

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2023  
7P.M., ONLINE**



**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 (Dec 8<sup>th</sup>)
5. Correspondence
6. Business Arising
  - 6.1. Communication Reminders
  - 6.2. Administration Update - Ms. Véronique Marin, ADG -TABLED
  - 6.3. Region Subcommittee elections
7. Questions from the Public
8. Council & External Reports
  - 8.1. Council of Commissioners – Judith Kelley, Chair of the Council of Commissioners
  - 8.2. SNAC – Sara
  - 8.3. TAC
  - 8.4. Programs and service
  - 8.5. EPCA
9. Presentation -Ms. Alison Saunders
  - 9.1. Breakout Room
  - 9.2. Recap
10. Adjournment

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2023**  
**7P.M., ONLINE**

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement  
C. Downer called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Quorum was established with ??? members out of 48 LBPSB schools and SNAC being represented. C. Downer then invited D. Bentley to recite the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
2. Word from the Chair  
C. Downer wished everyone a Happy New Year. She expressed the hope that everyone had a joyous holiday season. She emphasized that hopefully 2023 would be a good year for all. C. Downer indicated that at this meeting the PC would go over the Region Subcommittees. She noted that she would like new Reps/Alts to understand how they can become more involved. New ideas are encouraged in order to keep everyone engaged. C. Downer made reference to an upcoming presentation by Allison Saunders on the topic of EDDI (Equity, Diversity, Dignity, and Inclusion).
3. Approval of the Agenda  
C. Downer asked if anyone had any proposed changes or additions to the agenda. There being none, C. Downer then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. It was moved by L. Mancini to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by D. Bentley. None were opposed and no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried unanimously.
4. Approval of the Minutes (Dec 8th)  
C. Downer indicated that the minutes had been posted and sent out to everyone. She invited members to review the minutes and asked if there were any corrections or amendments to be made. It was noted that on page 4 of the minutes under agenda item 10.2, the word "speck" should be changed to "speak". With that change, C. Downer then called for approval of the minutes. It was moved by A. Feldstein to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by O. Burlec. None were opposed, and no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried unanimously.
5. Correspondence  
C. Downer reported that she received correspondence from T. Rhymes expressing thanks to the PC for the recognition bestowed upon him at the December meeting.
6. Business Arising
  - 6.1. Communication Reminders  
C. Downer invited D. Bentley to speak to this item on the agenda. D. Bentley pointed out that the Internal Rules will be posted on BASECAMP shortly. It was noted that the Internal Rules were overhauled last year. They will be adopted at the next meeting. He asked everyone to read them. D. Bentley invited Rep/Alts to join the PC Facebook page, and to become engaged in discussions. He encouraged everyone to share information. He emphasized that the PC speaks for all parents in the LBPSB community.
  - 6.2. Administration Update - Ms. Véronique Marin, ADG –TABLED  
C. Downer indicated that a report would be presented next month.
  - 6.3. Region Subcommittee elections  
C. Downer invited A. Banton and D. Bentley to speak to this item on the agenda. The following was highlighted:
    - The PC represents 3 Regions within the School Board, geographically divided
    - Each region has a Regional Director
    - Reps will be assigned to Breakout rooms with their respective Regional Directors (who oversee the principals in their region)
    - These meetings are extremely informative
    - There will be an attempt to meet in February with approximately 2-3 meetings scheduled this year
    - During the meeting this evening, Breakout Rooms for each region will be set up and elections will be held to appoint a Chair, Vice Chair, and Communications Rep for each region
    - These meetings are very informal
    - The job of the Regional Representative is to represent their school
    - It is a great opportunity to meet people in your region
    - In this role it is important to be able to engage in discussions and to encourage new members and all PC members to participateC. Downer announced that the PC will go through the agenda, then go into Breakout Rooms, have the presentation and complete the agenda.

7. Questions from the Public

C. Downer invited members of the public to pose their questions. The following are highlights of questions /comments from the public:

- Upcoming event to take place in Spring 2023- Parlons Education- with 19 forums to take place in 18 cities across Quebec
- Focus of forums will be financing educational services and structures
- Events will be held in French
- It was suggested that the English Community might feel more comfortable holding a forum in English. Perhaps an English group could be started.
- Q. Will the PC get involved in this?
- A. The EPCA Executive had a meeting where this was discussed. Whatever EPCA decides to do, the information will be brought to the PC.

8. Council & External Reports

8.1. Council of Commissioners – Judith Kelley, Chair of the Council of Commissioners.

C. Downer invited J. Kelley to speak to this item on the agenda. The following was highlighted:

- Upcoming Open Houses are planned
- The registration period will begin this month
- Reps/Alts were encouraged to tell their friends and neighbors to consider the LBPSB
- The Communications Department has launched a campaign to advertise Open Houses
- Short radio ads will be aired on English language stations
- The Assistant Director of Educational Services was interviewed by Global News the same day as this meeting
- Regarding online Council meetings, there was an attempt to hold the last Council meeting in the Boardroom but there were technical glitches due to the recent renovations. (The meeting was filmed but not hybrid).
- In the future the School Board would like to provide a hybrid model in order to accommodate everyone
- The School Board has been receiving a lot of email/phishing scams recently. Other School Boards have been receiving them as well.
- There was even spam email that seemingly came from the PC
- Reps/Alts were encouraged to proceed with caution when opening emails
- In December the School Board launched its annual Budget Consultation with responses being due at the end of March. The GBs and the PC should have received it.

S. Ross mentioned that he would like to say a few words regarding email scams. He emphasized that it is important to take a very close look at the entire email sender's address as there are usually very obvious mistakes when it is a scam.

8.2. SNAC – Sara

C. Downer invited S. Hassaini to speak to this item on the agenda. S. Hassaini mentioned that SNAC had not held a meeting recently, therefore there was no report. L. Mancini, Chair of SNAC asked C. Downer to please share the link that was sent to the PC. L. Mancini noted that not every school has posted the new SNAC link. A member of the PC inquired about a survey sent out before the holidays. L. Mancini explained that the survey was not generated from SNAC but from EPCA. D. Bentley indicated that he would speak to this item under the EPCA report.

8.3. TAC

C. Downer invited T. Curtis to speak to this item on the agenda. T. Curtis mentioned that there was nothing new to report. The last meeting was held on December 7<sup>th</sup>. She reported that the next meeting would be held the week following the PC meeting.

8.4. Programs and service

No report was available.

8.5. EPCA

C. Downer invited D. Bentley to speak to this item on the agenda.

- An EPCA survey was shared on BASECAMP with regards to the government projet du loi 294 regarding special needs funding
- The government is trying to figure out the funds that should be allocated to students with special needs
- EPCA is currently in the process of preparing a brief to the Minster of Education
- EPCA is prepared to fight for funding
- D. Bentley indicated that the survey will be re-posted
- Reps/Alts can share the survey with principals and parents
- EPCA will speak for the English community

- The deadline to complete the survey is January 21, 2023
- The more responses received, the better the community will be represented
- It was noted that the survey can be filled out by parents who have children who may be struggling not necessarily only by parents of students with a code
- The EPCA newsletter should be ready at the end of January. The topics included are: anti-bullying, student ombudsman survey, tips and tricks regarding exam stress.

It was emphasized that there are one set of codes associated with a formal evaluation and another set of codes not associated with a formal evaluation but where the child had an IEP.

It was clarified that Kathleen O'Reilly was in attendance representing Véronique Marin and not Region 1.

*At 7:49 C. Downer announced the opening of the Breakout Rooms.*

9. Presentation -Ms. Alison Saunders (See Presentation details after Recap)

9.1. Breakout Room

Reps/Alts were divided up into three Breakout Rooms based on the region in which their school belongs.

9.2. Recap

*At 8:11 pm, C. Downer announced the closing of the Breakout Rooms.*

A. Banton remarked that there had been great participation in all Breakout Rooms.

With the Region Subcommittee elections having taken place, the results are as follows:

Region 1

Chair-D. Bentley

Vice-Chair/Communications- K. de Forest

Region 2

Chair- T. Chahinian

Vice-Chair- L. Kao

Communications- L. Mancini

Region 3

Co-Chairs- N. Lawand and Z. Ibrahim

It was requested that the list of schools be posted by region on BASECAMP.

Presentation

C. Downer invited A. Saunders to speak to this item on the agenda. A. Saunders thanked C. Downer and D. Bentley for the invitation and briefly introduced herself. A. Saunders noted that she is the Chair of the Intercultural Advisory Committee as well as the Communications and Marketing Committee this year. She emphasized that she is a big proponent of parent voices. A. Saunders mentioned that she is the Commissioner for Ward 4 (Pointe Claire North). She indicated that she has met a lot of PC Reps/Alts. She commented that she began her involvement when her son was in kindergarten. She mentioned that she helped to structure communications and had been on the PC Advisory and was the Communications Rep.

The following was highlighted:

- Using Black Lives Matter as a catalyst as part of a bigger conversation as well as the murder of George Floyd, and incidents that took place within the LBPSB Community including a black face video that was circulated, a year book incident and use of the "N word", the School Board identified that it was necessary to address this on a deeper level
- The Task Force was then struck in June 2020
- The mandate was to start the conversation and see what the School Board could do to improve things
- The School Board came out with a commitment to EDDI (Equity, Diversity, Dignity, and Inclusion)
- The Council of Commissioners was tasked with implementing recommendations from the Task Force
- A. Saunders and M. Shaheed were added to Council as co-opted Commissioners
- A School Board election was called at a later date and both were elected to Council
- A. Saunders noted that there is a lot of diversity within the LBPSB community
- She attended a workshop where it was stated that "Children have the right to be educated in a school that is free of bias"
- The mandate of the Intercultural Advisory Committee (IAC) was shared with PC Reps/Alts and can be found on the LBPSB website
- A. Saunders remarked that there are some ideas as to how to meld the IAC with initiatives of the PC

The IAC meeting was held the same week as this PC meeting. Highlights from the IAC meeting are as follows:

- Meaningful Territorial Acknowledgement
- A Chair to this Committee was named

- Members of the Committee were given a recap of Truth and Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day activities that took place at the LBPSB on September 30 and beyond
- IAC Grant Applications are now available in a new digital form
- It was mentioned that there are two new government measures to help bring about awareness: Student Awareness of Indigenous Realities (Measure 15061-Volet 1) and Awareness of Indigenous Realities among School Staff (Measure 15061-Volet 2)
- It was emphasized that the School Board has committed to ensuring that EDDI is included on every agenda to ensure that if a discussion needs to take place, it can
- The PC was encouraged to also include EDDI on every agenda
- In order to continue the conversation, it was suggested that the following be kept top of mind: respect your role, know your power, use the process, ask questions, be curious, be kind, talk to your children and their friends as children need to be part of fixing things

C. Downer then thanked A. Saunders for the presentation. Reps/Alts were then invited to ask questions and they were asked to think about how they could go back to their schools and engage the community.

It was mentioned that sometimes a presenter can go into a school to speak to the teachers prior to making a presentation to the entire school. It was suggested that all schools should have an EDDI Committee. C. Downer noted that this will not be the PCs only discussion on this topic.

The following are highlights of questions /comments from Reps/Alts:

Q. Were the PC meeting dates finalized?

A. We will have an answer by next month's meeting.

Q. Will MSRs as well as meeting kits be posted?

A. The PC website is a work in progress. The complete list of the names of Reps/Alts were received in December. MSRs and kits will be posted. They have not been uploaded yet. Moving forward we would like to send out the meeting kits.

- A remark was made that if Google Drive could be used again this year it would be helpful
- It was suggested that perhaps the calendar on the PC webpage could be used to post meeting dates as it is accessible to the public. C. Downer indicated that all the suggestions will be discussed with the Advisory.

#### 10. Adjournment

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation. It was moved by C. Downer to adjourn the meeting at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Barbara Schnider  
Recording Secretary

<b>Attendance Report</b>		
<b>Member School</b>	<b>Parent Rep Present</b>	<b>Alternate Rep Present</b>
Allion		
Beacon Hill		
Beaconsfield		
Beechwood		
Burling Academy		
Birchwood		
Children's World		
Christmas Park		
Clearpoint		
Dorset		
Dorval		
Edgewater		
Evergreen		
Forest Hill Jr		
Forest Hill Sr		
John Rennie		
Kingsdale		
Lakeside Academy		
Lasalle Community Comprehensive		
Lasalle Jr		
Lasalle Sr		
Macdonald		
Maple Grove		
Margaret Manson		
Mount Pleasant		
Pierre Elliott Trudeau		
Pierrefonds Comprehensive		
Riverdale		
Riverview		
Sherbrooke Academy Jr.		
Sherbrooke Academy Sr.		
Soulange		
Springdale		
St. Anthony		
St. Charles		
St. Edmund		
St. John Fisher Jr		
St. John Fisher Sr		
St. Patrick		
St. Thomas		
Sunshine Academy		
Terry Fox		
Verdun		
Westpark		
Westwood Jr		
Westwood Sr		
Wilder Penfield		
SNAC		