 6 symposium. The theme is Human Rights. Students will be presenting their exhibition on January 21;
- ❖ SB is looking for examples on how students are taking action at school or outside of school;
- ❖ Lost Italian classes, due to strike days, will be added to the schedule.

### 8.2 Daycare Report

#### Presented by K. Heather. Highlights included:

- ❖ Lunch IB session #2 started November 30 and will run to March 11. Grade 4 students are finishing indoor soccer tournament;
- ❖ Science unit 'What's the matter?' exhibition of December 10 for parents was a huge success. Lots of parents and family-members participated in the hands-on experiments;
- ❖ New fee structure memo posted for parents and available on website. Please see details under point 7.2.
- ❖ December 2 ped day at the dog training camp went well despite no snow. 66 students attended.
- ❖ Due to increased daycare fees, when possible, the daycare will offer parents the choice to participate in field trips or have children stay in the daycare.

- Seeking proposal for the following:

- ❖ Physical literacy program, Champions for Life, for daycare students in grades K-2;
- ❖ Beginning on January 11;
- ❖ 10 week session (2x30 minutes classes/week) – 20 weeks in total;
- ❖ No cost to parents;
- ❖ One of our PE teachers, M. Apa is one of the leaders and other daycare staff members will be included.
- ❖ Optional: Concordia university study to evaluate physical skills of students before and after program.

Motion to approve the Champions for Life Program for daycare students of Kindergarten to grade 2 at no cost by AE and seconded by CSH.

**Resolution # 2015-12-08.2.1**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

Motion to approve in relation with Champions for Life Program to send consent forms parents for permission to participate in an optional research study led by Concordia university by NL seconded by SB.

**Resolution # 2015-12-08.2.2**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**



### 8.3 Teachers' Report

Presented by S. Bouchard. Highlights included:

Grade	Highlights
Ks	- Students have celebrated Diwali, Hanukkah, and Christmas. Our delightful elves have been tricking and surprising the students for weeks. We will be having a holiday celebration and gift exchange during the last week of school.
1	- Le lutin Mario, très connu des 3 <sup>e</sup> est revenu dans l'allée des 1 <sup>ière</sup> . Les 1 <sup>ière</sup> continuent d'apprendre des mots (création de mots cachés, jumping Jack mots, écriture de petites phrases, la grenouille des mots) et tout ça avec très peu d'aide. Très fières de nos cocos. Pour notre module, nous avons fait une chasse aux images lors d'une promenade et ainsi enrichi et réinvesti le vocabulaire du module. Bravo les 1 <sup>ière</sup> .
2	- 'A moi le monde', les élèves ont bien travaillé sur leur présentation Moi, ma culture. C'est une occasion de prendre conscience que l'identité culturelle se transmet d'une génération à l'autre. Nouveau module, 'On avait la musique' nous profiterons de la culture vue cantique de Noel.
3	- The grade 3 students demonstrated much enthusiasm towards the creation of their personal journals. The 'project' was born of the idea that by having a personal journal designed and created by themselves, they would be more motivated and excited to write in their free-time. So far, this is exactly the results we are seeing.
4	- Module de recherche: Les Grandes Aventures Explorers. Les élèves se sont montré curieux et découvrir les motivations de biens des explorateurs . Ils ont surtout aimé identifier les lieux et les parcours sur les cartes.
5	- Students are busy working on their immigration stories. They recently did a virtual tour of the Ellis Island.
6	- Students officially started their exhibition on Human Rights.

### 8.4 PPO Report

Presented by E. Sebastiano. Highlights included:

- December movie night had a few more expenses than the first one as not everything was provided was given for free this time;

- The first pizza lunch was a success.

Motion to accept future pizza lunches once per month by CSH and seconded by ET.

**Resolution # 2015-12-08.4.1**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

- Proposal for a new major fundraiser:

- ❖ Bio-degradable toilet paper;
- ❖ \$35.00 (12 double rolls);
- ❖ Can raise up to \$8000 ;
- ❖ Has been very successful in other schools and community centers;
- ❖ Canadian product;
- ❖ Delivery on Earth Day;
- ❖ Project in line with CWA's efforts in protecting the environment

- Recommendations from GB if it can be written in the letter that there would be a possibility of offering funds without purchasing the product.

Motion to approve PPO's toilet paper fundraiser by AE and seconded by CSH.

**Resolution # 2015-12-08.4.2**

**13 in favour, 1 opposed (RB)**

**Motion passed.**

### 8.5 Regional Parent Representative Report

**Presented by R. Best. Highlights included:**

- Bullying video was shown conceptualized by students from a school in Hudson. Intended audience for Grade 6 and High School students.
- Discussion took place on Bill 86.

### 8.6 Commissioner Report

**Presented by F. Di Bello. See attached report for highlights.**

## 9. Field Trips

Grade	1
Date/Time	January 19, 2016 / 8:15 am – 1:00 pm
Purpose	Je travaille, nous travaillons
Destination	Musée des enfants
Transportation	Bus
Cost	\$11.00

Supervision Ratio	1:6 (12 adults & 77 students)
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Motion to accept the grade 1 field trip to Musée des enfants on January 19, 2016 at a cost of \$11.00 per student with a ration of 1:6 by AE and seconded by MJ.

**Resolution # 2015-12-09.1**

**All in favour.**

**Motion passed.**

## **10. Members Open Forum**

Next meeting will be held on January, Wednesday the 27 at 6:30 pm.

## **11. Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.**

**All in favour.**

Respectfully Submitted

Maria-Francesca Martinez

Secretary

Signed by:

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Jennifer Millen

Governing Board Chairperson

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David Estok

Principal