



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 3 – December 18th, 2024

In Attendance: James Fequet, Amanda Foster, David Lee, Sophie Antippa, Peter Arnold, Stacey Blumer, Ahmed Altalibi, Chelsea Craig, Katherine Korakakis, Stephanie Kyle, Naomi Balardelle, Simeon Pompey, Sabrina Lawrence, Ellie Israel, Matheo Moran, Jihyo Lee

In Absentia: Mark Venema, Jayson Stiehl

1. Welcome

- Meeting started at 7:42 pm in person.
- Introductions of new and returning members of governing board.

2. Approval of Agenda – Agenda moved by Sophie Antippa and seconded by Stacey Blumer. All in favour.

- 2.1 New point for PPO and GB to be added under “Business Arising”. Change motion moved by Katherine Korakakis and seconded by Naomi Ballardelle. All in favour.

3. Special Presentation – Ms. Ellie Israel

- 3.1 Award of Recognition and Appreciation presented by Mr. James Fequet to Ms. Ellie Israel (Commissioner of Ward 2) to honor her commitment and dedication to the Marymount Community.
- 3.2 Ms. Ellie Israel’s speech: “Thanks for the memories.”

4. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes (Nov. 22nd, 2024) – Moved by Stacey Blumer and seconded by Ahmed Altalibi. All in favour.

5. Business Arising from Minutes

- 5.1 School Dance planned for first two weeks of December was cancelled due to scheduling conflict. Student council planning for an activity around Valentine’s Day next February.

6. Question Period

- 6.1 N/A



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7. Reports

7.1 Students' Report

- 7.1.1 Spirit Week is underway (as of Monday Dec. 16th).
 - 7.1.1.1 Monday: Christmas Socks Day
 - 7.1.1.2 Tuesday: Flannel Shirt Day
 - 7.1.1.3 Wednesday: Holiday Scarf Day
 - 7.1.1.4 Thursday: Santa Claus Hat Day
 - 7.1.1.5 Friday: Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
- 7.1.2 Student Council is hoping to accelerate planning activities during the holidays in the hopes of having more events in the new year.
- 7.1.3 Distribution of Candygrams will take place tomorrow (Dec. 19th).
- 7.1.4 Recommendation that parents be sent a link regarding the school's daily announcements.

7.2 Principal's Report

- 7.2.1 Parent/Teacher Interviews were held on November 20th.
 - 7.2.1.1 Positive turnout: about 200 families were present.
- 7.2.2 Registration: 45 letters of acceptance have been sent out to new students.
 - 7.2.2.1 Most are for Secondary 1, and a few are for Secondary 2.
 - 7.2.2.2 Some files are still being processed and are under review.
 - 7.2.2.3 Administration is expecting an application "rush" in February as well as towards the end of the year.
- 7.2.3 Current school population: 472 students.
- 7.2.4 IB groups in Sec. 5 have begun Personal Projects.
- 7.2.5 Nov. 27th: Staff Professional Development Day – Sexting Awareness
 - 7.2.5.1 Presentation done by two EMSB consultants.
 - 7.2.5.2 Strategies on how to mitigate/recognize sexting among students and which protocol to follow in the event of a scenario.
- 7.2.6 Dec. 11th: Coffee house and holiday concert hosted by the school.
- 7.2.7 Dec. 13th: Honor Roll Assembly – 225 certificates were handed out to students to recognize their achievements.
 - 7.2.7.1 Honorable mention: between a 75% and a 79% average.
 - 7.2.7.2 Honor Roll: between an 80% and an 89% average.
 - 7.2.7.3 Distinction Award: higher than a 90% average.
 - 7.2.7.4 Award of Excellence: Given to the student with the highest overall average in that grade (one student per level).
 - 7.2.7.4.1 In addition to the award of excellence, students received two free-movie tickets.
- 7.2.8 Dec. 13th: Students in Leadership, Student Council, and the Drama club were treated to watch the "Nutcracker" at Place-des-Arts.



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7.3 Teacher's Report

- 7.3.1 Nov. 27th: Level Field Trip (Secondary 1) – Montreal Science Centre.
- 7.3.2 Dec. 3rd: Level Field Trip (Secondary 1) – Montreal Memory Museum (MEM).
- 7.3.3 Dec. 11th: Coffee House and holiday concert at the Marymount Library.
- 7.3.4 Marymount's Secondary 5 Integrative Project course has applied for a \$10,000 grant that was approved.
 - 7.3.4.1 Grant money will be used to purchase bikes, cross-country skis, and equipment for a commercial kitchen.
- 7.3.5 Graduation Trip: still in process of receiving quotes from travel companies. Expecting answers around February.
 - 7.3.5.1 Destination of graduation trip: Toronto, ON.

7.4 Professional's Report

- 7.4.1 Dec. 2nd: IB office is up and running.
- 7.4.2 Secondary 5 IB Personal projects are underway under an abbreviated schedule.
 - 7.4.2.1 Workshop on Dec. 10th was had by the librarian, Ms. Annette MacIntyre on proper research etiquette.
 - 7.4.2.2 Next workshop will be had after the holidays.
- 7.4.3 Volunteering opportunities will begin in 2025:
 - 7.4.3.1 "Welcome Action" will start in January.
 - 7.4.3.2 "Bread and Beyond" will start in March.
 - 7.4.3.3 Elementary school student tutoring will begin shortly after the new year.
- 7.4.4 Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 will be visited by Mr. Lee to introduce proper IB language and expectations so that they are comfortable going into their senior years in high school.
- 7.4.5 Mr. David Lee made it clear to students present at the meeting that IB students are always welcome to visit the IB coordinator's office when they have questions or concerns.

7.5 Regional Delegate's Report

- 7.5.1 Will be writing a letter to school board administrators to have clarity regarding communication methods between schools and parents.
- 7.5.2 Second letter to the school board administrators will be sent regarding Educational Projects that some schools have recently presented. There is a concern that bias data may have arisen when student surveys were obtained. Ms. Katherine Korakakis will be writing a letter to inquire about this potential issue.
- 7.5.3 Third letter will be sent regarding school website designs. More transparency needed for some schools so that information/updates can be clearer.
- 7.5.4 *Pas un mort de plus*: Group that successfully lobbied to push Bill 48 (An Act to amend the Highway Code) in the government to promote road safety.



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- 7.5.5 Anti-Troll kit: Useful resource for children to get information on cyber-bullying and other tools intended to support growth and understanding.
 - 7.5.6 Last Friday: 250 million dollars will be cut from education. Deadline for government to submit budget is at the end of March.
 - 7.5.7 Ms. Katherine Korakakis was recently selected as Vice-President of PC and President of the English Parent Committee.
 - 7.6 Community Representatives Report
 - 7.6.1 Many local after-school programs seeking volunteers to help kids with homework. Centres include: Walkley Community Centre, Jeunesse Loyola, and Westhaven Community Centre.
 - 7.6.2 Jan. 31st to Feb. 2nd: Conference hosted by former Governor General Michaëlle Jean.
 - 7.6.2.1 First 500 students will have free admission.
 - 7.6.2.2 Location: Palais des Congrès.
 - 7.7 Commissioner's Report
 - 7.7.1 Budget cuts in EMSB: 2.6 million will be directly affecting the EMSB.
 - 7.7.2 QESBA fundraiser donated 40 thousand dollars to fight Bill 40 regarding electoral lists.
 - 7.7.2.1 Human Relations decision expected early in the new year.
 - 7.7.3 Cote-des-Neiges Black community invited commissioner to a recent food drive where they filled boxes to feed approximately 200 families.
 - 7.7.4 Ms. Chelsea Craig is also a part of the QESBA committee.
 - 7.7.5 3rd week of January: Commissioner will reach out to the GB concerning Town Hall.
 - 7.7.6 Last meeting of the year with the EMSB took place one day ago (Dec. 17th).
 - 8. **New Business**
 - 8.1 Approval – Revised Calendar (including PED day on February 17th).
 - Moved by Katherine Korakakis and seconded by Stephanie Kyle.
 - All in favour (4 abstentions).
 - 8.2 Communication from the Governing Board to the public.
 - 8.2.1 Where to find Governing Board information on Marymount website: “About Marymount > Governing Board”.
 - 8.3 Communications between PPO (Parent Participation Organization) and Governing Board:
 - 8.3.1 Suggestion made for administration to reach out to parents. Parents have the right to form their own committee to arrange for specific communication. Principal James Fequet insisted that the school is always happy to receive inquiries from parents and that parents are welcomed to form their own committee. Ms. Sophie Antippa suggested sending a follow-up email to parents.
 - 8.4 Varia
 - N/A



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9. Date of Next Meeting

9.1 Tuesday January 28th, 2024, at 6:30pm via Zoom (online).

Adjournment – 9:04 PM - Moved by Naomi Ballardelle and seconded by Ahmed Altalibi.

S. Antippa

Chairperson

J. Fequet

Principal