



# Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road  
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9  
Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



## Marymount Academy International Governing Board

Meeting 5 – February 27, 2024

(Teams)

In Attendance: James Fequet, Katherine Korakakis, Stephanie Kyle, Simeon Pompey, Ahmed Altalibi, Mara Iacobo, Naomi Ruscito, Yunseong Kweon, Amelia Aguirre, Amanda Foster, Caroline Hogan

In Absentia: Stéphane Bécoulet, Ellie Israel, Stacey Blumer, Jayson Stiell, Ramin Khodaie

### 1. Welcome

- Meeting commenced at 6:30pm via Teams. The secretary is absent. No volunteers for minutes so chair will take minutes for this meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda** – Kathy Korakakis asked that the topic of “Marketing” be added to the agenda under Varia. Agenda was moved by Naomi Ruscito and seconded by Stephanie Kyle.

3. **Approval of Last Meeting Minutes (January 30, 2024)** – Kathy Korakakis asked that the minutes be reviewed and corrected prior to approval. Caroline Hogan will review and amend minutes as required. They will be redistributed and approved at the next meeting.

### 4. Business Arising from Minutes

#### 4.1 Educational Project – Update

- Mr. Fequet will distribute the most current version of the Educational Project for 2023-2027 before the March 2024 Governing Board meeting
- The board will review the project together at the March meeting
- Board member Kathy Korakakis is also the Chair of the EMSB Parents Committee and shared her letter to the Assistant Director General, Education regarding EMSB Educational Project Survey process concerns that were raised at the December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, PC meeting.

#### 4.2 Selection Criteria for Principal – update

- Complete

#### 4.3 Budget Building Process 2024-2025 – Due March 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Mr. Fequet provided information regarding the budget building process.
- The EMSB, Financial Services asked that GBs and Parent Committee identify, in order of priority, the services offered to schools that we wish to maintain or increase, new services that should be offered, and any services that can be reduced or eliminated if necessary.



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- The EMSB also asked that we provide supporting justification for each of the recommendations identified in our feedback document as well as comments on the Guiding Principles, Criteria, and related Orientations
- James provided board members with a list of budget priorities for this school:
  - AV system upgrade
  - Plan for phase two of renovations will begin in late May or early June
  - Hiring of an additional guidance councillor
- Committee discussed needs among all schools/centres:
  - Technology needs (Kathy Korakakis sent info in the Teams group chat)
  - Public Transportation (Kathy Korakakis sent info in the Teams group chat)

## 5. Question Period

- No questions from public

## 6. Reports

### 6.1 Principals' Report

- IB coordinator still on leave
- School continues to experience staffing issues
- Registration status:
  - 65 grade 7 students
  - 432 students enrolled at this time
  - At this time last year, the amount was 410
  - The prediction is 475 will be enrolled by June
  - The hope is that 500 will be enrolled by September
- Registration flyers were sent to elementary schools
- Student Support :
  - Tutoring email has gone out to parents
  - Tutoring will be offered in afternoons and evening
- Cellphone policy:
  - Revised cell phone policy in place for next school year
  - Policy states that there will be no cell phone use allowed in classroom unless permitted by the teacher for education purposes
- Term 2 is complete
  - Parent/teacher interviews were held over Teams and went very well
- Teacher Appreciation Week – February 5 -9 2024
  - From EMSB: “Thank you for all you do! Together we do make a difference!”
  - Marymount teachers attended an appreciation dinner



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## 6.2 Student Representatives' Report

- Yunseong Kweon reported that Spirit Week activities were well attended
  - It happens to be Whacky Hair Day today and it must be noted that Mr. Altalibi's hair is awesome.
- The February 14<sup>th</sup> after-school dance went well
- There will be additional activities after March Break
- Amelia Aguirre reported on a project she is working on called "Voices of Olympia"
  - Competition on improving conditions for women
  - Decrease poverty and diminish impact of poverty
  - Looking at a program for single mothers that provides sports clubs and daycare

## 6.3 Teachers' Report – Ahmed Altalibi

- Tutoring program
  - Kathy Korakakis asked if parents are notified of the program
  - Students who may require tutoring are flagged by teachers, the principal sends a general email to the parent population and teachers will contact parents directly.
- Spoken word competition on March 13<sup>th</sup>
- TED Talk in April instead of public speaking.
- Grad trip to Toronto/Niagara Falls this year. Details will follow.

## 6.4 Professional's Report

- n/a

## 6.5 Commissioners' Report

- Commissioner Israel was absent due to a scheduling conflict

## 6.6 Regional Delegates' Report

- Kathy please add info here

## 6.7 Community Representatives' Report

- Mini open-house period at CEGEP
- Thanks to Marymount for a meaningfully participating in Black History Month
- Several jobs available for students at March Break camps – major staffing shortage

## 7. **New Business**

### 7.1 Sexuality Education Plan - For approval

- Designed to guide students to understand themselves, navigate interpersonal relationships and develop good judgement.



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- Each student will receive age-appropriate, and developmentally suitable information from trained educators
  - Marymount will invite experts in the field of sexuality; nurse, sexologist, or approved community organization to help with the delivery.
    - Kathy asked how presenters are chosen and James responded that each presenter is vetted by school board and will be appropriate for each age group.
  - Board member Naomi Ruscito inquired about the harmful effects of pornography and discussed the neuroscience behind it. Naomi would like to see more stats and resources regarding rape culture and sexual objectification.
  - Board member Stephanie Kyle noted some grammatical errors in the document and Mr. Faquet will correct.
  - Question asked if there will be male teachers involved for male students. Mr. Faquet confirmed, yes.
- MOTION** to approve 2024-25 Sexuality Education Plan: Kathy Korakakis and seconded by Stephanie Kyle.

## 7.2 Course Selection 2024-2025 – Modification for Sec1 + 2 IB - For approval

- Removal of 2 Spanish classes and replace with one art and one science class
- MOTION** to approve removal of 2 Spanish classes and replace with one art and one science class in sec 1 and 2 IB: Kathy Korakakis and seconded by Simeon Pompey.

## 7.3 Varia

- Marketing
  - Kathy Korakakis would like to see improved marketing for the school
  - Improve use of social media
  - Mr. Faquet added that a registration flyer is sent to elementary schools
  - Grade 6 kids from 6 different schools participated in science activities for a day

## 8. **Date of Next Meeting**

- April 2, 2024 @ 6:30 PM (Teams meeting)

**Adjournment – 8:00 PM** - Moved by Ahmed Altalibi and seconded by Caroline Hogan

*C. Hogan*

Chairperson

*J. Faquet*

Principal