

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 4 – January 28th, 2025 (Online)

In Attendance:

James Fequet, David Lee, Sophie Antippa, Peter Arnold, Stacey Blumer, Ahmed Altalibi, Chelsea Craig, Katherine Korakakis, Stephanie Kyle, Naomi Balardelle, Simeon Pompey, Jihyo Lee

In Absentia:

Amanda Foster, Mark Venema, Jayson Stiell, Sabrina Lawrence, Matheo Moran

1. **Welcome**

- Meeting started at 6:39 pm through Zoom videoconferencing.
- Introductions of new and returning members of governing board.

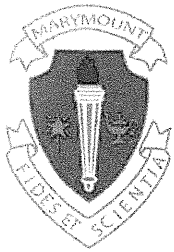
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Agenda moved by Katherine Korakakis and seconded by Sophia Antippa. All in favour.

3. **Approval of Last Meeting Minutes (Dec. 18th, 2024)** – Moved by Katherine Korakakis and seconded by Peter Arnold. Amendments moved by Katherine Korakakis and seconded by Stacey Blumer. All in favour.

- 3.1 Amendment 1 – Point 7.7.1 of previous meeting: 2-million-dollar figure has now been corrected to be 2.6 million dollars regarding the EMSB budget cuts.
- 3.2 Amendment 2 – Point 7.7.5 of previous meeting: request made to change the word “during” to “concerning” regarding Town Hall.

4. **Business Arising from Minutes**

- 4.1 Regarding Point 7.7.5 from previous meeting: update on Town Hall – Ms. Craig reached out to Marymount and Principal Fequet is conferring with the management and with the regional office. Currently waiting to hear back.
 - 4.1.1 Ms. Craig was very understanding and highlighted that she was hoping to initiate a fruitful initiative for everyone in Ward 2.
- 4.2 Regarding Point 8.3.1 from previous meeting: update on PPO – Principal Fequet has reached out to parents, but only 5 parents had responded. Another attempt will be made to encourage participation.



Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9

Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



5. Question Period

5.1 Sophia Antippa: "How do parents know that we are holding meetings online?"

5.1.1 James Fequet: Parents would need to contact principal or governing board itself and they would be provided with a link to join.

5.2 Follow-up from Katherine Korakakis: "How do parents know to reach out?" Ms. Korakakis suggested social media be used to post updates regarding governing board.

5.2.1 James Fequet: will send email and encourage parents via social media (Facebook).

6. Reports

6.1 Students' Report

6.1.1 Study Café: held in library.

6.1.1.1 Date: January 22nd, 2025

6.1.1.2 Assisted by Ms. Blumer and Ms. MacIntyre.

6.1.1.3 40 to 50 students from all levels were in attendance.

6.1.2 Upcoming event: *Music at Lunch* to be held at the cafeteria.

6.1.2.1 Date: February 14th, 2025

6.1.2.2 To be facilitated by Mr. Stiell.

6.2 Principal's Report

6.2.1 Implications of the Promotional criteria regarding Secondary 3 – 5 students.

6.2.1.1 Administration and staff will be visiting student classrooms to help them understand the meaning of these new criteria.

6.2.1.2 Priority of the school is to work with secondary 3 students. Concern from the school is for the kids who are already struggling. The school will be focusing on getting the secondary 3 students to take their academics more seriously since this potentially implicates them more than it does other grades.

6.2.1.3 "Déboulage" – In the past, if students met certain criteria, they would be allowed to move on to the following year and receive retroactive credits if they would be successful in the future.

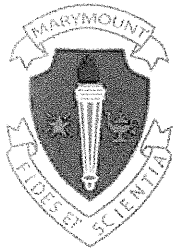
6.2.1.4 School will be taking extra measures so that students can avoid failing any of their courses in order to avoid situations of course repetition. In the event that students would need to repeat, the school wants to be ready with repeater course classrooms.

6.2.1.5 Looking at partnership with QBBE or other companies to cover all courses and all students that would be in need.

6.2.1.6 Currently, there is no indication from the ministry of any increased staffing budget.

6.2.2 Upcoming PD meeting: Presentation by Mr. Francois Massé

6.2.2.1 Subject: RTI (Response to Intervention)



Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9

Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



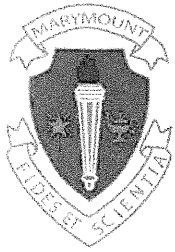
- 6.2.2.2 Date: March 14th, 2025
- 6.2.3 Black History Month Events
 - 6.2.3.1 Overture with the Arts: will be doing a presentation for secondary 3, 4, and 5 students.
 - 6.2.3.2 Segal Centre: Production from Black Theatre Workshop for secondary 5 students.
 - 6.2.3.3 Presentation by Mr. Simeon Pompey at Marymount. Mr. Ibrahim Abou Arab (Community Animator).

6.3 Teacher's Report

- 6.3.1 Mid-Year exams have ended (began on January 24th and ended on January 28th).
- 6.3.2 Feb. 4th: Secondary 2 students will go on a school tubing trip (full day).
- 6.3.3 Feb 11th: Secondary 5 students will have a tubing and skiing trip (full day).

6.4 Professional's Report

- 6.4.1 Reached out to all professionals to present reports for the meeting (including school librarian).
- 6.4.2 IB: Visited Sec. 1, 2, 3 classrooms prior to exam period to present MYP programs and outline expectations.
 - 6.4.2.1 Planning to schedule presentation with teachers (more in-depth) to address secondary 4 and 5 projects in the coming weeks.
- 6.4.3 Community service: Starting February 5th.
 - 6.4.3.1 Some IB students will be doing service hours in nearby elementary schools, at the office of MP Anthony Housefather, at the Welcome Hall Mission on February 20th, and sandwich-making with *Bread and Beyond* on March 18th.
 - 6.4.3.2 Mr. Lee will be taking on a school vlogging club with interested students from secondary 1 to secondary 5 students (open to all). The goal is to create a school news team to showcase things that are happening in school. The hope is that these vlogs will be posted on the school's social media for parents as well. Students have been notified via daily announcements and details will be posted in front of Mr. Lee's office.
- 6.4.4 The IB program is implementing an online tool called *ManageBac*, which is a one-stop location to document a student's 5-year journey in the IB MYP, from logging their community services, their secondary 5 personal projects, and even teachers' unit plans.
- 6.4.5 When asked about nature of volunteering entities and how they were selected, Mr. Lee responded that he relied on his past contacts and connections as a principal and as an educator to organize volunteering projects for students.
- 6.4.6 Ms. Anette MacIntyre Report (school librarian):



Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9

Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



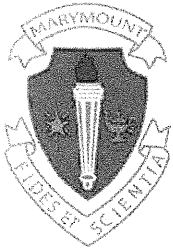
- 6.4.6.1 Focused on developing the reading culture of the school by getting to know the students individually.
- 6.4.6.2 Looking at organizing events and clubs for next year.
- 6.4.6.3 Looking to support teachers for media literacy for students.
- 6.4.6.4 At the present time, Ms. MacIntyre believes that nurturing text-based reading is a top priority. She is very grateful to be at Marymount and hopes to serve the school well.
- 6.4.6.5 804 books loaned out thus far which is a four-time increase in comparison to this time last year.
- 6.4.6.6 Created a Quebec Black History month resource list for the different curriculum areas.
- 6.4.6.7 Received a grant from *First Book Canada* to purchase 160 books for the library, as well as to host an author visit with all secondary 5 students on February 5th. The author/illustrator is Sophie Escabasse, and each student has also received a copy of her graphic novel, *Taxi Ghost*.

6.5 Regional Delegate's Report

- 6.5.1 Letters have been unanimously approved (see previous meeting minutes).
- 6.5.2 Parents have a say in the school calendar. Teachers in the Youth, Adult, and Vocational sectors have approved a 2025-2026 school calendar and sent it to the EMSB PC for consultation.
- 6.5.3 English Parent Committee Association (EPCA) updates:
 - 6.5.3.1 Last newsletter was on test anxiety. Neurotypical and special needs students.
 - 6.5.3.2 Launched website: last item was on parent governance (January 21st). Future ideas will include drug addiction, AI, etc.
 - 6.5.3.3 Budget building process: discussed its functions and why it is important to understand.
- 6.5.4 Feb. 3rd: launching 2nd national survey on wellbeing of families. Last year, close to 15,000 respondents across Quebec. Upcoming one will be held in partnership with a public health doctor.

6.6 Community Representatives Report

- 6.6.1 Most organizations in NDG (after school activities) will hold a March break camp.
 - 6.6.1.1 Seeking employees (ideally secondary 5 students).
 - 6.6.1.2 Organizations: Walkley Community Centre, Westhaven Community Centre, Jeunesse Loyola, St. Raymond Community Centre.
- 6.6.2 Feb. 5th: Mini open house at Dawson College for undecided students seeking last-minute information from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.
- 6.6.3 Mr. Pompey was reached out to by Mr. Ibrahim for presentation.



Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9

Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



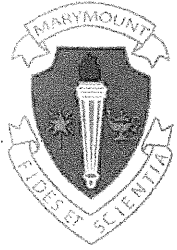
6.6.3.1 Mr. Simeon Pompey is in possession of a few “manilas” (currency that was used for the buying and the selling of slaves about 500 years ago) to show students.

6.7 Commissioner’s Report

- 6.7.1 Met with all schools in district.
- 6.7.2 Coronation School benefited from information regarding Anti-Troll Kit.
- 6.7.3 Bill 40 Appeal Case began on Monday January 27th and it was being heard in Quebec City until January 29th.
- 6.7.4 Bill 21 will be heard at Supreme Court of Canada.
 - 6.7.4.1 Big win for the EMSB.
 - 6.7.4.2 Federal government case is that non-withstanding clause cannot be used preemptively.
- 6.7.5 Upcoming meetings:
 - 6.7.5.1 Feb. 4th: EMSB meeting. Commissioner is happy to share ideas/concerns from the Marymount Governing Board.
 - 6.7.5.2 Feb. 7th: QESBA meeting.
- 6.7.6 Case from the school board: Budget cuts affect facility use by community organizations and buildings cannot remain open to public at this rate.

7. New Business

- 7.1 Approval – Revised Calendar 2024/2025 School Year (2nd Revision).
 - 7.1.1 March 24th PED Day moved to March 14th.
 - Moved by Katherine Korakakis and seconded by Naomi Balardelle
 - All in favour.
- 7.2 Approval – Budget 2024/2025: Moved by Stacey Blumer. All in favour.
 - 7.2.1 Regarding the 2.6 million dollars of budget cuts in the EMSB, schools have not been asked to make budget cuts of their own and should not be affected.
 - 7.2.2 Report is intended to be a general forecast for budget spending.
 - 7.2.3 Highlights of the budget:
 - 7.2.3.1 M18014 Budget: \$10,000 was added into the budget courtesy of Mr. Fequet and Mr. Arnold for the new Integrated project course.
 - 7.2.3.2 Total 2024/2025 Per Capita Expenses: \$54,704.
 - 7.2.3.3 Student Fees is split between covering some expenses for worksheets, consumable materials, and course packs (\$25) and their agenda (\$10).
 - 7.2.3.4 Students in secondary 5 have an added \$40 for the yearbook.
 - 7.2.4 In theory, the school fees to be collected is: \$85,990.
 - 7.2.4.1 Anticipated school fee collection: \$77,490.
 - 7.2.5 Carried governing board budget from previous years: \$1299.
 - 7.2.5.1 Flexibility in how to spend it.



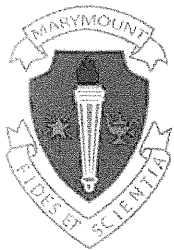
Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9

Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



-
- 7.2.6 Tutoring budgets (not regular teachers) are taken from *Activités parascolaire au secondaire* allocation.
 - 7.2.7 Psychotherapist salary budget is taken from *Accroche-toi au secondaire*.
 - 7.2.8 Director days budget: allows for release of teachers working on RTI projects.
 - 7.2.9 *Sortie milieu culturel*: allocation that allows students to enjoy cultural / arts events in and around the city (for example: the Nutcracker show).
 - 7.2.10 Total Budget for 2024/2025: \$642,811.
 - 7.2.11 Resolution for the Adoption of the Budget by the School Governing Board which forecasts revenues of \$642,811 and expenditures of \$642,811.
 - 7.2.12 See Appendix for full breakdown of budget expenses and allocations.
- 7.3 ABAV (Anti-Bullying, Anti-Violence) Plan – 2024/2025
- 7.3.1 Report is broken down into nine elements.
 - 7.3.2 Pertinant information from Marymomunt Academy: Conflict is usually interpersonal in nature since no one identifiable “group” represents the majority in such a diverse school setting.
 - 7.3.3 Many of the incidents that arise are with students who are new to the school and have not yet acclimatized to Marymount’s culture of what is acceptable and not acceptable.
 - 7.3.4 Feeling safe at school increased by 9% from the previous school year.
 - 7.3.5 Large priority of the report: Promoting well-being and healthy habits (including offering presentations from Behavior Technicians about bullying and violence prevention and offering other initiatives to give students a greater sense of belonging). On-site services from a guidance counsellor and psychotherapist for students in mental distress is also available.
 - 7.3.6 Feedback/suggestions offered to itemize the support available to students:
 - 7.3.6.1 Katherine Korakakis: Suggestion to add “working with external organizations” as feedback under “promoting well-being and healthy habits”.
 - 7.3.6.2 Stephanie Kyle: Are there any mindfulness training or relaxation events happening to help students?
 - 7.3.6.3 Chelsea Craig: suggested Camp Lift (school is working with them already).
 - 7.3.6.4 Stephanie Kyle remarked on a typo on page 8 of the report (points #2 and #7).
 - 7.3.6.5 Katherine Korakakis asked about training and de-escalation for staff (does not seem to be present in report).
 - 7.3.6.6 Katherine Korakakis asking about suspension protocol (not addressed in the report). Mr. Fequet said that it is case-by-case. Junior students usually do suspensions in school. QBBE attached to the school have tutors that work during the day (parents are offered this as an option usually). Another option offered to parents is to work with the YMCA suspension program.



Marymount Academy International

5100 Côte St. Luc Road

Montreal, Quebec, H3W 2G9

Tel.: (514) 488-8144 - Fax: (514) 488-8183



- 7.3.6.7 Simeon Pompey suggesting a summarization of the document in order to more efficiently move through the document. Mr. Pompey and members of the governing board committee appreciate the time that was put in by Mr. Fequet and acknowledge the level of professionalism that went into the report.
- 7.3.6.8 Katherine Korakakis: Asking if “Fake News” was a point that was left out from “Digital Citizenship” intentionally or if it was planning to be addressed on a different point. Mr. Fequet reply was that critical thinking skills are developed for students through their courses.
- 7.3.6.9 Katherine Korakakis: Asking if someone can report incident anonymously. Mr. Fequet suggested that it is not good practice. Students are assured that all reporting remains confidential. Students given every tool to contact staff and administration member if they ever needed to reach out to someone from the school.
- 7.3.7 See Appendix for further information.
- 7.3.8 Motion to adopt the plan as-is with the two grammatical corrections raised by governing board: Moved by David Lee and seconded by Stephanie Kyle.
 - 7.3.8.1 No nays, 1 abstention, all in favour.

7.4 Approval for fundraiser for graduation

- 7.4.1 Lamontagne chocolates: Pay \$108 for the box, kids can make a 50% profit.
- 7.4.2 Proceeds will go to school prom.
- 7.4.3 Chocolates would be sold from students directly or from the main office. Students from other levels welcomed to buy some there.
- 7.4.4 Motion moved by Naomi Balardelle and seconded by Katherine Korakakis. All in favour.

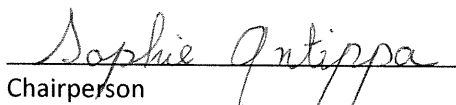
7.5 Varia

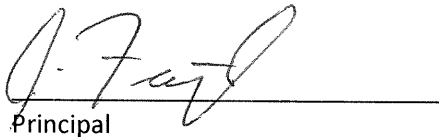
- 7.5.1 Budget cuts: Schools have not been asked to make cuts, despite cuts to the EMSB budget.

8. Date of Next Meeting

- 8.1 Tuesday February 25th, 2025, at 6:30pm via videoconferencing.

Adjournment – 9:40 PM - Moved by Sophie Antippa and seconded by Peter Arnold. All in favour.


Chairperson


Principal