**Parents’ Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, May 11th, 2023**

**6:30p.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 (Feb -March)
5. Correspondence
6. Business Arising
   1. Communication Reminders
   2. Administration Update - Véronique Marin, ADG
   3. Last Meeting in June/Dinner - June 8th @ 6pm - Hybrid
   4. Consultation: Three-year plan 2023-2026 Due June 12th
7. Questions from the Public
8. Council & External Reports
   1. Council of Commissioners - Judith Kelley, Chair of the Council of Commissioners
   2. SNAC- Sara
   3. TAC
   4. Programs and service
   5. EPCA
   6. PEF
   7. Safe & Caring
9. Regional Subcommittee
   1. Feedback
10. Adjournment

**Parents’ Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, May 11th, 2023**

**6:30p.m., ONLINE**

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement

C. Downer called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Quorum was established with **? ? ?** members out of 48 LBPSB schools and SNAC being represented. All were welcomed. Reps/Alts were reminded to re-name themselves and include the name of their schools when they signed in. C. Downer then invited D. Bentley to recite the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

1. Word from the Chair

C. Downer thanked everyone for joining the meeting. It was stated that the Regional Subcommittee meetings would take place between 8:00 and 9:00 pm. The agenda for each Regional Subcommittee meeting had been posted on BASECAMP.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was posted. C. Downer called for any changes or additions to the agenda. There were none. The Chair then called for a motion to approve the agenda. It was moved by S. Hossaini. The motion was seconded by K. de Forest. None were opposed and no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried unanimously. The agenda was approved.

1. Approval of the Minutes (Feb-March)

The minutes of February 9, 2023 were posted. C. Downer called for any changes to the minutes. A Rep inquired as to which version of the Internal Rules were adopted. It was suggested that the year be added onto the motion, under Internal Rules Adoption in the minutes. B. Tremellen requested that her name be corrected on the attendance sheet (instead of Trellemen it should be Tremellen). In addition, under Westpark the name listed should be T. Uman. Noting the proposed corrections to the minutes of February 9, 2023, C. Downer then called for a motion to approve the minutes. It was moved by A. Grewal. The motion was seconded by L. Kao. None were opposed and no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried unanimously. The February minutes were approved.

The minutes of March 16, 2023 were posted. C. Downer called for any changes to the minutes. C. Boyarchuk noted that she was the Rep from JRHS. In addition, B. Tremellen as well as T. Uman requested that corrections to their names be made. M. Sebag noted that on several occasions he has been “kicked out of” the Zoom meeting. Noting the proposed corrections to the minutes of March 16, 2023, C. Downer then called for a motion to approve the minutes. It was moved by D. Bentley. The motion was seconded by T. Curtis. None were opposed and no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried unanimously. The March minutes were approved.

1. Correspondence

C. Downer reported that she received a few pieces of correspondence. The following was highlighted:

* Allo Prof had a Facebook live event that took place the night before this meeting
* Emails were received regarding various EPCA activities
* Various questions were answered regarding the last meeting of the year

1. Business Arising
   1. Communication Reminders

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

* EPCA will be reaching out to the PC regarding Bill 23 and is enlisting the help of all PC’s in order to work on a brief
* EPCA asked for their brief to be heard during Parliamentary Committee
* The week after this meeting EPCA will launch a campaign to request help with the brief
* It was mentioned that BASECAMP is a great platform to interact and discuss the brief
  1. Administration Update- Véronique Marin, ADG

In V. Marin’s absence, C. Downer invited D. Dixon to speak to the Administration Update. The report was screen shared. The following was highlighted:

* Three-year Plan 2023-2026 Consultation is out. Responses are due by June 12th.
* A retirement banquet was held honoring retirees from 2019 - 2023
* Daycare week will be held the week of May 15 -19 with the theme being “World of Discoveries”
* LBPSB Family Fun Run/Walk took place on May 7 with many participating. Over ten thousand dollars was raised this year.
* Jr. Cross Country Run took place on May 9 and 10. This event was renamed to the “Peter Gilson Jr. Cross Country Run” in order to honour a long time LBPSB Phys. Ed. Consultant
* Schools in the Youth Sector are going through their staffing timeline
* In April, schools declared excess staffing
* Available positions in the Youth Sector have been posted
* A new addition of the Pearson News was made available on May 11
* SSD Professionals have been working with partners regarding incoming Kindergarten students with exceptionalities

An inquiry was made to verify if it is possible for a school to have excess and vacant posts. It was clarified that yes it is possible. For example, if a school posted an excess for a resource position, perhaps they had a 100% resource position but now only a 50% position is needed. The School Board has to follow Collective agreements. In order to fill the excess, it would have to be a tenured position that the person is being moved into. Tenured teachers get first priority.

* 1. Last Meeting in June/Dinner - June 8th @ 6pm - Hybrid

C. Downer mentioned that the last meeting of the year is coming up. The following details were shared:

* The meeting/dinner will take place at the LBPSB on Thursday, June 8, 2023 @6pm
* Appetizers will be served first, followed by the meeting and dinner
* As it is the first in-person meeting since Covid began, Reps/Alts are all encouraged to attend
* Invitations will be sent out the day after this meeting (May 12) through Communications - GAFE
* RSVPs are required in order to properly plan for the evening
* Those who are unable to participate in person can join the meeting virtually (details to follow)
  1. Consultation: Three-year plan 2023-2026 Due June 12th

C. Downer explained that the Three-Year Plan of Allocation and destination of Immovables 2023-2026- Consultation was posted in BASECAMP. The deadline to respond is June 12, 2023. It was noted that because it is a plan which involves buildings, the PC wanted to give Reps/Alts the opportunity to ask questions. At this time, there were no questions.

1. 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:

* It was suggested several meetings ago that perhaps agenda item “Questions from the Public” could be switched to appear after External Reports, in order to allow members of the public to ask questions about the reports
* A member of the public mentioned that their name does not appear in the minutes
* Q: With regards to service and catering does the School Board negotiate a contract? On the website it says that it will be a rotating menu but in reality the menu does not rotate.

A: The menu should work on a rotating basis. If this is not the case, the school principal can be contacted.

* Q: With respect to banning schools from allowing students to pray at lunch time, what is the School Boards’ position on this?

A: The Ministry directive that was received states that no School Board or Service Centre can have a designated prayer room. In terms of our School Board we have to follow directives, but we do have a space for reflection.

1. Council & External Reports
   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:

* It was noted that some items had already been covered in the Admin. report
* The PC was thanked for submitting a response to the Budget Consultation
* As of the time of this meeting, the School Board had not received the Budget Rules from the Ministry but expects to hear some time in June. At that time Council will vote on them.
* The School Board is in a period of belt tightening
* Regarding Bill 23- the 30 page document highlights proposed changes to the governance of School Boards. It is suggested that it be read in conjunction with Bill 40.
* School Boards currently collaborate very well with DGs. Under Bill 23, instead of reporting to the School Boards, the DGs will have to report to the Ministry and not to the school community. The Ministry (under Bill 23) will have the power to hire and fire DGs.
* A main concern is that Bill 23 proposes to remove the school community’s ability to give input
* Thanks were expressed to members of the PC for all of their efforts at the Parents’ Committee as well as at their schools
  1. SNAC - Sara

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

* A SNAC meeting took place on April 26 where members were given a presentation on the Transitions Program involving youth from age 15-25 with physical disabilities. The program aims to help with transitions into adult life.
* A brief presentation regarding the Complaints Procedure and the process, was given by G. Dugré
* Composition of SNAC was discussed
* The next SNAC meeting will take place in person on May 31
  1. TAC

C. Downer invited T. Curtis to speak to this item on the agenda. She noted that a meeting had not taken place recently therefore there was no report. The April meeting was postponed until May 17.

* 1. Programs and service

C. Downer invited J. Barbieri to speak to this item on the agenda. It was noted that no report was available.

* 1. EPCA

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

* It was reported that EPCA has been very busy recently
* EPCA (along with various partners) has organized a series of workshops for parents including the following:
  + Grade 6 Transition to High School
  + A Parents Role in Their Childs Friendship
  + Social Media and Internet Safety - May 10
  + Risky Business-Protecting Your Kids - May 17
  + Body Image and Self Esteem - May 24
  + Consent and Boundaries
* Reps/Alts were encouraged to sign up to receive the EPCA newsletter
* At this point the focus is on helping to finish the school year
* EPCA is launching a consultation on Bill 23 and will be requesting feedback
* On March 22, the President of EPCA went to Quebec City to meet with the Minister of Education and his advisor. The following was discussed:
  + Students with special needs
  + Students’ struggles with mental and emotional well-being post pandemic
  + Helping students to catch up on core learning lost during the pandemic

EPCA has a great opportunity to use their voice to represent the English Education sector.

A remark was made that notices about EPCA workshops are often received quite late. It was noted that the posts are difficult to share. It was recommended that Reps/Alts follow both EPCA and PC on Facebook.

A new Rep asked what the line of communication should be. It was explained that Rep/Alts can share info in their parent circles, with their GB, as well as on BASECAMP.

* 1. PEF

No report was available.

* 1. Safe & Caring

C. Downer invited S. Campeau to speak to this item on the agenda. S. Campeau highlighted the following:

* S. Campeau reported that she attended the Safe & Caring schools Subcommittee meeting the evening before the PC meeting
* The Subcommittee reviewed the Safe & Caring Policy as it is in the midst of writing recommendations
* The policy takes the ABAV Plan into consideration
* Different departments are included in the review of the policy
* Next year those who are interested will be encouraged to join the subcommittee

C. Downer remarked that she was willing to give additional time to the public to pose additional questions.

They were as follows:

* A member of the public stated that they had prepared a report that will be submitted to the PC and National Assembly
* A concern was expressed from a member of the public that the government is listening to feedback from EPCA and QESBA

1. Regional Subcommittee

C. Downer advised that Reps/Alts would be divided up into Breakout Rooms based on their schools’ respective region in order to get an update from their Regional Directors and share info. Due to unforeseen circumstances, C. Galley was not available to provide an update from Region 2 and so Reps/Alts from Region 2 were invited to the Region 1 Subcommittee meeting. It was noted that after the breakout sessions the Chair of each Regional Subcommittee would be asked to give a brief synopsis.

*After a short break to allow for Regional Directors to log into their Breakout Rooms, at 7:47pm, C. Downer announced that the Regional Subcommittee meetings would begin.*

* 1. Feedback

*At 8:47 pm, C. Downer announced the closing of the Breakout Rooms and Reps/Alts re-convened to provide their* *feedback.* Regional Directors were thanked for their time. It was emphasized that for next year, the dates for the Regional Subcommittee meetings will be planned in advance. The hope is that the dates will be announced at the AGM. Feedback from the Regional Subcommittee breakout sessions were shared as follows:

Region 1 (Chair-D. Bentley/Vice-Chair/Communications- K. de Forest)

* Appreciation was expressed to K. O’Reilly- Director Region 1 for her participation
* Discussions took place regarding off-island transportation issues
* Conversations took place regarding the potential impact a new off-island school would have on the elementary schools that currently exist
* Discussions took place about composting programs as well as hockey programs

Region 3 (Co-Chairs- N. Lawand and S. Campeau)

* Thanks were expressed to D. Dixon- Director Region 3 for her participation
* Great engagement of Reps/Alts was reported

C. Downer thanked everyone for their involvement. It was emphasized how important it is to be involved and to remain involved, as parents have an important voice and are advocates for the students. The Chair shared a brief summary of her involvement as a parent volunteer and stressed the importance of parents encouraging other parents to get involved, especially before the beginning of the next school year. It was mentioned that being involved is the best way to bring about change.

1. Adjournment

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation. It was moved by C. Downer to adjourn the meeting at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara Schnider

Recording Secretary

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| **Attendance Report** | | |
| **Member School** | **Parent Rep Present** | **Alternate Rep Present** |
| Allion |  |  |
| Beacon Hill |  |  |
| Beaconsfield |  |  |
| Beechwood |  |  |
| Beurling 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 |  |  |
|  |  |  |