

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022  
7:00 P.M., ONLINE (ZOOM)**



**AGENDA**

Please login to assist us in starting on time.

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement
2. Word from the Chair
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Business Arising
  - 6.1. Covid-19 & General Update from Administration
  - 6.2. EPCA Check-In and Update
7. Questions from the Public
8. New Business
  - 8.1. **NEW CONSULTATION:** 2022-2023 Budget Consultation (March 31)
  - 8.2. Budget Explanation & Review
  - 8.3. Environmental Awareness Committee
9. Breakout Discussion (Topic sent out with meeting invitation)
10. Council & External Reports
  - 10.1. Council of Commissioners
  - 10.2. SNAC
  - 10.3. Bill 96 Subcommittee
11. Varia
12. Adjournment

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022**  
**7:00 P.M., ONLINE (Zoom)**

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement  
S. Ross called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Quorum was established with 34 members out of 47 LBPSB schools and SNAC being represented. S. Ross then asked J. Zafran to recite the Land Acknowledgement Statement. Moving forward, S. Ross indicated that at each meeting a different member of the PC would be called upon to recite the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
2. Word from the Chair  
S. Ross welcomed everyone back. He thanked all for their participation in the PC.
3. Approval of the Agenda  
S. Ross asked if there were any additions to the agenda. S. Bhargava requested that three items be added. Black History Month Workshop taking place on February 10, Environmental Awareness Subcommittee, and Bill 96. S. Ross proposed that under agenda item 8. New Business, item 8.3 Environmental Awareness Subcommittee be added, under agenda item 10. Council & External Reports that item 10.3 Bill 96 Subcommittee be added, and that the Black History Month Workshop be discussed under agenda item 11. Varia. With these proposed additions, S. Ross then called for a motion to approve the amended agenda. It was moved by O. Kouyoumdjian that the amended agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by L. Mancini and was carried unanimously.
4. Approval of the Minutes  
S. Ross asked if there were any proposed changes to the minutes. There were none. He then called for approval of the minutes of December 2, 2021. It was moved by L. Mancini that the minutes of December 2, 2021 be approved. The motion was seconded by O. Burlec. None were opposed, one abstention was noted. The motion was carried.
5. Correspondence  
S. Ross noted that the following correspondence items had been added to the meeting kit:
  - Correspondence from C. Eustace
  - Updated Document (28-01-2022) from the Ministry of Education entitled: "Directives for Educational Institutions in the context of the Covid-19 Pandemic" (provided by EPCA Rep)
6. Business Arising
  - 6.1. Covid-19 & General Update from Administration  
S. Ross invited T. Rhymes to speak to this item on the agenda. (Report is in the kit)  
The following was highlighted:
    - Acknowledgement of Black History Month with many different activities taking place at our schools including the raising of the Pan-African flag at PCHS (see landing page of LBPSB website under "LBPSB in the News")
    - New era in Covid-19 case management with positive cases no longer being identified by a PCR test but with a rapid test
    - The School Board has made absences available for parents on the portal
    - Over the course of the past three weeks since the resumption of in person learning, absences have averaged between approximately 3-4 % (around 800 students absent at the time of this meeting)
    - The majority of these cases (approx.77%) come from the Elementary level with cases at the Secondary level remaining fairly stable
    - A disruption at the Secondary level is not anticipated, however the same cannot be said at the Elementary level
    - At this time, one school has a significant outbreak with six classes being closed
    - The next few weeks remain critical and the situation will be closely monitored
    - Professionals are ready in the event that they are needed
    - The School Board is prepared to take measures where necessary
    - It was noted that D. Chisholm, Regional Director of Schools has moved on from his role at LBPSB to a role at CPNCA (Management Negotiating Committee for English Language School Boards). D. Dixon will replace him as one of the LBPSB Regional Directors.
    - Concerns expressed that not all families are following the same testing protocols
    - Reporting of new cases is now based on the honor system since there is very limited access to PCR tests
    - A student who has tested positive with a rapid test and who has isolated for five days with a negative test result on day five may return to school on day six

- Rapid tests will soon be distributed to High School students although there is no mandate for high school students to take a rapid test
  - Students 12 and under are required to use a rapid test when displaying symptoms of Covid-19
- 6.2. EPCA Check-In and Update
- S. Ross invited D. Bentley to provide a brief update from EPCA. He noted that a report had been included in the meeting kit.
- The following items were highlighted:
- EPCA presented a brief in English (with no simultaneous translation) to the National Assembly on Bill 9: An Act respecting the National Student Ombudsman
  - Free Parent Workshop on Feb. 8 in collaboration with the FCPQ on "Tools to Support Your Child". This workshop is intended for parents with students nearing the end of high school, in order to help them with study and career choice (more info on BASECAMP)
  - Upcoming EPCA Newsletter dealing with post-pandemic issues including an article from LBPSB with T. Rhymes

## 7. Questions from the Public

- Member of the public inquired about the list of PC Reps/Alts not being listed on the PC website. The Chair responded that the PC website was down as of the time of this meeting but the hope is to get it updated and back up soon.
- Member of the public sent a letter to the Chair with all members having access to it
- Comment was made that GBs should be involved in any decision that comes out of the Bill 40 result and not just accept what the QESBA says. The Chair responded that the PC will review the result and take whatever action is necessary.

## 8. New Business

### 8.1. **NEW CONSULTATION:** 2022-2023 Budget Consultation (March 31)

S. Ross pointed out that the 2022-2023 Budget Consultation has been launched. He proposed that the PC strike a subcommittee in order to provide a recommendation before March 31, 2022. S. Ross then called for a motion. It was moved by K. Deforest to strike a subcommittee. The motion was seconded by A. Charzan. None were opposed, and no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried. S. Ross noted that more information would be posted on BASECAMP. O. Kouyoumdjian noted that part of the consultation involved filling in the last page of the response.

### 8.2. Budget Explanation & Review

S. Ross proceeded to discuss this item on the agenda.

The following was highlighted:

- S. Ross emphasized that the budget had not been sent out in advance but is in the meeting kit
- He noted that this is the same proposed budget as last year and no funds have been spent
- He pointed out that the PC was supposed to send out the document three days prior to this meeting, as such the PC must decide how it wishes to proceed
- At the moment the majority of this budget cannot go forward
- Approving the budget does not mean that it will all be spent
- One of the reasons why the PC wanted the budget approved is so that the PC can allocate funds (ie. BASECAMP fees, babysitting expenses, etc...)
- So far this year the operations of the PC has not required any funds
- The budget should have been approved in December but was not
- Typically, \$5000 per year is allocated to the PC
- Any unused funds go back to the School Board
- In the past two years the PC has used the funds to host guest speakers as well as to provide food vouchers for refreshments at meetings

S. Ross invited any member of the PC to suggest a guest speaker to the Advisory (in December S. Bhargava suggested that the PC plan a blanket exercise)

S. Bhargava recommended that the PC adopt the budget. S. Ross called for a motion to adopt the budget. It was moved by S. Bhargava to adopt the budget. None were opposed, three abstentions were noted. The motion was carried.

### 8.3. Environmental Awareness Committee

S. Ross invited S. Bhargava to speak to this item on the agenda.

S. Bhargava highlighted the following:

- The Environmental Awareness Committee is not a regular subcommittee but it is a subcommittee that has been struck in recent years to increase communication and knowledge as to what environmental activities are taking place in different schools
- The Government is putting a lot of funds into environmental issues (including electric school busses)

- In some cases, schools can apply for grants
- Last year three environmental resolutions were passed and many schools completed a survey on recycling habits in their schools
- The mandate of the subcommittee is to promote environmental issues within the school board as well as with parents

It was moved by S. Bhargava to strike an Environmental Awareness Subcommittee in order to promote environmental issues within the school board. S. Ross asked if anyone had any questions. S. Bhargava noted that he gave a presentation to Council in December. D. Bentley pointed out that he has been on this subcommittee for a couple of years and encourages parents to join. The motion was seconded by D. Bentley. None were opposed, no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried unanimously.

9. Breakout Discussion (Topic sent out with meeting invitation)

S. Ross introduced the Breakout Topic for discussion. He emphasized that we have all had to deal with Covid for the past two years and that the PC realizes that everyone's mental health has been effected. He indicated that after the breakout session, the PC hopes to put out a newsletter for parents. He reminded Rep/Alts that the following introduction for this topic was sent out prior to the meeting "As mental health and support is critical for all of us, we ask you to share the following: Something your school has done to promote positive thoughts and optimism during the pandemic and something you have done with your kids to counter act the difficult and disruptive (or challenging or complex) feelings that this pandemic has brought on.

S. Ross communicated that Reps/Alts would be divided into three breakout groups in order to discuss this topic for 30 minutes. After the breakout sessions, everyone rejoined the main meeting where S. Ross invited a spokesperson from each group to provide a brief summary of their groups' discussions.

The following are highlights of those discussions:

**Breakout Group 1: Spokesperson- S. Campeau**

- Happy to see that elementary schools have pizza days, Valentine's Day activities, act of kindness activities, knitting,
- At home/virtual play dates
- Outdoor skating,
- Family nights (movie nights, board games)

**Breakout Group 2: Spokesperson- L. Lobaton**

- Therapy Dog
- Support from behavior techs
- Pizza, TCBY, Beaver Tails
- Talent show
- Extracurricular activities outside of school

**Breakout Group 3: Spokesperson- L. Mancini**

- Therapy Dog
- Music
- Extracurricular activities
- Sports, many outdoor activities

It was reiterated that the PC realizes that Breakout Rooms are essential in order for Reps/Alts to discuss important issues. It was noted that last year's Mental Health hand out could potentially be updated and shared with parents.

10. Council & External Reports

10.1. Council of Commissioners

S. Ross invited LBPSB Chairperson J. Kelley to speak to this item on the agenda. The following was highlighted:

- LBPSB is the Center of Excellence for Mental Health (information and resources can be found on the CEMH page on the LBPSB website)
- PCHS students were involved in organizing a flag raising event in order to recognize Black History Month and to celebrate the accomplishments of Black Canadians
- LBPSB Admin and staff continue to follow current Covid-19 measures in order to ensure the safety of all students

10.2. SNAC

S. Ross invited L. Mancini to speak to this item on the agenda. The following was highlighted:

- L. Mancini thanked S. Campeau for her help interviewing LBPSB Chairperson J. Kelley
- Presentation by SSD Director S. Stever took place providing a portrait of students with Special Needs within the board
- Autism Awareness Day- April 2- shifting toward a model of acceptance as opposed to just awareness (puzzle piece symbol no longer accepted by autistic community, replaced by infinity rainbow symbol to represent the diversity of the autism spectrum, community moving away from participating in the "Light it Up Blue Campaign")

10.3. Bill 96 Subcommittee

S. Ross noted that a discussion would be taking place on BASECAMP with regards to a Bill 96 Subcommittee.

11. Varia

S. Ross invited Reps/Alts to present any Varia that they may have.

The following was highlighted:

- February is Black History Month/importance of educating ourselves (see information sent out by S. Bhargava)
- Happy Lunar New Year
- Reference to incident at Centennial High School with suggestion that perhaps the PC could come out with a statement denouncing it

12. Adjournment

It moved by S. Ross to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by  
Barbara Schnider  
Recording Secretary

Attendance Report		
Member School	Parent Rep Present	Alternate Rep Present
Allion	Annette Banton	
Beacon Hill	Ian Chuprun	
Beaconsfield	Ovidiu Burlec	
Beechwood		Diandra Yoselevitz
Beurling Academy	Julius Taube	
Birchwood	Derek Kenny	
Children's World		
*Christmas Park	Lisa Mancini	
Clearpoint		
Dorset		
Dorval		
Edgewater	Jeremy Zafran	
*Evergreen		
Forest Hill Jr	Richard Allen	
Forest Hill Sr	Tanja Minisini	
Horizon		
John Rennie	Shane Ross	
Kingsdale		
Lakeside Academy	Sarah Campeau	
Lasalle Community Comprehensive	Janet Ho	
Lasalle Jr	Nicole Clayton	
Lasalle Sr	Franca Henry	
Macdonald	Kris de Forest	Michael Dugdale
Maple Grove		Sarah Fortin
Margaret Manson		Mark Michel
*Mount Pleasant		
Pierre Elliott Trudeau		
Pierrefonds Community	Greg Piggins	Brenda Trellemen
Riverview	Linda Dalterio	
Sherbrooke Academy Jr.	David Barbiero	
Sherbrooke Academy Sr.		Miki Zarwanitzer
*Soulange		
Springdale		
St. Anthony	Shane Ross	
St. Charles		Ross McLean
St. Edmund		
St. John Fisher Jr		Angela Kovalak
St. John Fisher Sr	Christine Archambault	Nadia Lawland
St. Patrick	Doug Bentley	Michael Barron
St. Thomas	Sharad Barghava	
Sunshine Academy	Leah Lobaton	
Terry Fox	Karyne Dion	Lillian Jasinski
Verdun		
Westpark	Alaina Charzan	
Westwood Jr		Tanja Minisini
*Westwood Sr	Tanja Minisini	
Wilder Penfield	Onnig Kouyoumdjian	
SNAC	Lisa Mancini	John Ranger
CRPC Designated by SNAC		N/A

**Other distinguished attendees:**

Thomas Rhymes (Administration)

Judy Kelley (Council of Commissioners)

Chris Eustace (public)

**34/47 Member Schools + SNAC Represented**