

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, April 12, 2018
7:00 P.M., BOARDROOM
1925 BROOKDALE AVENUE**



AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Word from the Chair
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Business Arising
 - 6.1. LBPSB Bus Strike Update
 - 6.2. Budget Update
 - 6.3. E-Vote Ratification– Budget Consultation (2018-2019)
 - 6.4. E-Vote Ratification– Extra-Curricular Activities and Field Trips Policy
7. Questions from the Public
8. New Business
 - 8.1. QESBA FocusGroup
 - 8.2. Extendingthereach of the PC MSR
 - 8.3. NEW CONSULTATION – LBPSB Three-year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2018-2021
 - 8.4. NEW CONSULTATION – LBPSB Commitment-to-Success Plan 2018-2022
 - 8.5. End of the Year Dinner
 - 8.6. 2018 – 2019 AGA Kit Ad Hoc Subcommittee
9. Parent Reports
 - 9.1. Standing Subcommittees
 - 9.1.1. Elementary East Subcommittee
 - 9.1.2. Elementary West Subcommittee
 - 9.1.3. High School
 - 9.1.4. Communications
 - 9.2. Ad Hoc Subcommittees
 - 9.2.1. Student Success Plan
 - 9.2.2. Anti-bullying/Anti-Violence
 - 9.2.3. 20th Anniversary
 - 9.2.4. School Board Elections
 - 9.3. Commissioners Representing Parents
 - 9.3.1. Report
 - 9.3.2. CRP Q & A
 - 9.4. SNAC
10. External Committees and Other Reports
 - 10.1. Intercultural Advisory Committee
 - 10.2. Long-Term Planning (submitted by CRPC J. Doan)
 - 10.3. Administration
 - 10.4. Council of Commissioners
11. Further Questions from the Public
12. Varia
13. Adjournment

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING - THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

LBPSB Boardroom, 1925 Brookdale Avenue, Dorval

ATTENDANCE-PARENT REPS AND ALTS: Please see last page for Attendance Record

1. Call to Order
S. Ross called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. Quorum was established with 29 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
S. Ross welcomed all attendees. He welcomed as well T. Rhymes, Assistant Director General of the LBPSB. He mentioned that the PC extends its sympathies to Commissioner J. Arless on his recent loss. He emphasized that a donation can be made to Suicide Montreal. S. Ross acknowledged the recent tragedy in Saskatchewan and noted that the PC's thoughts go out to all those who have been impacted. Some PC members wore team jerseys to this meeting to show their solidarity with those affected.
3. Approval of the Agenda
S. Ross called for a motion to approve the agenda and asked if there were any changes to be made. As no changes were proposed, it was moved by S. Connell that the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by J. Ranger and was carried unanimously.
4. Approval of the Minutes
S. Ross called for the approval of the minutes of March 1, 2018.
He asked Reps/Alts to please verify that the attendance records were consistent with the minutes. It was moved by W. Rooney that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by P. Kininmonth and was carried unanimously.
5. Correspondence
S. Ross invited members to refer to the correspondence in the meeting kit, which includes:
 - Aggregated correspondence from C. Eustace
 - PEF comedy night (April 20th, 2018 at 8pm at Lakeside Academy)
6. Business Arising
 - 6.1. LBPSB Bus Strike Update
S. Ross invited T. Rhymes to speak to the agenda item
The following was highlighted:
 - Bissonette bus company drivers are in a legal strike position
 - The strike action is in conjunction with the CSN and the Teamsters
 - A strike situation is difficult to manage, especially for parents
 - An inquiry was made as to whether or not QESBA is being lobbied to push for inclusion of school bus services as an essential service; the answer was no
 - It was noted that it is a challenge for bus companies to hire drivers, however if the strike goes through, other carriers will be called upon to take the affected routes
 - Discussions took place regarding the process involved with potentially lobbying various organizations to ask for the inclusion of school bus transport as an essential service; it was emphasized that it could be included as an agenda item for the May PC meeting and from there the CRPCs could present it to Council and it could then go to QESBA, and could also be presented at the EPCA table; J. Ranger made a request to the PC Chair that this item be included in the May PC Agenda
 - 6.2. Budget Update
 - S. Ross invited S. Bhargava to speak to the report
 - S. Bhargava noted that the PC had received an initial allocation of \$5000 for the year. As of April 10, 2018 approximately \$2500 of expenses have been incurred. It is estimated that approximately \$1000 worth of expenses will be incurred by the end of the school year. This leaves a remaining balance of approximately \$1500, which should cover the cost of the end of year dinner in June. It was noted that the amount highlighted in green has been reimbursed by the school board, and the amount highlighted in yellow has not yet been reimbursed.
 - It was pointed out that the reimbursement for the cell phone charges (discussed at a previous PC meeting) is currently being processed. S. Bhargava emphasized that the PC will reimburse those Parent reps who have hired a babysitter in order to be able to attend a PC or a subcommittee meeting and invited members to send their invoice to him.

6.3. E-vote Ratification– Budget Consultation (2018-2019)

S. Ross thanked those members who sent in their e-votes

He emphasized that votes are cast by the collective PC, which are then subsequently ratified at the next PC meeting. Ratification ensures that the results of the vote are legally binding and that the original e-vote and ratification are recorded in the minutes. Ratification is confirmation that the vote took place and acknowledgement of its results, not a repeat vote.

Original vote results are as follows: 35 in favor, none opposed, 14 passive abstentions.

It was moved by S. Ross that the ratification of the e-vote-LBPSB Budget Consultation(2018-2019) be approved. The motion was seconded by N. Drysdale and was carried unanimously.

6.4. E-vote Ratification– Extra-Curricular Activities and Field Trips Policy

S. Ross thanked those members who participated in the response document and forwarded their e-votes.

S. Ross reported that the original e-vote results are as follows: 34 in favor, none opposed, 14 passive abstentions.

It was moved by S. Ross that the ratification of the e-vote– Extra-Curricular Activities and Field Trips Policy be approved. The motion was seconded by R. Schubert and was carried unanimously.

7. Questions from the Public

- A member of the PC inquired as to whether there is a possibility to add lock downs in schools; it was noted that the Facilities & Security Committee looks at the lockdown and fire drill practices and procedures and that they are typically held in all schools toward the beginning of the year; it was emphasized that these practices are important to undertake as they create awareness, however additional stress may be put on students and staff; it was emphasized that the policy mandated that at least one lockdown be scheduled in each school, however it is at the discretion of the school administrator to schedule additional lockdowns; it was mentioned that the board is in the process of changing locking systems in our schools, so that the doors may be locked from the inside, and reference was made to the LBPSB Emergency Preparedness policy which can be found under the Policy tab on the LBPSB website
- A member of the public mentioned that he had sent PC an email regarding topics of discussion for the PC meeting, including Role of the Commissioner and Parent Commissioner (regarding a Parent Commissioner in another school board posting a link to a political party's website), the School fees class action lawsuit whereby the FCPQ responded to the Ministry but EPCA did not
- The idea of providing a \$25/yr. per student enrolled in school during the period mentioned in the lawsuit was noted, and it was reported that school boards were against it; QESBA is currently working on this issue; any compensation amounts will have to come out of school board operation budgets
- It was noted that the government has not yet changed the rules on school fees and it is not yet known where these funds will come from as the schools cannot charge extra fees

8. New Business

8.1. QESBA Focus Group

S. Ross reported that earlier in the day, a QESBA Focus Group had been convened. He mentioned that he was part of the Focus Group as a parent delegate, as QESBA wanted to understand the PC perspective.

Preliminary discussions took place and covered the following topics:

- The need for greater budgeting transparency
- Increased communication between parents and the QESBA, as it was felt that information does not always trickle down to the parent level
- The need to make English resources more accessible (ie. Adequate textbook translations)
- Increased communications between EPCA, QFHSA and QESBA

S. Bhargava reported that he attended the QESBA focus group as a Commissioner delegate and highlighted the following:

- Very few organizations are working for the English population
- QESBA needs to formulate a consistent plan in order to be a more relevant and better represent the school boards
- Bill 101 continues to restrict access to English Education
- Engaging more commissioners from all English school boards is key
- Many organizations and school boards could be working on initiatives together

Comments from PC members included the following:

- Follow up on QESBA mandate and capability is essential
- QESBA is the voice for English school boards and EPCA is the voice of English parents

- QESBA has the ability to structure their organization in the manner that they wish but greater accountability to its stakeholders is crucial

It was emphasized that the QESBA Spring Conference will take place in May at which time recommendations stemming from the focus group results will be presented.

8.2. Extending the reach of the PC MSR

S. Ross reported that a discussion came up as to whether the PC advisory should forward its MSRs to PPOs and Home and Schools in the same way it does with GB chairs (though not via BaseCamp). Some PC members felt that this was a good idea and that it was an opportunity to inform these groups as to what the PC does. Discussions took place as to how the information from PC currently gets disseminated to parents at individual schools. It was reported that at some schools, the PC MSR or a summary of the MSR is already being forwarded from the PC rep or GB chair, but at some schools it is not, even though the mandate of the parent reps is to report to the parents at our schools. It was noted that if the PC sent the MSR directly, it would need to obtain the email addresses of PPO Chairs and Home and School Presidents. It was mentioned that a Basecamp area could be eventually created for PPOs and Home and Schools, however it could create another layer with trying to manage more email addresses.

It was moved by A. Gross that the PC MSR be disseminated via PC reps or GB Chairs and not directly to PPO Chairs and Home and School Presidents. S. Ross then called for a discussion on the motion.

It was suggested that perhaps that PC can make a formal request for PC reps or GB Chairs to forward the information.

It was moved by A. Gross that the PC make a formal request to the PC reps and GB Chairs that the PC MSR be disseminated to PPOs and Home and Schools; the motion was seconded by L. Podgurny, 11 were in favor, 12 were opposed, 6 abstentions were noted. The motion was defeated.

J. Ranger in turn moved that the MSR be directly disseminated to the PPOs and Home and Schools just as it is currently being sent to the GB Chairs; the motion was seconded by A. Berryman, and was debated. 12 were in favor, 13 were opposed, 4 abstentions were noted. The motion was defeated.

The PC reps and alts in attendance were reminded that disseminating the MSR to all parent committees of their schools falls within the scope of their responsibilities.

8.3. NEW CONSULTATION – LBPSB Three-year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2018-2021

S. Ross noted that the school board had recently launched the LBPSB Three-year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2018-2021 Consultation. He invited T. Rhymes to speak to this consultation. T. Rhymes explained that the Three-year Plan essentially deals with projections of potential build use. A member of the PC mentioned that it was discussed at their GB meeting that some buildings are far below capacity, an inquiry was made as to what the school board could do to attract more students. T. Rhymes responded that the challenge is that we are going into school board elections soon and any move the school board makes to rationalize the network has to go through a Major School Change which involves an 18-month process. It was mentioned that this question remains important, however this policy is concerned with projected use of facilities. It was noted that the LTP Committee as well as Administration are very aware of the situation. It was noted that the possibility of shared programs and services exists, for example the use of off-island schools for vocational and continuing education programs. Discussions ensued as to how capacity numbers are calculated PC members were encouraged to look at this consultation. S. Ross asked members if they wished to form an ad hoc subcommittee to respond to this consultation. It was pointed out that generally the PC does not respond to this consultation.

It was moved by O. Kouyoumdjian that the PC create an ad hoc subcommittee to respond to the LBPSB Three-year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2018-2021 Consultation. The motion was seconded by J. Ranger. The majority were in favour, none were opposed, 8 abstentions were noted. The motion was passed. L. Podgurny and O. Kouyoumdjian agreed to be part of this subcommittee. Details will be posted on Basecamp with a report to be presented at the May 3, 2018 PC meeting.

8.4. NEW CONSULTATION – LBPSB Commitment-to-Success Plan 2018-2022

S. Ross explained a little bit about this consultation and asked PC members if they wished to form an ad hoc subcommittee.

It was moved by D. Zerkler to form an ad hoc subcommittee to respond to the LBPSB Commitment-to-Success Plan 2018-2022 Consultation. The motion was seconded by J. Doan, and was carried unanimously. D. Zerkler, N. Drysdale, R. Craft, J. Ranger, S. Bhargava, A. Berryman, D. Odubayo and K. de Forest agreed to be part of this subcommittee. S. Ross asked those who signed up for this subcommittee to remain after the meeting for a few minutes.

8.5. End of the Year Dinner

S. Ross reported that the last meeting/end-of-year dinner will take place on Thursday June 7, 2018 at Mr. Spicy restaurant. He mentioned that it was discussed at the PC Advisory as it became difficult to manage a vote last year on a restaurant choice.

8.6. 2018-2019 AGA Kit Ad Hoc Subcommittee

S. Ross invited PC members to sign up for this ad hoc subcommittee. This subcommittee will work on the AGA kit for GB Chairs, who are responsible for running their individual schools' AGAs. The following PC members agreed to join this subcommittee: B. Brown, D. Zerkler, O. Kouyoumdjian, P. Ottoni, P. Kininmonth, J. Ranger, L. Podgurny, K. deForest, S. Connell, and S. Ross. S. Ross encouraged any other PC members who wish to join, to sign up on Basecamp.

9. Parent Reports

9.1. Standing Subcommittees

9.1.1. Elementary East Subcommittee

No report was available as no meetings have recently taken place.

9.1.2. Elementary West Subcommittee

No report was available as no meetings have recently taken place.

9.1.3. High School

No report was available as no meetings have recently taken place. The next meeting is on Thursday, April 19th.

The next joint Subcommittee meeting will take place on Thursday, May 17th.

At this point in the meeting, S. Ross asked PC members for permission to extend the meeting to 10:00pm. It was moved by N. Drysdale that the meeting of April 12th be extended to 10:00pm in order to cover the remaining agenda items. The motion was seconded by D. Zerkler. 14 were in favor, 12 were opposed, no abstentions were noted. The motion carried.

9.1.4. Communications

Please refer to the report in the kit

S. Ross invited A. Saunders to speak to the report. A. Saunders highlighted the following:

- New PC Communications email address
- PC Facebook page and website are continuously being updated, however PC members are invited to help the topics of both
- Homework and Grade 5 Enrichment Exam dates were posted of Facebook with great participation

9.2. Ad Hoc Subcommittees

9.2.1. Student Success Plan

Please refer to the report in the meeting kit.

S. Ross invited S. Bhargava to speak to the report. S. Bhargava noted that the third meeting was held on April 5th and that a few more meetings are needed, with the next one scheduled to be on April 18th.

9.2.2. Anti-bullying/Anti-Violence

S. Ross invited L. Podgurny to give a verbal report. L. Podgurny noted that a meeting was held on April 4th, the details of which can be found on Basecamp, with the next meeting to take place on April 26th. He invited PC members to sit in or join this subcommittee.

9.2.3. 20th Anniversary

S. Ross invited B. Brown to give a verbal report. B. Brown mentioned that so far only L. Podgurny has indicated his interest in joining this subcommittee. S. Ross mentioned that he would like to be involved in this subcommittee, as did N. Drysdale and A. Saunders.

9.2.4. School Board Elections

Please refer to the report in the meeting kit.

S. Ross invited S. Bhargava to speak to the report. S. Bhargava noted the following:

- There are rumors that the elections may get postponed
- Recently the Quebec Government allocated funds to School Boards specifically intended to cover the cost of running the School Board Elections, whereas during the last School Board Elections, the funds came out of the School Board operating budget

It was noted that in the event of a delay in the elections, parent commissioners would still have to be replaced in September 2018.

9.3. Commissioners Representing the Parents' Committee

9.3.1. Report

S. Ross invited the CRPCs to give a verbal report.

A. Berryman spoke about the powerful statements given by two brave students who spoke during the public question period of the March 26th Council of Commissioners meeting. The students spoke about bullying and mental health issues. A. Berryman emphasized that conversations need to take place regarding the issues highlighted by the two students. She noted that the lines of communication need to be kept open. F. Clarke reiterated that impassioned statements made by the two students at Council came from the heart. PC members were encouraged to watch this portion of the Council of Commissioners meeting.

9.3.2. CRP Q & A

No questions were posed

9.4. SNAC

Please refer to the report in the meeting kit.

S. Ross invited K. Robertson to speak to the report and she highlighted the following:

- Parent to parent information night for parents of students on IEPs was held on March 27th at 7:00pm at the LBPSB head office with very good attendance and participation.
- Discussions took place regarding transportation issues, stemming from an incident involving Riverdale, with SNAC making several recommendations to TAC

10. External Committees and Other Reports

10.1. Intercultural Advisory Committee

Please refer to the report in the meeting kit.

S. Ross invited S. Bhargava to speak to the report. S. Bhargava highlighted that on May 2nd Andrea Sturzak will be making a presentation to the committee as per the IAC mandate.

10.2. Long-Term Planning (submitted by CRPC J. Doan)

Please refer to the report in the meeting kit.

S. Ross invited J. Doan to speak to the report. J. Doan reported that several meetings of the Long-Term Planning committee have taken place. The focus has been to look at projections and the exit and retention data.

Data was presented and the board is trying to understand why it loses students after grade 6. However, it was reported that retention rates have recently been on the rise. It was noted that recommendations from the LTP committee can be brought to other committees such as Programs & Services, Facilities & Security, Transportation Advisory Committee, etc.

10.3. Administration

Please refer to the report in the meeting kit.

S. Ross invited T. Rhymes to speak to the report and he invited PC members to ask questions: A. Berryman noted that she had received the following question from a parent: "Do students/parents need to adjust the privacy settings of GAFE accounts?" T. Rhymes responded that he would make inquiries to that affect.

10.4. Council of Commissioners

No report was available.

11. Further Questions from the Public

- Comments were made regarding LBPSB's membership in QESBA. It was suggested that parents and GBs should be able to provide feedback regarding whether or not to continue being a member in QESBA.

12. Varia

S. Ross invited Reps/Alts to speak to any issues of interest to them.

D. Odubayo noted that the EPCA report was handed out at the meeting.

O. Kouyoumdjian encouraged PC Members to share the MSRs with their PPOs and Home & School Associations.

13. Adjournment

S. Ross called for adjournment of the meeting. It was moved by P. Kininmonth to adjourn the meeting at 9:52pm. The motion was seconded by W. Rooney and was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara Schnider

Recording Secretary for the Parents' Committee

| Attendance Report for April 12 | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Member School | Parent Rep Present | Alternate Rep Present |
| Allion | | |
| Beacon Hill | | |
| Beaconsfield | Ovidiu Burlec | |
| Beechwood | David Zerkler | |
| Beurling Academy | Jay Taube | |
| Birchwood | | |
| Children's World | | Susan Mintzberg |
| Christmas Park | | |
| Clearpoint | Allison Saunders | |
| Dorset | | |
| Dorval | Patricia Ottoni | |
| Edgewater | Kris de Forest | |
| Evergreen | | |
| Forest Hill Jr | | |
| Forest Hill Sr | | |
| John Rennie | Shane Ross | |
| Kingsdale | | |
| Lakeside Academy | Natasha Drysdale | |
| Lasalle Community Comprehensive | Roland Schubert | |
| LasalleJr | | |
| LasalleSr | | |
| Lindsay Place | Myret Smith | |
| MacDonald | | Kris de Forest |
| Maple Grove | | William Rooney |
| Margaret Manson | Renee Aspiotis | |
| Mount Pleasant | Sean Connell | |
| Pierre Elliott Trudeau | Angela Berryman | |
| Pierrefonds Comprehensive | Dayo Odubayo | |
| Riverdale | Maria Colavita | |
| Riverview | | |
| Sherbrooke Academy Jr. | | |
| Sherbrooke Academy Sr. | Robert Craft | |
| Soulange | | |
| Springdale | | |
| St. Anthony | Vanessa Ventura | Shane Ross |
| St. Charles | Jason Doan | |
| St. Edmund | Paul Kininmonth | |
| St. John Fisher Jr | | |
| St. John Fisher Sr | Jocelyn Dauk-DeVincentis | |
| St. Patrick | | |
| St. Thomas | Sharad Bhargava | Bobbi Brown |
| Sunshine Academy | | |
| Terry Fox | Sophie Paré | |
| Verdun | John Ranger | |
| Westpark | Alaina Gross | |
| Westwood Jr | | |
| Westwood Sr | Frank Clarke | |
| Wilder Penfield | Onnig Kouyoumdjian | Len Podgurny |
| SNAC | | Kathy Robinson |

Other distinguished attendees:

Thomas Rhymes (Administration)

Chris Eustace (public)

29/48 Member Schools + SNAC Represented