

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025  
6:30PM on ZOOM**



**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement
2. Word from the Chair
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes (January 2025)
5. Correspondence
6. Business Arising
  - 6.1. Website Subcommittee
  - 6.2. Internal Rules Sub-committee Meeting March 20th
7. Questions from the Public
8. New Business
  - 8.1. EPCA Survey
  - 8.2. School Calendar 2025-2026
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
    - SNAC
  - 9.3. External Committees
    - P.E.F
    - EPCA
10. Varia
11. Regional Subcommittee Breakout Rooms 7:15-9pm
12. Adjournment

**PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025**  
**6:30PM ON ZOOM**

1. Call to Order with Land Acknowledgement  
D. Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. All participants were asked to name themselves, their school, and whether they were a Rep or Alt. Quorum was established with 28 out of 46 LBPSB schools and SNAC being represented. He then invited C. Michaud to recite the acknowledgement of Mohawk land.
2. Word from the Chair  
D. Bentley welcomed all attendees and thanked them for joining the meeting. He acknowledged the presence of the Chair of LBPSB, J. Kelley as well as all Regional Directors. D. Bentley noted that he would try to move swiftly through the agenda.
3. Approval of the Agenda  
D. Bentley proposed the following changes to the agenda: Item 11. would now be changed to Regional Subcommittee Breakout Rooms and Item 12. would now become Adjournment of the meeting. He called for any further changes. There were none. He then called for a motion to approve the agenda. It was moved by T. Curtis that the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by C. Michaud. None were opposed, and no abstentions were noted. The motion was unanimously resolved.
4. Approval of the Minutes (January 2025)  
D. Bentley invited Reps/Alts to propose any changes they may have to the minutes. There were none. He then called for approval of the minutes of January 2025. It was moved by Z. Meltzer that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by K. Mandel. None were opposed, no abstentions were noted. The motion was carried.
5. Correspondence  
D. Bentley noted that no correspondence had been received.
6. Business Arising
  - 6.1. Website Subcommittee  
D. Bentley invited M. Kashetsky as Chair of the Communications Committee to provide an update. M. Kashetsky noted that everything was status quo and that an update would be provided in time for the next meeting.
  - 6.2. Internal Rules Subcommittee  
D. Bentley reported that the subcommittee is in the process of going through the Internal Rules. The proposed changes will be posted on BAND, with recommendations to be brought to the PC shortly.
7. Questions from the Public  
D. Bentley invited members of the public to pose their questions. The following items were highlighted:  
Q. A parent from St. Thomas asked to be directed through the proper channels regarding the lack of local field trips planned at their child's school. It seems that there are grad trips planned which are not necessarily feasible for everyone. This has been brought up with administration.  
A. D. Bentley responded that most of the PC would probably agree that the PC was a great place to mention it and that it could also be mentioned at the GB where a request could be made to bring it to Staff Council.  
In fact, it had been brought up at GB and it was mentioned that the GB only approves field trips. The GB recommended that the topic be brought up at the PC. K. Mandel indicated that he will bring it up with the Principal and the GB.  
A comment was made that there is an upcoming event on April 29<sup>th</sup> where all High Schools on the Island of Montreal have been invited to participate in a Social Activism event taking place at Centre Mount Royal.
8. New Business
  - 8.1. EPCA Survey  
D. Bentley reported on the EPCA Survey. The following items were highlighted:
    - EPCA sponsored a National survey on Family Well-being (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)
    - LBPSB Admin sent it out to parents
    - As of the time of this meeting, 10,000 responses had been received
    - Comments were made regarding the fact that the language used did not completely follow the question, most likely due to the text being translated
  - 8.2. School Calendar 2025-2026  
D. Bentley noted that there were changes made to the calendar as three PED days were moved. He explained that every year, the PC looks at the options that the Calendar Committee has presented for upcoming school years. D. Bentley highlighted the differences between Options 1, 2, and 3 of the 2026 -2027 School Calendar.

- Differences include start days, Christmas holidays, and the last day of school
- The difference between Option 1 and 3 does not affect parents
- Option 2 scatters the Christmas holidays over 3 separate weeks
- Option 3 was recommended by the Calendar Committee and the PTU
- A comment was made questioning whether parents have a say in the Calendar options. It was noted that it is important to get parental feedback.

D. Bentley called for approval of Calendar Option 3. None were opposed, and no abstentions were noted. Calendar Option 3. was approved.

## 9. Reports

### 9.1. Administration

D. Bentley invited V. Marin's to speak to the Administration report. The report was included in the kit. The following items were highlighted:

- Due to the snow days, the PTU vote regarding calendar options was delayed
- Violence Prevention Week will take place from March 17-21, the government has asked school boards to organize activities related to this theme (more information to follow)
- End of term two- report cards to be sent out. Please consult the schools web site for more information.

D. Bentley invited parents to ask questions. There were none.

### 9.2. School Board Committees

It was noted that Council will meet on the Monday following this meeting, therefore everything discussed at the School Board committee meetings is confidential until the reports are accepted at the next Council Meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee- No report was available

Communications Committee- No report was available

Facilities and Security- No report was available

Intercultural Advisory- The following items were highlighted:

- First meeting of the year took place
- Grant allocations were given out mostly to recognize Black History month and Indigenous activities
- The government has cut back funding for Indigenous initiatives
- Discussion took place regarding the possibility of the PC participating in a blanket exercise
- Reps/Alts were encouraged to inform their schools and GBs about the possibility of applying for grants for various activities

Programs and Services: No report was available

Safe and Caring Schools: No report was available

Green Committee:-The following items were highlighted:

- The first meeting took place
- General discussions took place with regards to the concept of promoting Micro Forests at different schools and their positive environmental impact

SNAC- No report was available (MSR will be sent out shortly)

### 9.3. External Committees

P.E.F

D. Bentley invited K. Mandel to provide a brief report. The following items were highlighted:

- Fun Run to take place in May
- Grant application process was discussed

EPCA

D. Bentley provided a report from EPCA. The following items were highlighted:

- EPCA submitted a brief on the impact of screens and social media on health and development
- K. Korakakis, D. Bentley and S. Hossaini presented their brief virtually
- They took questions in English and were asked questions by three MNAs
- The brief has been posted on the EPCA website with the presentation being accessible on the National Assembly website

Several upcoming workshops include:

- Parents and Alloprof: Uniting to Support Your Childs Learning Journey
- Transition to High School
- Bullying
- Body image and Self Esteem
- Digital Literacy
- Managing Challenging Behaviors
- Consent and Boundaries
- Studies Skill Workshop (to be rescheduled)

10. Varia

D. Bentley invited Reps/Alts to present items under Varia. The topic of School Lunch Fees was mentioned. It was noted that a fee of \$2.50 was paid for each child by their parents. It was pointed out that in one school, there seemed to be a discrepancy in Daycare budgets. An inquiry was made as to where these funds are going. Another parent mentioned that at their school, there is a huge deficit as many parents refused to pay this fee. It was noted that these fees are often spent on activities. In some cases, the fees for morning/lunch and after-school care seemed to be lumped together. It was suggested that maybe they should be itemized.

Administration agreed to take this information back to the proper channels.

*At this point in the meeting, attendees were told that there would be a 5 minute break until the start of the Regional Subcommittee Breakout Rooms.*

11. Regional Subcommittee Breakout Rooms

Reps/Alts were divided up by region and invited to participate in their designated Regional Subcommittee Breakout sessions where each Chair of the Subcommittee, along with each Regional Director helped to facilitate discussions.

12. Adjournment

D. Bentley adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Barbara Schnider  
Recording Secretary

Attendance Report		
Member School	Parent Rep Present	Alternate Rep Present
Allion		
Beacon Hill		
Beaconsfield		
Beechwood	Robert Sutherland	
Beurling Academy	Ahysha Frederick Durant	
Birchwood	Derek Kenny	
Children's World		
Christmas Park		
Clearpoint	Aba Simpson	
Dorset		
Dorval		Madeleine Steinmetz-Wood
Edgewater	Wendy Pearson	
Evergreen		
Forest Hill Jr	Amy Spinelli	
Forest Hill Sr	Erik Olsthoorn	
Horizon		
John Rennie	Francis Chaput	Sara Hossaini
Kingsdale	Adam Feldstein	
Lakeside Academy	Cathenna Michaud	
Lasalle Community Comprehensive		
Lasalle Jr	Zahra Ibrahim	
Lasalle Sr		
Macdonald High	Tracey-Ann Curtis	Adriana Lanza
Maple Grove	Aaron Totton	Joanne McGee
Margaret Manson		
Mount Pleasant		
Pierre Elliott Trudeau	Stacie Bouchard	
Pierrefonds Community	Greg Piggins	
Riverview		
Sherbrooke Academy Jr.	Demetrios Hadjis	
Sherbrooke Academy Sr.		
Soulanges		
Springdale		
St. Anthony	Zach Meltzer	
St. Charles	Ross MacLean	
St. Edmund	Tessa MacLean	
St. John Fisher Jr	Tom Fullerton	
St. John Fisher Sr	Kellie George-Bernard	Erica Follon
St. Patrick	Doug Bentley	
St. Thomas	Kenny Mandel	
Sunshine Academy		
Terry Fox		
Verdun		
Westpark	Mark Kashetsky	Kenny Mandel
Westwood Jr	Derek Kenny	
Westwood Sr		
Wilder Penfield	Peter Giser	
SNAC	John Ranger	Sara Hossaini