

PARKDALE SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 5:30PM - Online

Present: Mr. George Koutsoulis (Principal), Ms. Jennifer Martins (Vice-Principal), Ms. Diana Piazza, Ms. Angela Zambito, Ms. Angela Vogas, Ms. Sorina Chis, Ms. Hadas Noama, Mr. Anthony Mohammed, Ms. Bharathi Srikakolapu

Absent: Mr. Apostolos Kouzoukas

Meeting Started at 5:39 PM

Minutes recorded by Ms. Sorina Chis

AGENDA

1. Addition to and Approval of the Agenda for January 23, 2024

Motion to approve: Angela Zambito. Seconded: Angela Vogas. All in favor.

2. Approval of the minutes from meeting held Tuesday, December 19, 2023

Motion to approve: Diana Piazza. Seconded: Angela Zambito. All in favor.

3. New Business:

3.1 Parkdale Social Media

- Due to general decline in enrolment throughout the EMSB, Mr. Michael Cohen is asking schools for more online engagement/presence, expecting 3-5 posts per week across platforms
- Ms. Hajra Nawaz, Mr. Matthew Guy and Ms. Kristen Keyes will be in charge of posting content, by cycle, on school's Instagram
- EPCA to be tagged on Facebook to widen audience
- Mainly Pre-K and French content to be posted
- School to encourage parents to visit social media pages, and for alumni to speak out
- Mr. Cohen asking for "marketing" agenda items to be included in Governing Board meetings
- Mr. Koutsoulis expressed that we cater to an English Core clientele, that enrolment is not declining at Parkdale (rather it is increasing), and that we do not want to give false impressions that we specialize in French.
- School to host bilingual Open House next year, between September-November
- Mr. Anthony Muhammad will help with social media push

3.2 Parkdale Budget 2023-2024

- Mr. Koutsoulis presented budget for 2023-2024 to the Governing Board
- All of Parkdale's funds are projected to be used, without deficit with the exception of 1039\$ spent on 10 student desks and 10 student chairs, due to increased enrolment
 - o Difference to be made up by extra PPO funds

- Mr. Koutsoulis concerned with fee collection for the upcoming school year, as in previous years

Motion to approve the Parkdale Budget for 2023-2024: Ms. Angela Vogas. All in favor.

3.3 Principal's Report/ CLC

- Current enrolment of 352, up from 246 in September
- No end to the bus strike
- EMSB will be providing parents who have lost their bussing services with 7\$ per day, since October 31st, 2023
- Lunch fees will be refunded to families for the 8 strike days that were missed
- Spirit Week (January 22-26) : Hawaii day, Disney day, Sports day, Backwards day
- Staff Appreciation Week will take place late February
- Upcoming trips
 - o Ottawa trip booked for June 14th
 - o Ecole de Cirque de Verdun booked for March 9th – 52 preschool students, paid for by cultural outing budget
- Photography program: 10 students, will run January 30 – April 23, on Tuesdays from 4-5 PM
- DJ School program: 10 students in grades 4-6, will run Jan 30 – April 30, on Tuesdays from 4-5 PM

3.4 Parkdale Sexuality Education Plan

- No kindergarten exposure, will only be taught to Grades 1-6
- Plan has not changed, same as last year's that was approved
- Ms. Susie Elmaliotis to teach the program during Drama periods
- Parents who express concerns will be able to go over content with Mr. Koutsoulis
- Teachers asked to defer questions to administration

Motion to approve the Parkdale Sexuality Education Plan: Ms. Angela Zambito. Seconded: Sorina Chis. All in favor.

3.5 EMSB Parents Committee

- Darlene Kehyayan appointed new Regional Director
- Report cards pushed by 2 weeks
- Grade 6 exam "percentage of grade" lowered, 10-20% of topics may be removed
- No agreement yet for bus strike, mediator involved but no timeline given

3.6 PPO Report

- PPO to help with teacher appreciation week, meeting next week to approve initiative
- TCBY and Pizza fundraisers taking place, TCBY will continue in the future, Pizza TBD
- Valentine's Day initiative (giving out candy and chocolate to the students) is awaiting approval at next meeting

3.7 Daycare Report

- Funky Feet program will begin for the younger daycare group
- Friday January 26th PED Day: Reptizoo will be coming in

4. Varia

- Wednesday February 21st GB meeting will be held online, at 5:30PM
- Wednesday March 20th GB meeting will be held online, at 5:30PM

5. Question Period

- No questions

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM. Motioned by Diana Piazza. All in favor.

Principal _____

Chairperson _____

Signed on _____