

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, December 12, 2019
7:00 P.M., BOARDROOM
1925 BROOKDALE AVENUE**



AGENDA

Please make sure you sign-in upon arrival

1. Call to Order
2. Word from the Chair
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Reports Q & A
 - 6.1. SNAC
 - 6.2. Council
7. Questions from the Public
8. New Business
 - 8.1. Election of Parent Representative - EPCA Representative (1 Year)
 - 8.2. PC Budget
 - 8.3. Discussion: Google Apps for Education
 - 8.4. Open House Marketing
9. Business Arising
 - 9.1. Communication
 - 9.2. Subcommittee Updates
 - 9.2.1. Ad hoc Sub – Internal Rules and Procedures
 - 9.2.2. Ad hoc Sub – Environmental Awareness
 - 9.2.3. Ad hoc Sub – Policy on Major School Change (final update)
 - 9.2.4. Ad hoc Sub – Rental Facilities (final update)
 - 9.2.5. Ad hoc Sub – Bill 40
10. Commissioners Representing Parents' Committee Q & A
11. Further Questions from the Public
12. Varia
13. Adjournment

Parents` Committee MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019
Lester B. Pearson School Board
LBPSB Boardroom, 1925 Brookdale Avenue, Dorval

1. Call to Order
S. Ross called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm. Quorum was established with 30 members out of 48 LBPSB schools and SNAC being represented. S. Ross then proceeded to recite the acknowledgement of Mohawk land.
2. Word from the Chair
The Chair thanked all Reps/Alts for their efforts. He noted that it is often a challenge to participate and to balance work, family and volunteer activities. He emphasized that there will be an attempt made to leverage the structure regarding the subcommittees. S. Ross indicated that the PC Advisory will try to get the meeting kit out on the weekend prior to the PC meeting. He reminded all members of the subcommittees that reports are needed the weekend prior to the PC meeting so that they can be added to the kit. He underscored the fact that these efforts are to enable the PC meetings to be as effective and efficient as possible.
3. Approval of the Agenda
S. Ross asked if there were any additions to the agenda. J. Doan requested that under agenda item 8. New Business, item 8.4 Open House Marketing be added, therefore under agenda item 9. Business Arising 9.2.5, Ad hoc Sub-Marketing should be removed. It was noted that under agenda item 6. Reports Q & A, that item 6.1 SNAC and 6.2 Council be added. With these additions and deletions, S. Ross then motioned to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by T. Minisini and was carried unanimously.
4. Approval of the Minutes
S. Ross noted that due to his absence from the November 7, 2019 meeting, minutes of the AGA Parts 1 and 2 were sent out late, and Reps/Alts voted to table the approval of those minutes until the December meeting. He then called for approval of the AGA minutes Parts 1 and 2. It was moved by B. Tremellen that the minutes of the AGA (Parts 1 and 2) be approved. The motion was seconded by O. Burlec and was carried unanimously. S. Ross then motioned to approve the minutes of November 7, 2019. The motion was seconded by D. Bentley and was carried unanimously.
5. Correspondence
S. Ross noted that he did not have a chance to add the correspondence items to the meeting kit, but they would be added shortly. He highlighted the fact that he was invited to attend the EPCA AGA, which he did. He emphasized that their officers were up for re-election. The position of EPCA President remains vacant at the moment as three votes took place resulting in a tie each time, as two candidates are vying for the position of President. The Chair noted that a new vote will take place at the January 11, 2020 EPCA meeting. It was noted that the PC Chair and SNAC Chair did not receive an official invitation to the pre-meeting prior to the Special LBPSB Council meeting on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. T. Rhymes ensured that they both received the invitation and it was noted that they will both be in attendance.
6. Reports Q & A
The Chair noted that he received a report from J. Valenti, who could not attend the meeting. He added that the SNAC report was received and that it would be added to the kit.
 - 6.1. SNAC
S. Ross invited J. DiMarco to speak to the SNAC report. She emphasized that the recent Parent Info Session - The IEP Journey was well received with 70 parents in attendance and over 100 questions being asked. She invited Rep/Alts to refer to the MSR. J. DiMarco noted that SNAC wrote a letter regarding Bill 40 and also wrote a letter with respect to the additional 20-minute recess period. She indicated that the Alternate Representative had recently stepped down and that N. Salvaggio was elected to replace her. J. DiMarco mentioned that at the SNAC meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, representatives from the Transitions Program made a presentation. Since the meeting had only taken place the previous evening, the report was not available at this time.
 - 6.2. Council
S. Ross invited Vice- Chair of Council, L. Derry to speak to the report. She mentioned that when the Fall session of the National Assembly closed before the holiday break, Bill 40 had not yet been adopted. With 312 articles to consider, there was not sufficient time to go through them all. She noted that representatives from QESBA have been invited to attend a meeting with Minister Roberge on December 17, 2019. L. Derry pointed out that two MSC Town Halls took place on November 26 and 27, 2019 in order to allow Governing Boards/Associations/Groups/individuals to present their briefs. She emphasized that Council members are currently in deliberations and that a Special Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at John Rennie High School in the auditorium.

7. Questions from the Public

The Chair reviewed the rules pertaining to Questions from the Public.

Comments/ Questions

- Comment about funds requested by QESBA from School Boards with respect to contributions to a legal fund to maintain English School Boards
- Comment regarding various presentations at the Committee on Culture and Education hearings on Bill 40
- Question regarding the PC's position with respect to Bill 40

The Chair emphasized that the Ad-hoc Subcommittee struck in order to examine Bill 40 is continuing to meet and will bring the PC a report with their recommendations. Once the recommendations are received, members of the PC will decide what their approach will be.

8. New Business

8.1. Election of Parent Representative - EPCA Representative (1 Year)

S. Ross pointed out that the LBPSB Parent Representatives to EPCA, (according to the rules), must have a child in the School Board and also be on the Parent Committee. It was noted that the position of Parent Representative to EPCA, (formerly held by B. Brown), has been filled by J. Valenti.

However, D. Odubayo's spot must also be filled, as his child has also graduated and he is no longer on the Parent Committee. The Chair mentioned that D. Odubayo has resigned his position. S. Ross emphasized that therefore, a replacement will be needed. He called for nominations. It was underscored that the position of EPCA Director may be held by a PC Rep or Alt. EPCA meets one Saturday per month from 10am-3pm. He then invited former EPCA Director B. Brown to say a few words. She gave a brief history of EPCA. She explained that Directors from all the member School Boards meet and try to find common ground. The Chair called for nominations from the floor. There were none. He noted that this item could be tabled for the moment and if someone puts forth their nomination between meetings, members would be able to participate by E-Vote.

It was moved by S. Ross to table filling the position of EPCA Director. The motion was seconded by L. Dalterio and was carried unanimously.

8.2. PC Budget

S. Ross invited A. Gross, Treasurer, to speak to this item on the agenda. A. Gross proceeded to give an overview of the PC budget as follows:

- The PC is allocated \$5000
- In consultation with the Advisory, some adjustments to last year's budget were made

Expenses include the following:

- BASECAMP fees
- Refreshment expenses for all Committees, Subcommittees, Advisory
- Transportation/Travel
- Babysitting
- Website Maintenance
- Conny Held Award
- End of year Dinner

A. Gross continued to break down the approximate committee expenses. (For a complete breakdown of expenses, please refer to the document entitled- "Parent Committee 2019-2020 Proposed Budget" in the meeting kit).

A. Gross noted that the travel/transportation budgets were reduced last year, as there were no requests for reimbursements from PC members. She emphasized that Reps/Alts can submit proper receipts for babysitting at a rate of \$10/hour, up to a maximum of four hours, not exceeding a maximum from any one Rep/Alt of \$120/year. She mentioned that the stipulation of not exceeding a claim of \$120/year was implemented in order to allow a larger number of parents to participate at meetings.

Comments from PC members included:

Disapproval of cap for babysitting, inquiry about lack of funds allocated toward babysitting in past years, potential to request an additional allocation from Council (although the budget for the year has been set). It was noted that the Advisory would accept the friendly amendment, however it was suggested that perhaps some of the travel budget could be allocated to the babysitting budget. It was proposed that the budget be reviewed at each meeting in order to get a sense of where things stand. PC members were reminded that the mandate of the PC is to encourage parental participation. PC Rep/Alts felt comfortable reviewing the budget each month rather than making a friendly amendment.

S. Ross then called for a motion to review the budget each month. It was moved by A. Gross that the budget be reviewed each month. The motion was seconded by J. Taub and was carried unanimously.

A. Gross pointed out that the budget for transportation covers taxi/UBER and mileage. Kilometers travelled are based on Google Maps and verification will be requested with each reimbursement request. Receipts should be submitted each month. The Chair emphasized that as the Advisory learns who the members of the PC are, the budget can be re-assessed. He noted that there were some years when the PC received requests for travel reimbursements, and there were some years where none were received.

A. Gross explained that the reimbursement of expenses form will be made available to PC members. The fact that original receipts are required was underscored, as the School Board gets audited. A. Gross advised PC Reps/Alts to make a photocopy of all receipts in order to maintain accurate records.

The Chair then called for a motion to approve the budget. It was moved by L. Podgurny to approve the Parent Committee 2019-2020 Proposed Budget. The motion was seconded by L. Mancini and was carried unanimously.

8.3. Discussion: Google Apps for Education

S. Ross reported that he had discussions with a parent regarding GAFE and that many discussions have taken place on BASECAMP. He referred parents to the Digital Citizenship Policy. He then invited T. Rhymes to speak to this item on the agenda. T. Rhymes explained that there is a "G-Suite" family of applications available. He noted that the School Board blocks off permissions for students in the younger grades. Email is not automatically available for students from Kindergarten to Grade 3, however the teacher can request that it be made accessible for specific projects. He further explained that at the Elementary level, Gmail is only available within the LBPSB domain. When students get to high school, the restrictions are lifted.

T. Rhymes pointed out that "Google Hangouts" is turned off for Elementary School students, but is accessible at the High School level. He further noted that "Google Classroom" is accessible as of the Grade 4 level, but with restrictions- it can be used internally (within the lbpearson.ca domain.) If the school is working on an initiative with another province, the domain can be made accessible. It was mentioned that parents need to be aware of these facts.

T. Rhymes pointed out that students collaborate on projects online. It was mentioned that to be part of a chat group, you need to be invited to join. He emphasized that "Google Hangouts" can either be open or closed, and that there is no option to monitor every single comment as hundreds of chats are happening at the same time. S. Ross emphasized that the PC is not the place to table personal issues and that the appropriate way to try and resolve these issues is through the local school. The PC discussions are to focus on policy. It was noted that the Digital Citizenship Policy will be up for review shortly.

At this point in the meeting, it was moved by S. Ross to extend the meeting by 15 minutes- until 9:30pm. The motion was seconded by L. Mancini and was carried unanimously.

J. Doan suggested that the PC should form a subcommittee in order to put forth recommendations to the PC that could in turn be submitted to Council. It was moved by J. Doan that a subcommittee entitled "Appropriate use of Technology" be struck in order to look at acceptable use of technology and to put forth recommendations regarding the DCP. The motion was seconded by B. Tremellen. The majority was in favor, none were opposed 1 abstention was noted. S. Ross then called for a PC member to chair this subcommittee. L. Dalterio volunteered to chair the subcommittee, and members were invited to see her at the end of this meeting. It was emphasized that subcommittee members should examine the policy and that whether or not it goes out for consultation, it should be reviewed.

8.4. Open House Marketing

The Chair invited J. Doan to speak to this item on the agenda. J. Doan referred to discussions that have taken place on BASECAMP. S. Campeau created some marketing material which she has given the School Board permission to use. It was emphasized that the Marketing Subcommittee needs a recommendation from the PC in order to present it to the School Board. Concerns were raised with respect to how the creation of the marketing material fits in with the mandate of the PC, as there are those at the School Board who work in this area. It was noted that this is a great initiative providing specific feedback and demonstrating parental engagement, but it needs to go through the proper channels. J. Doan underscored the fact that there is an agreement in principal to work in collaboration with the School Board. The idea would be to get permission for the GBs to use the marketing tools if they so choose. It was moved by J. Doan that the PC support the initiative of the Marketing Subcommittee to send the documents to the School Board for review. The motion was seconded by L. Podgurny and was carried unanimously. It was reiterated that the marketing material not be disseminated at this time and it was suggested that perhaps a watermark could be added to the documents.

9. Business Arising
 - 9.1. Communication

S. Ross appealed to PC members that help was needed in order to come up with content for the next Parent2Parent Newsletter to hopefully be ready early in the new year.
 - 9.2. Subcommittee Updates
 - 9.2.1. Ad hoc Sub – Internal Rules and Procedures

The Chair noted that the subcommittee would be continuing to review the Internal Rules and Procedures and will hopefully present their recommendations early in the new year.
 - 9.2.2. Ad hoc Sub – Environmental Awareness

There was nothing to report at this time.
 - 9.2.3. Ad hoc Sub – Policy on Major School Change (final update)

The Chair invited L. Podgurny to speak to this item on the agenda. He highlighted the fact that this MSC Consultation involved the following schools/centres: Beurling, Lakeside, Lindsay Place, Place Cartier, SACC, and St. Thomas. He emphasized that debate and decisions will take place on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at John Rennie High School in the auditorium. The Special Council meeting will also be webcast and on Facebook live.
 - 9.2.4. Ad hoc Sub – Rental Facilities (final update)

There was nothing to report at this time.
 - 9.2.5. Ad hoc Sub – Bill 40

The Chair invited S. Bhargava to speak to this item on the agenda. S. Bhargava noted that an important part of the draft Bill pertains to the GBs. He emphasized that as the Bill reads right now, all GBs would need to be dissolved and new ones formed. He mentioned that a presentation on Bill 40 was made at St. Thomas, which has been posted on BASECAMP. GBs are able to look at what the St. Thomas GB prepared and can individualize the template for their own schools. S. Bhargava suggested that the PC prepare a brief on Bill 40. J. DiMarco invited PC members to look at the brief that SNAC prepared with respect to Bill 40.

At this point in the meeting, S. Ross moved to extend the meeting by 10 minutes, with the meeting therefore anticipated to end at 9:40pm. The motion was seconded by J. Taub. The majority was in favor, one member was opposed, and one abstention was noted. The motion was carried.
10. Commissioners Representing Parents' Committee Q & A

There was nothing to report at this time.
11. Further Questions from the Public

Comments from the public included the following:

 - CAQ will provide extensive GB training relating to Bill 40
 - Comment regarding President of EPCA also holding the position of Vice- Chair of the Western Quebec School Board
12. Varia

S. Ross invited T. Rhymes to say a few words. T. Rhymes expressed his appreciation for the dedication of the PC members and wished everyone Happy Holidays.
13. Adjournment

It moved by S. Ross to adjourn the meeting at 9:31pm. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by
Barbara Schnider
Recording Secretary



Lester B Pearson School Board Parents' Committee

Attendance Report		
Member School	Parent Rep Present	Alternate Rep Present
Allion	Shiana Warren	
Beacon Hill		
*Beaconsfield	Ovidiu Burlec	
*Beechwood		
Beurling Academy	Jay Taube	
*Birchwood		
*Children's World	Susan Mintzberg	Anita Coretti
*Christmas Park	Cassandra Bazos	
*Clearpoint		
*Dorset		
Dorval	Hans Zaun	
*Edgewater		
*Evergreen		
*Forest Hill Jr	Tanja Minisini	
Forest Hill Sr	Tanja Minisini	
John Rennie	Shane Ross	
Kingsdale		Greg Piggins
Lakeside Academy		
*Lasalle Community Comprehensive	Sonya Fiocco	
Lasalle Jr		
*LasalleSr		
Lindsay Place	Melanie D'Lima	
MacDonald	Todd Nelson	
*Maple Grove	Ashley McLellan	
Margaret Manson		Mark Michel
*Mount Pleasant		
Pierre Elliott Trudeau	Julie Faucher	
Pierrefonds Community	Greg Piggins	
Riverview		Linda Dalterio
Sherbrooke Academy Jr.		
*Sherbrooke Academy Sr.		
*Springdale		
St. Anthony	Shane Ross	
St. Charles	Jason Doan	
*St. Edmund		
St. John Fisher Jr		
St. John Fisher Sr	Sarah Campeau	
St. Patrick	Doug Bentley	
St. Thomas	Sharad Bhargava	Phil Caetano
*Sunshine Academy		
Terry Fox	Brenda Tremellen	
Verdun	John Ranger	
Westpark	Alaina Gross	Michelle Sternszus
Westwood Jr	Tanja Minisini	
Westwood Sr	Dan Rassi	
Wilder Penfield	Len Podgurny	
SNAC	Lisa Mancini	Nora Salvaggio
CRPC Designated by SNAC	Angela Berryman	

Other distinguished attendees:

Thomas Rhymes (Administration)
 Bobbi Brown (Outgoing EPCA Director)

Chris Eustace (public)

30/48 Member Schools + SNAC Represented