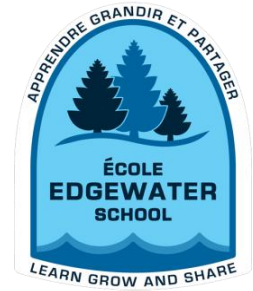


Edgewater Governing Board Minutes

September 22, 2015



Governing Board:

Parents:	Staff:	Administration:	Regrets:
Mike Aragona (Chair) Kris de Forest (RA) Vanessa Nolet Nadia Franceschini Claudette Benoit (RR) Suzanne Hermann Darryl Climan	Claudia De Fazio Danielle Nethercott Daphne Amster Debbie King-Brassard Sandra Nouh Trish Schofield	Liz Rivard (Principal) Beth Miller (Daycare)	Kris de Forest Vanessa Nolet Nadia Franceschini Daphne Amster
		Commissioner: Wayne Clifford	
		Community: (TBC)	Absences:
			Guests: Jennifer Boleska Athanasia Antonopoulos
RR = Regional Parent Committee Representative RA = Regional Parent Committee Alternate Sec = Secretary			

- 1) Welcome at 19:02
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda
Motioned by Beth Miller, Seconded by Darryl Climan; All in Favor
- 3) Adoption of the Sept 10, 2015 Minutes
Motion to approve by Suzanne Hermann, Seconded by Darryl Climan; All in Favor
- 4) Vote for the Governing Board Positions
 - a) Mike Aragona as Chair, Darryl Climan as Vice-Chair
 - b) Kris de Forest as Regional Parent Committee Alternate
 - c) Mike Aragona as Secretary. When not available, a Secretary will be named.
 - d) Liz Rivard as Treasurer
- 5) Question Period (for Public questions to the Governing Board)
 - a) **No Questions**
- 6) Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a) Major School Change
 - i) No communications or feedback sent to the School or to the GB Chair on this topic
 - ii) 3 GB Members began work in June on this subject. Request made to share the information with other members of governing board ASAP. If the Brief is supposed to be from

Edgewater, it requires Edgewater Governing Board feedback and approval. Brief would also have more weight if it came from the school's representative parent body, rather than individuals.

- iii) GB Chair to reach out to GB Chair of St. Patrick's for possible joint effort in similar Brief.
- iv) Concern of Parents at meeting revolved around fear of re-zoning
- v) As Brief needs to be submitted prior to October 31, 2015, a working session could be scheduled at Edgewater should email collaboration not be sufficient.

7) Reports

- a) School Council
 - i) No report. Meeting next week.
- b) Principal's Report – See Addendum #1
 - i) Grade 6 Teacher changing in January
- c) Commissioner's Report
 - i) Budget rules were set out first week in July. Some funds were found for Librarians for schools with libraries.
 - ii) There was a re-organization at Head Office:
Steven Colpitts (former Region 1 Director of Schools) appointed as Interim Director of Human Resources, effective July 1, 2015; and Veronique Marin appointed Director of Schools (Region 1) effective September 1, 2015; Christopher Fuzessy appointed Interim Director of Schools (Region 2) effective September 1, 2015;
Other Appointments:
Jennifer KURTA Principal, Verdun Elementary Appointed – Principal LaSalle Community Comprehensive High School
Kerry Ann PAYETTE Vice Principal, Horizon- Appointed – Principal Springdale Elementary School
Sandra LUTHER Vice Principal, JRHS, Appointed– Principal Verdun Elementary School
Diisa NIEMI Staff Assistant and Sec. Science/Math Teacher, Horizon -Appointed – Vice Principal Horizon High School
Mark TRAVERSY Teacher, Riverdale High School Appointed – Vice Principal John Rennie High School
 - iii) Minister of Education wants to remove School Boards.
- d) Regional Parent Committee Report
 - i) No report. First meeting October 1, 2015
- e) Daycare Report – See Addendum #2
- f) Home & School
 - i) No report.

8) Question Period (for Public questions to the Governing Board related to the Reports)

- a) **Question:** Can the Library only be used on Wednesdays?
Response: We will have a Librarian on Wednesday and Volunteers can do circulation of books Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Will need to confirm about Mondays.

- b) **Question:** Why are the outstanding Lunch fees so high?
Response: Daycare is a service and we can hold that back for those who aren't paying. There is no alternative for Lunch and thus children must be accepted/ watched.
 - c) **Question:** If we have 2 children in Daycare, which number do we use to pay with?
Response: Either one is good as siblings are linked in the system. The reason there are two numbers is to allow blended families to have receipts issued to each parent if required.
- 9) New Business
- a) Governing Board Internal Rules of Operation
 - i) Document will be sent out, please review prior to next meeting and submit any changes you believe necessary
 - b) Schedule of Governing Board Meetings 2015-2016
 - i) Meetings will be held on: Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15, 2015 and Feb 16, Mar 22, April 19, May 24, June 14, 2015. Any changes will be communicated promptly.
- 10) Correspondence
- a) Pearson Educational Foundation August 2015 Newsletter (distributed via email)
- 11) Varia
- a) **No items to review**
- 12) Adjournment: Motioned by Beth Miller at 20:00, Seconded by Darryl Climan; All in favor

Date Minutes Adopted	Chairperson	Principal
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Addendum #1 – Principal's Report

Principal's Report to Governing Board September 22nd, 2015 Meeting



- Thank you to returning members, and welcome to new members of Governing Board.
- School start up went well over all. Some upheaval due to last minute staffing changes and registrations, but we got through it! This year's school wide theme is "I Love to Read".
- Meet the teacher night for K's (held before school opening) went well. Curriculum evening for all other parents also a success.
- 5 homeroom teachers new to the school this year, and two specialists. Grade six ELA teacher will change in January. 2 stagiaires from Concordia and McGill will start the year with us – one art, one phys. Ed.
- Our wonderful school psychologist, Eliza Ecrement, is returning for 2015 – 2016..
- Interim report cards going out on Oct. 9th, along with Individualized Education Plans for students who require additional support. A description of the school's evaluation plan has also been distributed to parents.
- Our numbers continue to impress with 457 students registered in 2015 -2016.
- The after school homework program for selected students will start as soon as possible after distribution of interim reports. Children selected based on teacher recommendation.
- Shaping up to be a bit of a challenging year with teacher contract negotiations, major school change and budget cuts to start us us. For now, the only labour action that directly affects the students is the work to rule. PTU votes tomorrow on rotating strikes and total ECA ban. At the school level, no extracurricular activities/field trips/special class visitors until labor negotiations settled, including dance program.
- Effort being made to encourage parents to pay school fees asap. Delivery of agendas and workbooks was delayed a bit to remind parents these are not freebies.
- Waiting for news from the city on the move to Martel Street for Edgewater's drop off zone. No official word yet, but looks like all parking on 8th avenue and in front of school will be prohibited.
- Grade five and six parents should be checking the Board website in the coming weeks for the list of Open Houses for the local high schools. The registration form for enrichment program entrance exams is available on our website.
- Chartwells survey revealed users really want the service, so as a compromise, it will continue but only two days a week.
- Librarian service reinstated – one day per week. Integration aide allocation just increased by 5 hours per day to 44 hours. (equivalent to 9 full time aides)
- Fire drill and lockdown update. One fire drill held already, lockdown in the next few days.. Students did an acceptable job of evacuating the school but need to take drill a little more seriously.
- Bus safety and student behaviour continue to be a concern. I will distribute the Edgewater Bus Safety Contract for signature by parents in the next few weeks to spur dialogue on the home front about the importance of calm, quiet behavior on the school buses. Reminder to parents: NO child, at any time, for any reason, is allowed to take any bus, other than the one designated by transportation, to come to school or to go home. There is to be no deviation from this rule.
- Mrs. Rivard's summer reading contest winners will be announced shortly.
- **No Service contracts yet to approve, as no information on budgets yet available.**

Addendum #2 – Daycare

Daycare Notes September 22, 2015

Dr. Seuss is the overall theme of the daycare for the coming year. Thing 1 and Thing 2, Red Fish Blue Fish and the Sneetches have all been a part of the daycare in the first few weeks!

Registration:

- Numbers are slightly lower than last year
- 177 students: 5 days /week (compared to 187 last year)
- 20 additional students use the daycare 2 days/week
- Students and staff are into a good routine. The K's have adapted well. The teaching staff has been most accommodating and supportive, sharing resources and the classrooms.
- Effective September 1, 2015 the Quebec Government has raised the daily daycare rate from \$7.30 to \$8.00/day. This does not affect the lunch fees, which are \$35.00/month. Ped Day Rates have also been raised from \$7.30 to \$10.00/ped day.

Staffing:

- There are 8 daycare groups in the morning and 9 groups in the afternoon. In addition to our regular staff we have 3 additional educators supporting students with special needs.
- Our lunch staff has remained the same this year. In addition to the 22 educators in the home rooms, we have 7 additional staff working to support special needs and the office.

Training:

- Three educators are registered for the FSSTT workshop series held at the board.
- Nineteen educators have been recertified with first aid and CPR in August 2015.

Communication:

- Daycare and lunch information has been posted on the web which has had positive feedback. E.g. ped day forms, on-line banking instructions
- Parents need to be reminded that they must direct all daycare communication in a separate note c/o the daycare. Writing in the agenda is good for the teacher but not for the daycare. Two notes are required - one for daycare and one for the teacher.

Safety:

- Like last year the daycare can no longer accommodate last minute changes to a daycare schedule. If the child is in daycare 5 days/week the parents must make arrangements for someone to pick the children up at the daycare. We cannot honor requests for busing via a note. This has been put in place to secure the safety of all our students.

On-Line payments for Lunch and Daycare Fees:

- Overwhelming success! We continue to be one of the top schools for opting to pay on-line. Some parents thought they could also pay their school fees but unfortunately that is not an option yet.

Ped Day Update:

- 80 students registered for the in-house "friendship" ped day last week.
- A Multicultural ped day in-house is planned for October 2, 2015.
- We are heading to McMaze on October 19, 2015. We have 2 buses secured.

Ped Days 2015-2016:

- Although we are trying to keep the cost down with "In-House" ped days it puts a huge strain on the teachers who need their classrooms to work in on ped days.
- Aside from McMaze the only other major field trip with busing planned will be in the spring to Parc Omega. The remaining outings will be to Parc Olympique sliding, to play in the splash park in the early summer and for a picnic. We also have not contracted any companies for in-house ped days because of the cost.

Chartwells:

- The service is now available 2 days/week, Tuesday and Thursday. We are paying 2 staff 40 minutes/week to distribute the meals. The funds are coming out of the daycare budget.