



Lester B Pearson School Board Parents' Committee

LBPSB Parents' Committee

April 12, 2018

7:00 PM, LBPSB boardroom

1925 Brookdale Ave, Dorval

MEETING SUMMARY REPORT

ATTENDEES: Representatives of 29 of 48 member schools and SNAC were in attendance. Thomas Rhymes, representing the administration, and a member of the public were also in attendance. Please see attached attendance record for further details.

UPDATES:

- **Extra-curricular Activities and Field Trip Policy Consultation:** the PC response, approved via Basecamp, was ratified [see attached].
- **Budget Consultation:** the PC response, approved via Basecamp, was ratified [see attached].
- **Student Success Ad hoc subcommittee:** the subcommittee announced its objectives: personalized learning, optional pay-for summer school available to all students, coding as part of the elementary school curriculum, study and organizational skills taught in elementary school, making vocational training available at an earlier age.
- **Anti-bullying/anti-violence Ad hoc subcommittee:** a presentation on the LBPSB ABAV policy was given at the joint subcommittee meeting on March 22nd [MSR attached]. Further to that presentation, the ad hoc subcommittee is working on recommendations to be made to the PC.
- **School Board Elections Ad hoc subcommittee:** it is rumored that the school board elections will be postponed; the subcommittee is awaiting confirmation.

NEW TOPICS:

- **Bissonette Busses:** Postponed a strike planned for April 9th but drivers are in a legal strike position. Suggestion for QESBA to lobby busses as an essential service to be discussed at the PC's May meeting.
- **PC MSR distribution:** to ensure that as many parents are reached as possible, the option of sending the PC MSR directly to schools' Home and School Associations and Parent Participation Organizations was discussed and voted on. It was decided that the PC would instead reiterate and clarify to its parent representatives that disseminating the PC MSR to these groups is part of their responsibilities.



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- **NEW CONSULTATION - LBPSB Three-year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2018-2021 (due May 20th):** the PC struck a subcommittee to formulate this response.
- **NEW CONSULTATION - LBPSB Commitment-to-Success Plan 2018-2022 (due May 20th):** the PC struck a subcommittee to formulate this response.
- **QESBA Focus Groups:** Shane Ross, representing LBPSB parents, and Sharad Bhargava, representing the LBPSB Council of Commissioners, were invited to attend separate focus groups intended to help QESBA define its role. Suggestions made by them included:
 - the need for greater budgeting transparency,
 - the need for increased communication between parents and QESBA,
 - the need to fight to make English resources more accessible (i.e. proper translations of textbooks),
 - the need for increased communications between the associations (EPCA, QFHSA and QESBA),
 - that QESBA formulate a consistent plan in order to be a more relevant and better representation of the school boards,
 - that Bill 101 continues to restrict access to English Education and needs to be addressed, and
 - that engaging more Commissioners from all English school boards is key.The QESBA Spring Conference will take place in May at which time recommendations will be presented.
- **2018-2019 AGA Kit Ad Hoc Subcommittee:** a subcommittee was struck to update the AGA Kit for individual schools for the 2018-2019 school year.

VARIA:

- The meeting continues to open with the acknowledgement of the meeting taking place on Mohawk land.
- It is estimated that \$1500 of the PC's budget will be left for the end-of-year dinner/last meeting, to take place on Thursday June 7, 2018 at Mr. Spicy restaurant.
- The board's lockdown policy (as found in the LBPSB Emergency Preparedness policy) was discussed, particularly the advantages/disadvantages of having more than one per year.
- The School fees class action lawsuit was mentioned, particularly that the school boards are against the proposed settlement of \$25/yr per student enrolled in school during the period implicated as it would have to come out of the boards' operating budgets and would also have dangerous implications for the future.
- The PC Communications subcommittee is working on the next Parent2Parent newsletter.



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- It is rumored that the school board elections will be postponed, and therefore, the School Board Elections subcommittee is awaiting further information.
- Two students who spoke about bullying and mental health issues during the public question period of the March 26th Council of Commissioners meeting were mentioned. Their comments can be found at the 1:17 mark of the webcast http://www.lbpsb.qc.ca/content/webcasting/20180326_brd.html.
- The SNAC Parent To Parent information night for parents of students on IEPs was held on March 27th with very good attendance and participation. The presentation can be found here <http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca/eng/extra/img/253OFFICIALFINALSNACMarch27ParenttoParentFINAL.pdf>
- SNAC will be making several recommendations to the Transportation Advisory Committee, resulting from the Riverdale bus accident.
- The Intercultural Advisory Committee is sponsoring a presentation by Andrea Sturzak on issues related to hatred and racism on May 2nd. It will be open to the entire LBPSB community.
- Due to Spiritual Animators' contract issues, Aboriginal Day will be celebrated on April 30th at Lindsay Place but with reduced student participation.
- IAC is recommending to Council that the Blanket Exercise sessions be provided for all grade 9 and 10 history teachers.
- The LBPSB Long-Term Planning Committee examined the retention of students after grade 6 and why the board loses an average of 20% of its students in the transition to grade 7.
- Student registration has been frozen at the administration level to allow for preliminary staffing decisions.
- LBPSB had a large delegation present for the St-Patrick's Parade held on March 16th. Students from Beurling Academy, LPHS, Macdonald High and St. Thomas High fought the cold weather while demonstrating their musical talents. LBPSB brought home the Bernier Family Trophy for Best High School Unit for the second year in a row.
- On Thursday, March 22nd, a province-wide symposium, the Grandes Rencontres, was held for administrators at the Centre de Congr s in Laval. The main topic for this conference was Creating a Positive, Safe and Caring School Environment. There were breakout workshops held which provided practices on how to promote a positive school climate.
- This marks the second year that the LBPSB will be evaluating students seeking certification in the DELF Scolaire (Dipl me d' tudes en langue fran aise). This is a diploma awarded by the French Ministry of Education to prove the French-language skills of non-French candidates. The DELF certification corresponds to the skills identified in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL). The testing is targeted for students from Sec. III - V and offers the chance for DELF B1 or B2 certification.



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- The deadline to register for enriched placement testing for current Grade 5 students had been extended to Friday, April 13th. The testing is scheduled to take place in students' home schools on Friday, May 11th.
- The First Robotics competition was held on March 2nd at the Claude Robillard Centre in Montreal. Both Lakeside Academy and LCCHS competed. Our teams dominated the competition with LCCHS' Sonic Howl moving on to a competition in Victoria, BC which they attended in late March.
- March was Nutrition Challenge month where, throughout Quebec, schools emphasize the importance of nutrition. They organize initiatives which promote healthy eating habits. Many LBPSB schools took part in this challenge.
- Educational Services held the Final Battle of the Books on March 20th. This event celebrates literacy in a really fun and fast-paced high school team competition. This year's event involved teams of students from grades 7 to 11 who are tested on their knowledge of the books they read. LCCHS, PCHS, Macdonald High and St. Thomas participated in the Battle. The winner, MAC High, will be advancing to the Ultimate Battle against the winners from the Quebec Association of Independent Schools and the EMSB on April 17th at 7 P.M.
- The week of April 23rd the LBPSB will be hosting guests from France, l'Academie de l'Ile. Three administrators will be spending the week here and will be visiting schools offering immersion programs. They are looking for different types of immersion programs to bring to their Academy.
- PACC recently held its 14h annual job fair. Human Resources reps from 25 major public and private health institutions gathered at PACC to meet with students and former graduates. Students receive interviewing tips are briefed on the recruitment process. They also help the students strengthen their CVs and identify their areas of interest.
- EPCA members received a presentation on the History curriculum by Robert Green of COMech. It highlighted that the Sec. 4 textbook omits Anglophones in any process of the development and industrialization of Quebec, denied their struggles upon arrival, lacks mentions of the Black community, depicts Muslims as terrorists, and gives a problematic look at the First Nations. There is only one textbook in English with no workbook, whereas the French have three options, two of which have their own workbook. EPCA will be writing a letter to the Minister concerning these issues, with copies to be sent to the Parents' Committees.
- EPCA is preparing a response to the Coalition Avenir Québec and its position that school boards be abolished.
- PEF's annual comedy night will be held on April 20th at Lakeside Academy; please see <http://pef.lbpsb.qc.ca/comedy.htm> for more details.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: May 3, 2018



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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	
Lasalle Jr		
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