

Dorval Elementary School Governing Board Meeting



Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2025	6:45 PM	DES Staff Room and virtual
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Meeting called by	DES Principal, Heather-Anne Denton
Parent Members	Jinny Conte, Patrick Dubeau, Guy Vezina, Erin Mullins, Micheline Alexis
Alternate Members	Madeleine Steinmetz-Wood, Jason Webb
Staff Members	Heather-Anne Denton (Principal), Joanne Barette, Brenda Collazos-Alva, Corine Stibor, Stephanie Boulet, Melanie Bougie-Richer (teachers), Carol Gauthier (support staff), Rosa Gatto (SEED)
Community Member	Chelsea Doret
Commissioner	Patrick Whitham

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Call official meeting to order (Quorum, Welcome) at 6:51 p.m.**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
 - Approved by J. Barette, seconded by B. Collazos-Alva.
3. **Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from January 22, 2024**
 - J. Barette asked that amendments be made to the list of present members from the meeting.
 - Minutes were approved by C. Stibor and seconded by M. Bougie-Richer.
4. **Business arising**
 - The LBPSB Principals' Selection Criteria was discussed which will be sent to the Board for approval.
5. **Public Question Period**
 - No questions raised.
6. **Reports**
 - 6.1 **Principal Report (Heather-Anne Denton)**
 - The staff took part in recent professional development events on February 7 and 17, 2025.
 - On February 17, a meeting took place with the Special Needs Planning Committee to discuss the school and the students' needs for the following academic year.

- The winter session of extra-curricular activities began on February 10 with 120 registrations.
- Registration for the next academic year is currently going well. More information will be at the meeting in March.

6.2 Teachers report (Stephanie Boulet)

- Author, Genevieve Dumais, came to the school to present to the students in early February.
- On February 5, the kindergarten and Grade 2 students went to the Ecole du Cirque de Verdun.
- The auditions for the DES Variety Show have begun. The show will be taking place on February 27.
- On February 12, a course on puberty took place for the older students.
- Vision screening tests took place for the kindergarten students on February 19.
- Carnival will be taking place the week of February 24, with many activities planned for the students throughout the week.
- The students have been learning about Black History Month with Ms. Patricia, as well as in class.
- Many thanks were given to the Home and School for the staff appreciation lunch as well as the coffee cart and gifts that were provided.

6.3 SEED report (Rosa Gatto)

- The ped day on February 7 went well and was enjoyed by the students.
- The February 17 ped day was cancelled due to the weather.
- Tax receipts will be out on February 28 and parents will be able to retrieve them from Mosaik. Receipts will be mailed out to those who are not at the school anymore.

6.4 Support Staff report (Carole Gauthier)

- On January 24, the teachers and staff attended a variety of workshops.
- On February 17, the teachers and staff attended a workshop by Shelley Moore.
- C. Gauthier thanked the Home and School for the generous lunch for Staff Appreciation Week.
- A note of thanks was given to the DES caretakers who have ensured that the school walkways are clear of ice and snow for the students, parents and staff.

6.5 LBPSB Parent Committee (Madeleine Steinmetz-Wood)

- There are no updates at this time as the next meeting will be taking place on February 20.

6.6 LBPSB District Commissioner (Patrick Whitham)

- P. Whitham shared the report with members. No questions were raised.

6.7 Community Representative (Jinny Conte of behalf of Chelsea Doret)

- A workshop entitled "Visible Mending" will be taking place on March 2, 2025 at 13:30. This is a free bilingual activity for ages 10 to 14. Advance registration is required. Attendees will be using needle, thread, and fabric (with patterns inspired by manga!) to create beautiful patches using the traditional Japanese artistic mending technique called Sashiko.

- On March 4, 2025, “Make a Mobile” workshop will be taking place from 13:30 - 14:30. Advance registration is required. This is a free bilingual activity for ages 5 to 12 where attendees can use their creativity, and some upcycled materials to make a beautiful mobile to decorate a garden or patio.
- “L’air et l’atmosphère” workshop will be taking place on March 6, 2025 from 13:30 - 14:30. This will be a free activity for ages 6 to 12 and advance registration is required. Attendees will learn about the air and what holds our atmosphere in place through a series of fun hands-on experiments using a vacuum created with vacuum bells.
- “Green” Singalong with Shawny will be taking place on March 7, 2025 from 13:30 - 14:30. This is a free bilingual activity for ages 5 to 12. Advance registration is required. Children’s musical entertainer Shawny will perform upbeat, interactive songs about nature, recycling, and our beautiful planet!

6.8 H & S report (Jinny Conte)

- The last meeting took place on February 12. Part of the meeting included a meeting with the sub committee for Staff Appreciation Week.
- The desserts, plates and cutlery for the staff appreciation lunch were provided by the parents in collaboration with the Home & School.
- The Zumba Night fundraiser was discussed. The two events will be taking place in April and in May.
- The details for the year end Carnival were discussed.
- Kindergarten orientation gifts were reviewed. T-shirts might be an option this year.
- A contest through the Montreal Canadiens Foundation was also brought up that would include a possible donation of play structures and revamping the school yard. Details still need to be discussed.
- The Home and School is working on a possibly adding vinyl art to the walls of the school’s entrance.
- The next meeting will be taking place on March 19 at 7:30 p.m. virtually.

7. New Business

Approval of Field Trips & Fundraising

- Ms. Denton reported that on March 20 the Grade 5 and 6 students will be taking a bus to St. Thomas High School to see their play of the Wizard of Oz. The cost would be \$5.00 per student. This was approved by M. Bouchie-Richer and seconded by S. Boulet. Unanimously approved.
- On March 24, the Phys Ed. team is looking to take the students to a Tchoukball tournament. This was approved by R. Gatto and C. Gauthier. Unanimously approved.
- On May 28, the kindergarten classes will be going to La Ferme Andre. The cost would be \$25.00 per student. Teachers, integration aids and parent volunteers will be in attendance. This was approved by E. Mullins and G. Vezina. Unanimously approved.
- On April 25, the Grade 5 students will be going to the Montreal Science Center. There is no cost to students as the outing falls under the school’s cultural grant. This was approved by M. Alexis and C. Stibor. Unanimously approved.
- On June 19, the Grade 6 students will have an outing to the pool. This was approved by J. Barette and M. Bougie-Richer. Unanimously approved.

8. Varia

- No items were raised.

9. Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be taking place on March 26, 2025 at 6:45 p.m. (hybrid)

10. Adjournment

- The motion to adopt the adjournment of the meeting was made by G. Vezina and seconded by M. Alexis. Unanimously approved.