

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST, 2024  
1925 BROOKDALE AVENUE, DORVAL.  
6:30PM**



**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement
2. Word from the Chair
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes (June 2024)
5. Correspondence
6. Business Arising
7. Questions from the Public
8. New Business
  - 8.1. Regional Subcommittee Chair Elections
  - 8.2. Internal Rules Sub-Committee
  - 8.3. Website Subcommittee
  - 8.4. Budget Approval
  - 8.5. Meeting Dates
9. Reports
  - 9.1. Administration
  - 9.2. School Board Committees
    - Transportation Advisory Committee
    - Communications Committee
    - Facilities And Security
    - Intercultural Advisory
    - Programs And Services
    - Safe And Caring Schools
    - Green Committee
  - 9.3. External Committees
    - P.E.F
    - EPCA
10. Varia
11. Adjournment

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024  
1925 BROOKDALE AVENUE, DORVAL**

1. Call to Order  
D. Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:38pm. Quorum was established with 27 out of 46 LBPSB schools and SNAC being represented. He then proceeded to recite the acknowledgement of Mohawk land.
2. Word from the Chair  
D. Bentley welcomed all attendees and thanked them for joining and volunteering their time. He introduced himself as the new Chair of the PC. He noted that he has been on the PC for six years and has been on the Governing Board for ten years. D. Bentley highlighted his background in music as well as his volunteer involvement in coaching sports. He emphasized that he views being on the PC as a team effort. He would like to identify the goals of the PC this year and hopes that they are accomplished. D. Bentley then introduced the following members on the Advisory:  
Tracey Ann Curtis- CRPC- High School Sector  
Annette Banton- Vice-Chair  
Cat Michaud- Treasurer  
Mark Kashetsky- CRPC- Elementary Sector  
Peter Giser- Secretary  
D. Bentley thanked the Chair of LBPSB, J. Kelley as well as the ADG, V. Marin. He noted that Me G. Dugré would be in attendance for the GB training session following the PC meeting.
3. Approval of the Agenda  
D. Bentley then called for any proposed changes to the agenda. T. Fullerton proposed that the topic of Communications be added. D. Bentley noted that it could be covered under Item 10. Varia. He then called for a motion to approve the agenda. It was moved by J. Ranger that the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by H. Van Regan. None were opposed, and no abstentions were noted. The motion was unanimously resolved.
4. Approval of the Minutes (June 2024)  
D. Bentley noted that the minutes of June 2024 would be tabled as the PC does not have the attendance record.
5. Correspondence  
D. Bentley reported that there was no correspondence to report on at this time.
6. Business Arising  
D. Bentley noted that there was no business arising at this time.
7. Questions from the Public  
D. Bentley invited members of the public to pose their questions. The following items were highlighted:  
Q. With regards to the Culture and Citizenship course, is there any intention to address the topic of lack of textbooks in English at the PC?  
A. The PC will take a look at it.  
Q. The Sexual Education course has been mixed in with other courses. There have been some complaints by parents. Has the PC looked into it?  
A. The PC can look into it.  
Comments were made regarding the fact that PC meetings should be hybrid. D. Bentley explained that the PC did research this. He indicated that this topic would be covered under Item 8.5. D. Bentley called attention to the fact that the PC is asking for correspondence (including questions) 72 hours in advance of the PC meeting in order to give the Advisory a chance to respond.
8. New Business
  - 8.1. Regional Subcommittee Chair Elections  
D. Bentley advised attendees that Reps/Alts would soon splinter off into groups organized by regions where they would be electing a Chair and a Secretary/Communications person per region. The Chairs will facilitate the Regional meetings moving forward. Regional meetings will take place approximately three times this school year. Each Regional meeting will be attended by their respective Director of Schools. D. Bentley explained that school Principals report directly to the Regional Directors and the Regional Directors report to Assistant Director General, V. Marin. The groupings are as follows: Elementary Grouping East, Elementary Grouping West, and Secondary Grouping. The list of school groupings can be found through the following link:  
<https://parents.lbpsb.qc.ca/tools>  
At this time, D. Bentley asked all Reps/Alts to divide up by region in different areas of the room in order to elect a Chair and Secretary/Communications person. The results of the elections were as follows:  
Elementary East- Chair: Tom Fullerton, Secretary/Communications: Kellie George-Bernard

Elementary West: Stacie Bouchard, Secretary/Communications: Derek Kenny

Secondary: John Ranger, Secretary/Communications: Ahysa Frederick Durant

D. Bentley advised the newly elected Regional Chairs and Secretaries that he would like to meet with them very briefly prior to the GB Training session later in the evening.

#### 8.2. Internal Rules Sub-Committee

D. Bentley pointed out that he would like to strike an Internal Rules Subcommittee and asked Reps/Alts to join. This subcommittee would meet approximately 2-3 times on ZOOM in order to finalize recommendations to be submitted to the PC. The PC members of the subcommittee are as follows: Doug Bentley, Greg Piggins, John Ranger, and Francis Chaput.

#### 8.3. Website Subcommittee

D. Bentley pointed out that the PC is looking to update its' website. He noted that he would like to strike a subcommittee and called for volunteers. Meetings will be taking place on ZOOM. As Communications Officer, Mark Kashetsky will be leading the charge. Others volunteering to join the subcommittee are: Heidi Van Regan, John Ranger, and Sarah Munoz.

#### 8.4. Budget Approval

D. Bentley invited C. Michaud, Treasurer to go over the Budget for the PC.

She emphasized that the PC has been allocated \$4000 for the year. It was noted that there was one last fee of \$210.00 for BASECAMP (the communication platform that had previously been used by the PC). The PC is now using BAND as a means to communicate, which has no fees associated with it.

Funds have also been allocated in order to subsidize some of the travel or babysitting fees that may be incurred by Reps/Alts in order to attend in-person meetings. (Members are asked to contact the Advisory for further details).

Each year, the PC typically invites guest speakers to present, with funds being set aside to cover the costs. In addition, funds are allocated in order to cover the cost of snacks, other food items, and beverages for in-person meetings, as well as a meal to celebrate the end of the year.

It was noted that the funds which the PC receives cannot be carried over from year to year.

D. Bentley called for a motion to approve the PC Budget for 2024-2025. (It was noted that the costs for food and refreshments for the November meeting were higher than usual as they also included items for the GB Training session). It was moved by G. Piggins to approve the PC Budget for 2024-2025. The motion was seconded by A. Feldstain. None were opposed and no abstentions were noted. The motion was unanimously resolved.

#### 8.5. Meeting Dates

D. Bentley outlined the PC meeting dates for 2024-2025. They are as follows:

- December 12- (on ZOOM) with Regional Subcommittee Breakout sessions
- January 16- (on ZOOM)
- February 20- (on ZOOM) with Regional Subcommittee Breakout sessions
- March 20- (on ZOOM)
- April 17- (in-person) with Regional Subcommittee Breakout sessions
- May 15- (in-person- Presentation)
- June 12- (in-person) End of Year Dinner

D. Bentley then addressed the hybrid meeting option. He explained that the cost associated with live streaming the PC meetings were estimated at approximately \$500 per meeting which would be cost prohibitive given the limited funds that are allocated to the PC. Discussions ensued. The following are highlights of the discussions:

- Comment that there was an understanding that the School Board is responsible to cover the expenses for live streaming a meeting
- Response that LBPSB has to be conscious of the funds and that having some in-person PC meetings, and some held virtually is fair
- Before Covid, all meetings were in-person
- There tends to be a higher participation rate on ZOOM, however, many people expressed that they would like to meet in-person
- Consensus of the Advisory was that in the winter months when the weather is problematic, it makes sense to hold virtual meetings
- When the weather improves, in-person meetings will resume
- If the PC budget ever allows for it in the future, the Advisory can re-examine the hybrid option
- Meeting dates will be posted on BAND
- Reps/Alts who were not yet on BAND were invited to send an email to D. Bentley and M. Kashetsky

### 9. Reports

#### 9.1. Administration

D. Bentley invited V. Marin to speak to the Administration report. The following items were highlighted:

- New Region structure implemented this year in order to be more efficient:

- Elementary Grouping East- Director of schools- Deborah Dixon
- Elementary Grouping West- Director of schools David Chisholm
- Secondary Grouping- Director of schools: Kathleen O'Reilly
- First term Report cards available on Mozaik parent portal by November 20, followed by Parent-Teacher Interviews
- Annual Enrichment exams for Grade 6 students took place on November 15 and 16
- High School Open Houses took place in October
- Annual Career Fair took place at John Rennie High School on November 15 with over 1,000 students and families in attendance. Representatives from Vocational Centres, CEGEPs and employers were on hand to answer questions
- Professional Development sessions were held on November 15 for different employee groups
- The latest edition of the Pearson News is available online
- Admin report (posted on BAND) includes all LBPSB Social media links for parents to consult
- Questions were asked as to why the Career Fair was held in the middle of the day
- In the past, students would be bussed to a central location, but some of the student interactions became problematic. The Board decided to go with a different format where interested and engaged students could attend with their parents. Staffing played a part in determining the time of day that the Career Fair was held.

#### 9.2. School Board Committees

The following are subcommittees of the Council of Commissioners. The PC (at its' AGA in October), elected a representative(s) to sit on each of these committees and report back to the PC. D. Bentley sent J. Kelley the list of PC Reps.

Transportation Advisory Committee

Communications Committee

Facilities And Security

Intercultural Advisory

Programs And Services

Safe And Caring Schools

Green Committee

D. Bentley invited LBPSB Chair J. Kelley to give further details. The following items were highlighted:

- School Board committees will be set the week after this meeting
- Programs and Services will be listed in January
- Council of Commissioners were elected in their wards on November 3, 2024 or acclaimed prior to the election
- J. Kelly was acclaimed as Chair of LBPSB at Council
- LBPSB Admin and Council manages and controls the School Board
- Administration consults with the DG
- There are also Assistant DGs
- LBPSB Council is similar to that of a municipality with a mayor
- LBPSB Council has several committees some of which are mandated by the Education Act some of which are established by the School Board
- The Council of Commissioners works on School Board policies
- Council meetings are held on the last Monday of the month
- Executive Committee meetings are held on the third Monday of the month
- Council meetings are open to the public with the dates being posted on the main page of the LBPSB website and follow a hybrid model
- During Council meetings there are two question periods
- The government allots funds to School Boards in order to run their Councils
- Commissioners receive a stipend (which is taxable)

D. Bentley invited J. Ranger to provide a very brief SNAC Report. The following items were highlighted:

- An IEP webinar (which will be archived) took place
- D. Bentley requested the link to the IEP webinar
- A brief explanation of an IEP was given
- Parents with children who have an IEP were encouraged to look very carefully at them when they receive them
- SNAC Reports are posted on the SNAC website
- Each school website should contain a link to the SNAC website

9.3. External Committees

P.E.F

D. Bentley invited G Piggins to provide a brief report. There was no report at this time.

EPCA

D. Bentley highlighted the following items:

- He is currently the Vice Chair of EPCA
- Representatives from seven PCs in Quebec sit on EPCA
- EPCA lobbies the Quebec government on English language issues
- EPCA AGA will be held a few weeks after this meeting
- Reps/Alts were encouraged to sign up to receive EPCA Newsletters
- Important information on parent teacher interviews is highlighted in the Newsletter
- Consult the EPCA website for upcoming workshops

10. Varia

D. Bentley invited Reps/Alts to present items under Varia. The following items were highlighted:

- Concerns were expressed regarding the lack of responses to emails sent to members of the Advisory
- Comments were made about not receiving an MSR from the AGA
- The Advisory explained that they try to produce an MSR for Reps/Alts out of courtesy
- There are several new members of the Advisory who are currently being trained
- Any information received (including Committee reports) will be sent out as soon as possible and will be posted on BAND
- Minutes for the AGA will only be approved at next years' AGA (as per Parliamentary Procedure) and will subsequently be posted
- The list of all newly elected Reps/Alts are posted on the PC website
- Meeting dates are posted on BAND
- Minutes from the June meeting are awaiting approval (attendance sheet needed)
- Reps/Alts were invited to email the Chair and the Vice Chair with any questions they might have
- Those interested in writing a letter regarding text books were invited to discuss it on BAND

11. Adjournment

D. Bentley adjourned the meeting at 7:51 pm. He expressed his thanks to all participants. He noted that GB training would begin at 8:05 pm.

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	Annette Banton	
Beacon Hill		
Beaconsfield	Laura Greiss	
Beechwood	Robert Sutherland	
Beurling Academy	Ahysha Frederick Durant	
Birchwood	Derek Kenny	
Children's World	Alicia Mancini	
Christmas Park		
Clearpoint	Aba Simpson	
Dorset		
Dorval	Jessica Dings	
Edgewater		
Evergreen		
Forest Hill Jr		
Forest Hill Sr		
Horizon		
John Rennie	Francis Chaput	
Kingsdale	Adam Feldstein	
Lakeside Academy	Cathenna Michaud	
Lasalle Community Comprehensive	Amrit Grewal	John Ranger
Lasalle Jr		
Lasalle Sr		
Macdonald High	Tracey-Ann Curtis	Adriana Lanza
Maple Grove		
Margaret Manson		
Mount Pleasant		
Pierre Elliott Trudeau	Stacie Bouchard	
Pierrefonds Community	Greg Piggins	
Riverview	Irene Barallon	Heidi Van Regan
Sherbrooke Academy Jr.		
Sherbrooke Academy Sr.	Tanya Sarlos	
Soulanges		
Springdale		
St. Anthony	Zach Meltzer	
St. Charles		
St. Edmund	Tessa MacLean	
St. John Fisher Jr	Tom Fullerton	
St. John Fisher Sr	Kellie George-Bernard	
St. Patrick	Doug Bentley	
St. Thomas	Kenny Mandel	
Sunshine Academy	Vincent Du Ruisseau	
Terry Fox		Sarra Isabel
Verdun		
Westpark	Mark Kashetsky	Kenny Mandel
Westwood Jr	Derek Kenny	
Westwood Sr		
Wilder Penfield	Peter Giser	
SNAC	John Ranger	