



Happy
St. Patrick's
Day.



Minutes of the sixth (6th) meeting of the 2021-2022 McCaig Elementary School Governing Board held on Thursday, March 17, 2022 via ZOOM videoconferencing at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Cristin Filacouridis, Maral Halebi, Melissa Mancuso, Debora Mortilliti, Eric Tanios, Karl Trottier, Parents; Eva Bletas, Vicki Fraser, Ann Philion, Dan Strina, Teachers; Pat Gilmour, Daycare Representative; Marie-Soleil Lecompte, Anne McMullon, Monika Renner, Community Representatives

Alternate Members Present:

Also present were: Richard Mason, Administrator; Olivia Landry, Commissioner

Guests: Sheli Stephens

Regrets:

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

The Vice-Chairperson read the acknowledgement of the land.

2.0 Recognition of visitors

Welcome Sheli from Stage Craft Song and Dance program who is here to offer her services to teach students singing, dancing and performance classes. 15 students maximum. Classes would be Wednesdays after school for one hour. When students are dismissed she would take them and once all there would teach for one hour and after the class would wait for parents to leave with their children.

If there is a mix in ages of students it works well as she pairs the older ones with the younger ones. No background in music or dance is needed to join.

The school offers the room for free for these after school activities. This is the first time there has been a singing class at McCaig.

3.0 Approval of the agenda

Add: 7.4 Holocaust Field Trip

GB20220317-01 Debora Mortilliti MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted with the addition. Seconded by Ann Philion.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

4.0 Approval of the Minutes of February 15, 2022

GB20220317-02 Karl Trottier MOVED THAT the minutes of February 15, 2022 be approved. Seconded by Maral Halebi.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

5.0 New Business

5.1 School Organization

In the process of determining how many groupings per grade level McCaig will have next year based on the student registrations received for the 2022-23 school year. There will not be an increase in the total number of groups at McCaig next year. We presently have 28 homerooms. There is still time before the first day of school for these numbers to go up.

The projected number of students per grade level and the number of student groupings is based on the actual number of student registrations imported into GPI. The registrations for 2022-23, so far, look like this:

Registered students 2022-23 McCaig (March 2022)

Pre-K	33
K	62
Gr.1	75
Gr.2	67
Gr.3	75
Gr.4	72
Gr.5	90
Gr.6	78
Total	552

5.2 Revised 2021/22 School Calendar

Because of a snow day on December 6, the day became a ped day and the ped day originally scheduled for April 14 became a regular school day (Day 3) to make up for the lost day of instruction. The calendar was revised to reflect this change and was presented to and approved by GB. The April 14 ped day had previously been chosen by staff as the ped day we would lose in the event of a closure of the school due to inclement weather.

On February 18 we had another snow day. This means February 18 became a ped day and the ped day originally scheduled for May 6, 2022 will become a regular school day (Day 4). This newest change to the school calendar must now be presented to GB for approval.

GB20220317-03 Debora Mortelliti MOVED THAT the revised school calendar be approved. Seconded by Pat Gilmour.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.3 Subject Time Allocation (STA) 2023-2024

One of the recent PC topics was the level of French taught in the school board and what can be done to increase the level in elementary schools so students are more prepared for high school. In the past, math has been the subject at McCaig that was given extra minutes. The PC rep suggested asking the parents in a survey what they deem important to teach their children. The changes to STA are done in January so if we are to make changes the conversation should be started now.

The committee entered into discussion.

The principal explained that the STA is based on what the ministry recommends as the number of minutes taught per subject. Schools must teach at least 75% of the minutes recommended and can add time in other subject areas based on the needs of the school. There have always been more math minutes due to poor results. The focus of the success plan was to improve the math grades. It still continues to be an area of concern and in the opinion of the teacher council there still needs to be more minutes in math. Students who graduate from McCaig and RHS are well prepared in French. This community is very bilingual. McCaig students are taught immersion French – the highest level of French taught in English schools.

Although GB approves STA, it also must have Teacher Council approval. Prior to coming to GB, teacher council discusses to see what the best STA is for the community that is in the best interest of the students. It is important to remember that when you add minutes to one subject you must remove minutes from another subject.

Should parents ask for more French, this could pose a problem for the administration to find the staff in order to teach it.

In response to a question from Maral, periodically this topic comes up, particularly when there is a GB turnover, but it usually remains status quo.

Karl and Cristin will work on a survey and present it at the next GB meeting.

5.4 Yearbook 2021-2022

Grade 6 yearbook through will be prepared and purchased through Jostens. Books will be handed out to the students at a special evening. Approximately \$45 per student. If there is a change it will come back to GB. Will make a request to TFOMES for a subsidy to keep the cost at \$45.

GB20220317-04 Maral Halebi MOVED THAT the grade 6 yearbook activity be approved. Seconded by Eva Bletas.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.5 Ukraine Fundraiser

The McCaig family would like to show support and donate to a Ukrainian Parish in Montreal (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) that is currently set up to help refugees arriving in the area. In addition, on behalf of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, they will be adding to the monetary donations being sent to various organizations to help out in the relief effort. On March 22, students will be asked to wear yellow and blue and donate.

Although the parish is taking other types of donations, the school would like monetary only as it is easier to manage. Parents may donate directly to the church if they have other items.

GB20220317-05 Vicki Fraser MOVED THAT the Ukraine fundraiser be approved. Seconded by Pat Gilmour.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

6.0 Reports

6.1 Principal

COMEDY NIGHT

Comedy Night will be held Saturday April 23rd, 2022 at Externat Sacré Coeur. This is TFOMES largest fundraiser for the year. Last year, Covid-19 caught them off-guard and derailed their plans. They did the best they could and the evening was a success but due to Covid restrictions last year's Comedy Night was a smaller scale on-line event. This year we are back to our traditional, hugely successful, live event. Franco Taddeo will be joined by three well-known comic headliners; Derek Seguin, Marc Anthony and Carly Baker. There will be raffles for amazing prizes and let's not forget the famous 50/50 draw; the last winners took home over a \$1000! The 11th Annual McCaig Comedy Night is sure to be a great event. All proceeds will be used to support the children of McCaig Elementary School. Tickets are 50\$ each and include the show and a full course meal. Everyone is encouraged to buy a ticket and support TFOMES in their fundraising efforts on behalf of the children.

DIRECTIVES FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Matches, tournaments and competitions are permitted as part of extracurricular activities or special pedagogical projects in general education in the youth sector, in adult general education and in vocational training. Spectators are permitted in the stands or other seating areas of both indoor and outdoor facilities. The vaccination passport will not be required after March 12 for participating in any activities for which it was previously required.

Visitor access to the school is permitted. At all times, as stated in the Order regarding the wearing of masks or face coverings by the general public, a parent or visitor must wear a procedural mask or face covering when present in an educational institution or the administrative building of a school service centre or school board. Showing the vaccination passport and keeping a register of visitors is not required.

With the exception of preschool: while circulating indoors, all students and school staff are still required to wear a mask.

Since March 7, 2022, elementary students can remove their masks when seated in class. Masks can also be removed by children in daycare centres when they are seated. Otherwise, wearing a procedural mask is required for grades 1-6 at all times inside the school: in class, including physical education and health classes, at daycare, in common areas, when circulating, during extracurricular activities, and when using school transportation.

Preschool students must wear procedural masks while using school transportation that is shared by multiple levels only, meaning buses or sedans carrying students from different grade levels.

All staff members are still required to wear high-quality masks, in compliance with the CNESST guidelines.

Since February 28, 2022, children under the age of 12 who are travelling with fully vaccinated parents or guardians, will be exempt from the quarantine requirements, with no other conditions. For example, they will not be required to wait 14 days before being permitted to attend school.

Field trips are permitted, provided the requirements related to the wearing of masks in educational institutions and public spaces are respected. Elementary and secondary schools field trips with overnight stays are still not recommended.

Graduation celebrations can take place provided the measures in force on the day they are held are respected.

KINDERGARTEN 100 DAYS CELEBRATION

Kindergarten celebrated 100 days of school this month. The children participated in a number of different celebratory activities in their classrooms. It was a very nice celebration. Below is a photo of three of our 100-year-old kindergarten teachers.

TUTORING

We will continue to offer after school tutoring to support our most at-risk students. The teachers are offering after school tutoring, two times a week, for 90 minutes. The funding for the tutoring comes from a Measure from the Ministry. Based on the remaining amount of funding available we will be able to continue to offer tutoring at least until the end of March.

THE SECOND PROGRESS REPORT

A second communication/progress report will be distributed to parents towards the end of April. Teachers will have their progress reports completed and entered into the system by April 19th. The reports will be made available to parents soon after that date. I would like to remind parents that based on directives all schools received from the Ministry, we have two terms, two official report cards (February and June) and two communication/progress reports this year (November and April). Parent interviews were already held in November and February.

An excerpt from the Ministry document outlining the changes described above reads as follows:
Report cards and communication with parents

■ *Two written communications other than the report card will be provided to parents no later than November 19, 2021 and April 22, 2022. Educational institutions are responsible for determining the format of this communication.*

■ *Two report cards will be sent to parents during the 2021-2022 school year. The first will be sent no later than February 11, 2022, rather than January 28, 2022, given that some end-of-term examinations were cancelled in December and considering that the return to in-person classes has been postponed. The second report card will be sent no later than July 10, 2022.*

■ *In elementary and secondary school, each report card will show results for each subject and for each of the competencies in the language of instruction, the second language and Mathematics and, at the secondary level, science subjects.*

■ *The final result will be calculated using the following weighting: 40% for the first term and 60% for the second term. The report card for each of these two terms will include comments on at least one of the four other competencies (Exercises critical judgment, organizes his/her work, Communicates effectively, Works in a team).*

■ *Management of absences, including COVID-related absences, is the responsibility of educational organizations. A space is provided in the report card form to indicate the number of absences.*

CYCLE 3 FIRST AID COURSE

We will be using funds from Measure 15029, Animated and Safe schools, to offer CPR/First aid instruction to all grade 5 students. The cost is 23.50\$ per student for a total estimated cost of 1880.00\$ plus taxes. Thanks go out to Miss Kristin for helping to organize this for the children.

INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES FOR MCCAIG

The school board is currently conducting interviews for candidates for the position of principal of McCaig for the 2022-23 school year. The name of the new principal will be announced at the April Council of Commissioners meeting.

MINISTERIAL EXAMINATIONS

The compulsory examinations and the uniform June examinations have been reintroduced this year. However, the weighting of these examinations will be reduced to 10% for compulsory examinations in elementary and Secondary II, and to 20% for the uniform examinations in Secondary IV and V. All ministerial examinations must take place in person. The educational institution must ensure that all students in a level requiring a ministerial examination are able to be present in person at school on the scheduled date, so that the examination conditions are standardized across the province.

2022 LAURIER GALA

This year, the Gala will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at The Chateau Royal in Laval and will feature a show by the winners of the Laurier Star-Fest auditions. McCaig has 10 student names to submit for an award at the Laurier Gala.

It was agreed at the last McCaig staff meeting that grade level, teacher teams, in grades one through six, would submit the name of one student, Miss Kristin and Mr. Andre will each submit a name from the students they teach, Miss Annie will submit a name for Science and Miss Laurie and Miss Annie will agree on a name for Drama.

There are 5 categories again this year: Academics, School perseverance, Sports, Arts, Community Involvement.

Invitations to the students, their parents and the teacher representing the staff of the school, will be emailed by Susan O'Keeffe.

6.2 Parents Committee

Emailed to members

7.0 Field Trips/Activities

7.1 Stage Craft/Singing

Stage Craft Singing

8-week session - \$125 per student

Song/Dance/Performance

Wednesdays after school. The principal will get in touch with her to see when it will start.

Classes will be from K to 6

GB20220217-06 Melissa Mancuso MOVED THAT the Stage Craft activity be approved as presented. Seconded by Maral Halebi.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

If she is interested, the principal will ask if she would like to come into the PreK classes to do activities with them.

7.2 Grade 3 field trip

Maurice Richard Arena – Short Track Speed Skating World Championships
April 8 from 9:15 to 3:15
Ratio 1:12
Covered by a measure

GB20220217-07 Vicki Fraser MOVED THAT the grade 3 trip to Maurice Richard Arena be approved as presented. Seconded by Dan Strina.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

7.3 Grade 6 tubing activity

Les Glissades des Pays d'en Haut
March 25 from 9:05 to 3:10
Ratio 1:10
\$10 per student, balance covered by a measure

GB20220217-08 Eva Bletas MOVED THAT the grade 6 tubing trip be approved as presented. Seconded by Pat Gilmour.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

7.4 Holocaust Museum and Elevation Laval

9:00 to 3:15
Grade 5 students
May 26
\$10 cost to parents, balance covered by a measure

GB20220217-09 Karl Trottier MOVED THAT the grade 6 tubing trip be approved as presented. Seconded by Maral Halebi.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

E-vote – Quebec City

Grade 5
June 3, 2022 – 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Ratio 1:6
\$83 per student

GB20220328 Cristin Filacouridis MOVED THAT the Grade 5 Quebec City day trip be approved as presented.

Carried

8.0 Adjournment

Next meeting – April 21, 2022

GB20220317-10 Vicki Fraser MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at Seconded by Karl Trottier.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approved _____, 2022

_____ Chairperson _____ Principal

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary