



Minutes of the third (3rd) meeting of the 2021-2022 McCaig Elementary School Governing Board held on Thursday, November 25, 2021 via ZOOM videoconferencing at 7 p.m.

Members Present: Cristin Filacouridis, Melissa Mancuso, Deborah Mortilliti, Eric Tanios, Karl Trottier, Parents; Eva Bletas, Ann Phillion, Dan Strina, Teachers; Monika Renner, Community Representative

Alternate Members Present:

Also present were: Richard Mason, Sarah Lefebvre-Gauthier, Administrators; Olivia Landry, Commissioner

Regrets: Vicki Fraser, Marie-Soleil Leconte, Maral Halebi, Pat Gilmour, Anne McMullon

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1.0 Recognition of visitors

In response to a question from Dan Strina, if guests want to attend a GB meeting, they can request the zoom link from the principal.

2.0 Approval of the agenda

Add: 5.5 Flag football

GB20211125-01 Melissa Mancuso MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted with the addition. Seconded by Deborah Mortilliti.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

3.0 Approval of the Minutes of September 30, 2021

If anyone has not filled out the conflict of interest forms and judicial record, please do so and send to the school secretary.

GB20211125-02 Eric Tanios MOVED THAT the minutes of the October 25, 2021 be approved. Seconded by Karl Trottier.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

4.0 Business arising

4.1 Recognition of land

A document explaining recognition of land was emailed to members.

There is a link that you can go on to find out exactly what land you are sitting on to acknowledge the correct indigenous people.

GB20211125-03 Karl Trottier MOVED THAT moving forward, the McCaig governing board includes the recognition of land acknowledgement prior to opening meetings and that either the chairperson will do it or offer it to other members to do.

Seconded by Melissa Mancuso.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.0 New Business

5.1 Deeds of establishment

The documentation was sent to members and discussed.

The McCaig GB has no comments. The chairperson will send a letter to the secretary general.

5.2 Summer camp rental

Académie des Arts et Sports; June 28, 2022 to August 19, 2022

7:00 am to 6:00 pm; 6 classrooms and 2 gymnasiums.

Rental money goes back to the students.

GB20211125-04 Eva Bletas MOVED THAT the summer camp rental be approved as presented. Seconded by Melissa Mancuso.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.3 Hip Hop activity

December 15, 22, 2021; January 12, 19, 26 & February 2, 2022

\$80.00 per child

Wednesday's after school from 3:40-4:40 (this activity attracted many students this term so she did it on two days, based on ages of students)

GB20211125-05 Eva Bletas MOVED THAT Hip Hop activity be approved as presented. Seconded by Karl Trottier.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.4 Santa's Bus

Elementary School – Christmas Show; December 14, 2021

Total of 5 outdoor shows of 30 minutes each (Pre-K, Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2)

1) 9:15 am – 9:45 am

2) 9:55 am – 10:25 am

3) 10:35 am – 11:05 am

4) 11:15 am – 11:45 am

5) 11:55 am – 12:25 pm

Maximum 50 students per show

Language: English

Cost is \$2644.42 – no charge to parents, it will be paid through a measure.

GB20211125-06 Deborah Mortilliti MOVED THAT the Santa's bus activity be approved as presented. Seconded by Eva Bletas.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.5 Flag football

Mosquito team - grade 4/5; Pee-Wee team - grade 6

December 2021 to June 2022

\$265 per student for registration

GB20211125-07 Dan Strina MOVED THAT the flag football activity be approved as presented. Seconded by Melissa Mancuso.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

6.0 Reports

6.1 Principal

PARENT-TEACHER NIGHT

Parent-Teacher night was held by appointment on Tuesday, November 24th from 4:30pm to 8:30pm via zoom. The Progress Reports/First Communications were made available for parents to access on the Mozaik parental portal prior to the Parent/Teacher night to allow parents the opportunity to review the report prior to meeting with the teachers.

TFOMES COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

TFOMES cookie dough sale is well under way. Indeygo is the name of the company we are using this year. English Bay, our old supplier, no longer sells cookie dough to schools as a fundraiser. TFOMES decided to go with both pre-portioned boxes as well as tubs; with 6 options available. The campaign started November 8th, with delivery taking place the afternoon of December 17th. Profit will be approximately 40% of total sales. Our hope is that this year's total sales will exceed our last campaign amount which was over 25 000\$. The class, per cycle, with the highest sales gets a pizza party. The student, school-wide, with the highest sales gets a 50.00\$ gift certificate.

HOCKEY RAFFLE

Tickets will be printed and prepared in December with the lottery taking place in early February. Tickets will be 5\$ per ticket or 5 tickets for 20\$. Usually, the campaign makes 10,000\$ and doesn't cost TFOMES or the school anything as the tickets are donated. The hockey tickets will be for games at the end of February into March and April.

CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER

This will unfortunately be another year with a scarcity of Christmas trees. An email was sent to all parents with the code for McCaig. There are also added options for wreaths, holiday décor etc.... The code can be given to anyone. Merry easy Christmas is the name of the company. When a parent orders on the website a % goes to McCaig. Last year 20 trees were sold and we made 300\$. You can now choose the time you get the tree delivered.

HAMSTER FUNDRAISER

This is the first year we use Hamster for a school fundraiser. Hamster provides a service where school supplies are pre-packaged for parents. No shopping required! Total profit was 551.21\$ (5% of all the sales from last year's sales). 63 parents participated in all. Total sales were 10,933\$ and TFOMES made 5% of the total. The plan is to do it again next year but the school will send the information about Hamster in an email with the school supply lists.

HOLIDAY BREAKFAST

We will have our traditional Holiday Breakfast for the children during the week before the break. The cost of Piccola Gioia's hot breakfast is 5.75\$ but the caterer is subsidizing \$1.00 per meal and the remaining cost will be fully covered by the school. The money for the breakfast will come from a measure from the government called Social Solidarity (food grant). There will be no charge to parents. Due to Covid restrictions RHS will not be having its traditional community breakfast this year. RHS usually invites our grade 6 students to attend so this year we do not have to worry about the date of our breakfast conflicting with theirs.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

A meeting was held with Rosemère Agent Communautaire, Chantal Lefebvre, to discuss our emergency preparedness. It was decided, due to restrictions resulting from COVID pandemic, that an actual lockdown practice at McCaig with the children and staff will not be held this Fall as it usually is. If possible, a lockdown practice may be held later this school year in collaboration with our Agente Communautaire. That being said, teachers will review McCaig's lockdown procedures with their students to make sure they are familiar with what is required in the event of a lockdown at school. This will include a video created for elementary schools by the Sûreté du Québec and documents with activities that they can do with their classes.

SOFTWARE

Once again, this year McCaig has a site license for REFLEX Math, which provides access to the program for all McCaig students through to June 2022. The cost for one year is 2983.00\$.

IXL Math was renewed in September for one year. The price was 1500.00\$ for a 1-year IXL site license for grades 5 and 6. The present license for RAZ kids expires in January 2022. We will renew our licenses for RAZ kids, depending on teacher demand; we presently have 13 class licenses. This renewal should cost about 1500.00\$.

We also use BrainPOP (approx. 300.00\$), JW Pepper (approx. 150.00\$), Les Plans (approx. 250.00\$) and Jardin de Vicky (approx. 250.00\$)

STUDENT COUNCIL

Each year, the Student Council participates in the organization and operation of various school activities. They organize charitable goodwill missions to help communities in need and focus on promoting school spirit at McCaig Elementary. The following is a list of just some of the activities initiated in past years by Student Council, which have required funding:

- purchasing bulbs and plants for the McCaig garden
- decorating for special days and events
- giving back to McCaig students -rewards or treats- for school spirit activities and after charitable fundraising events
- staff appreciation projects
- end of year farewell to Student Council.

TFOMES was asked for funding to help and they agreed to provide \$500 to help realize the yearly projects planned by our Student Council.

MCCAIG ON-LINE STORE

Parents are reminded that we have an official school store for online purchases of clothing that can be accessed via our website. Just click on the Gladiator logo on the right-hand side off the school webpage. The link is:
<https://mccaiggladiators.entripyshops.com/>

TFOMES ROCK YOUR SOCKS OFF

The TFOMES sock fundraising campaign is well under way. The TOTAL raised as of Nov 19th 2021 is \$18 265.

The breakdown is as follows:

- Cash - \$3590
- Cheques - \$2205
- Donations - \$920
- E-transfers - \$11 550

TFOMES is still missing either payment or boxes of socks from 32 families.

BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

The bus safety training activities will once again be presented this year via video links as we are still in a pandemic. The good thing about this method is that it gives teachers the flexibility to do the activities at their convenience. The activities should be completed by the end of November. A package containing the materials for each grade was sent to the school by the transportation department and placed in each homeroom teacher's mailbox. There is a link to a video to show Pre-K, Kindergarten and grade 1 students and a different video link for grade 2-3 and 4. There's no video for grade 5 and 6 but each grade level has an activity for teachers to with their class. Grades 5 and 6 will have their bus slogan drawing contest as usual, with a prize for the winner. The following is the link to the video for Pre-K, Kindergarten and grade 1 students.

<https://www.loom.com/share/8ecf2ca09f124b2983093668964a0661>

As grades 2, 3, and 4 usually have their activities take place on the bus, the transportation department provided links to videos, filmed on a bus, to explain the bus rules. The video links are:

- Grade 2 <https://youtu.be/di-WBbPSd-0>
- Grade 3 <https://youtu.be/iysxX63HXwU>
- Grade 4 <https://youtu.be/qeW9L1LHYAc>

MEASURE D'ACCUEIL

Measure D'Accueil is a program designed to help students who are learning French for the first time. The program is also called "Allocation de soutien à l'accueil, en français langue seconde". This grant is available to NEWLY arrived students in the province with NO or minimal background in French. The "raison d'être" of this Federal grant is to help students integrate, as soon as possible, into the regular FSL class. We have two teachers (Ms. Alessandra and Miss Emily) teaching approximately 20 students in grades 1 through 6. Parents have been contacted if their child is eligible and advised of the details. Measure D'Accueil classes started about two weeks ago.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day commemorates the sacrifices that Canadians made in armed conflicts, including World War I and II. McCaig students and staff will participate in a special Remembrance Day ceremony where we paid homage to the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country and acknowledged our responsibility to work for the peace they fought so hard to achieve.

Each classroom prepared a beautiful Remembrance Day wreath to honour and remember our past and present Canadian soldiers. Mr. Mason recited the poem, In Flanders Fields by John McCrae, a Canadian soldier who helped protect our country during World War I. After viewing several Remembrance Day videos, Mr. Mason led the school in a moment of silence to pay our respects for the generations of courageous Canadians who have and are still serving our country. Finally, the Student Council spoke and recited a poem that made us all stop and ponder the reason we need to recognize this day.

Along with our Remembrance Day Ceremony we, once again this year, ran our Poppy Campaign at the school. Every year, from the last Friday of October to November 11th, tens of millions of Canadians wear a Poppy as a visual pledge to honour Canada's Veterans and remember those who sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. The Royal Canadian Legion conducts the Poppy Campaign to honour those who serve and to raise funds in support of Veterans and their families. All of the money raised from poppy sales provides direct assistance for ex-service people in financial distress, as well as funding for medical appliances and research, home services, care facilities and a number of other commendable purposes. The money raised by this fundraiser will help ensure that veterans and their dependents are treated with the respect they deserve.

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING PROGRAM

Our after school tutoring program for students from grade 1 through 6 is up and running. The tutoring started the week of Monday, November 15th. Tutoring is being offered for 90 minutes after school, Monday through Thursday, by 12 different teachers. The cost of the tutoring is being covered by a measure from the Ministry (approx. 20 000\$) and a 5000.00\$ grant McCaig received from the TD Bank. We will run the tutoring program until the funds run out which is estimated to be in about five months.

VACCINATION CAMPAIGN FOR 5-11 YEAR OLDS

The vaccine has been approved and the deployment of vaccination campaign for children aged between 5-11 has begun. We are working closely with each CISSS to coordinate the vaccination campaign. The hybrid model for vaccination will be deployed. Mass Vaccination Centres have reopened for parents to bring their children and we already have students being vaccinated. We are encouraging parents to bring their child to a Mass Vaccination Centre to get their child vaccinated. Mobile vaccination clinics will also be organized in French schools. The goal is to make the vaccine as accessible as possible for those who wish to be vaccinated and to vaccinate as many children as possible before the Christmas break. Depending on the region, schools may be paired with a near-by school and bussing will be available to those who wish to be vaccinated at school. The hope is that 5 to 11-year-old vaccination campaign will greatly reduce the risk of a 5th wave in the new year. McCaig students, with parental consent, will be vaccinated at Alpha in three groupings on December 21, 2021. Letters and parental consent forms will be sent to parents by the end of next week. NB the results of a survey of our parent community are at the end of this report. *

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL

If it is decided that a social activity will take place at school, the CNESST recommendations apply. Social and non-essential events are limited to a maximum of 25 participants. Vaccination passports/proof of vaccination is required for social and fundraising events with parents present.

Examples:

- A PPO spaghetti dinner at school would have a maximum capacity of 25 people maximum and proof of vaccination would be required.
- A PPO spaghetti dinner at a reception hall would comply with the rules of the hall (proof of vaccine, mask, etc.)

TRAVEL FOR NON-ADEQUATELY PROTECTED STUDENTS

Unvaccinated students returning from a trip outside of the country cannot return to school or daycare for 14 days upon their return. There is no obligation on the school boards part to offer distance education to students who go out of the country.

PLANT CLUB

Miss Fraser's Our Let's Grow Club meets from 3:45-4:30 PM on Wednesdays. The club began on Wednesday, October 27th. The students are learning about different kinds of plants and how to take care of and propagate plants, all while also learning

about how to develop a growth mindset, relax, and find joy in the little things. The club runs for 8 weeks and then a new session with 10 new students will begin. They will be holding a plant sale in the evening of December 15th. More information to follow.

SWLSB SURPASSES ITS GRADUATION RATE AND QUALIFICATION GOAL

With its latest 88.1% graduation and qualification rate published by the Ministry of Education (MEQ) October 29th, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) has surpassed the 88% goal set by the MEQ.

ACGC GUEST SPEAKER

On November 18th, Miss Fraser hosted our first ACGC (Academic and Career Guidance Content) guest speaker. Mandy, a McCaig and Rosemere High School alumni, came to speak to all of the grade five students about her experience as an entrepreneur. She began making and selling vegan soaps, candles, and other skincare products about a year and a half ago. The students learned a lot about the joys and challenges that Mandy has faced since starting her online business, Awake Boutique. The students were introduced to the importance of things such as slogans, marketing, interpersonal skills, good business strategies, budgeting, etc. Mandy took the time to answer the students' questions and got them thinking about the pros and cons of being your own boss. The hour flew by, and the students clearly learned a lot.

HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS BASKETS

The Holiday season is quickly approaching and soon we will be braving the mall, on-line shopping and looking forward to a much-needed break; not to mention happily spending some time with friends and family. Sadly, many families in our community are struggling to make ends meet.

As such, the McCaig Parent Participation Organization (PPO) has teamed up with the McCaig Student Council to collect items, which will then be distributed to our needy families and to local charities for their Christmas baskets. We will be collecting household staples and will ask the students in each class to bring a specific item(s) in order to ensure we have a variety of items that can be helpful for these families.

In addition, since many children will likely be receiving new toys over the holiday season, if they would like to make room for their new toys, they will be invited to donate a used toy by bringing it to school and it will go to a needy child. Parents may also purchase and donate a new toy should they wish to.

OPERATION TOASTY TOES, HEATED HANDS

As we all know, winter is on its way and there are many families in our community who need clothing to keep them warm this winter season. That's why the Student Council will soon start its traditional Toasty Toes and Heated Hands campaign where they encourage parents to send in NEW mittens and socks, as well as the above-mentioned class designated non-perishable items for these less fortunate families.

MCCAIG GLADIATORS ICE HOCKEY TEAM HAVING A GREAT START!

The Gladiators Ice Hockey team is back after a long year of absence due to the pandemic. The season started on Wednesday October 20th 2021 and the team have already played the following schools: Académie Juillet from Candiac and Académie Ste-Anne.

The McCaig Gladiators team were wearing the « White Gladiators jersey » played on Wednesday November 17th, 2021 played their third game after school against "The Leopards" of PETES from Blainville at the Rosemère Arena. The Gladiators played with determination, teamwork and skill. The McCaig Gladiators concluded the game with a solid win with a score of 6-4...Everyone left the rink with a smile; a feeling of determination and Mr. Strina was proud of the team effort and performance once again!!! Go Gladiators!!! Go!!!

BASKETBALL AT MCCAIG IS BACK!!

The McCaig Gladiators are once again participating in the RSEQLL Mini-Basketball league which started on Thursday November 18th, 2021.

The McCaig Gladiators are represented with 2 Boys teams and 1 Girl team this year. We are looking forward to another great season ahead as the students demonstrate sportsmanship, teamwork, perseverance and school pride. Go Gladiators!!!

BOOK FAIR

McCaig held its annual Book Fair from November 18, 2021 to November 23, 2021. The fair was open to all students and staff. Unfortunately, due to precautionary measures related to Covid and because the parent-teacher interviews are not in-person again this year, the Book Fair was not open to parents as it has been in the past. The students were able to purchase books at the library Book Fair, during their regularly scheduled library period. All students received a flyer indicating the books that were offered for purchase. In addition, parents were sent a link to check out our virtual Book Fair on-line to see the many books that are available. The total sales for this year's Book Fair are 8603.46\$. The Rewards Amount that goes back to the library is 4190.22\$. Each teacher will be given 50.00\$ to purchase from Scholastics for their classroom. The remaining rewards amount will be used by the library.

*Please find below the results of a survey of McCaig parents as regards their intentions to have their child vaccinated or not.

SURVEY RESULTS: Vaccination Intentions - McCaig Elementary (451 responses)

- I don't intend on having my child vaccinated / Je n'ai pas l'intention de faire vacciner mon enfant - 152
- I have not decided yet / Je n'ai pas encore décidé - 84
- I will bring my child to a Mass Vaccination Centre to be vaccinated. / J'amènerai mon enfant dans un centre de vaccination de masse pour qu'il soit vaccine - 85
- I would like my child to be vaccinated AT SCHOOL/ Je souhaite que mon enfant soit vacciné À L'ÉCOLE - 31

The focus is to get the first vaccination done prior to Christmas. In response to a question from Eric Tanios, there are no protocols given by public health to date for 5 to 11 year olds and students will not be penalized if they are not vaccinated.

6.2 TFOMES

Emailed to members.

6.3 PPO

Emailed to members.

7.0 Correspondence

8.0 Adjournment

Next meeting – December 16, 2021

GB20211125-08 Karl Trottier MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned 8:07 p.m. Seconded by Dan Strina.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

Minutes approved _____, 2021

Chairperson

Principal

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary