

Dorval Elementary School Governing Board Meeting



Meeting Minutes		
November 29, 2023	6:54PM	DES Staffroom

Meeting called by	DES Principal, Heather-Anne Denton
Parent Members Alternate Members	Micheline Alexis, Jinny Conte, Christina Del Zingaro, Jessica Dings, Sara Valle
Staff Members	Brenda Barrera, Joanne Barette, Stephanie Boulet, Heather-Anne Denton (Principal), Carol Gauthier, Ashley Kennedy, Joan Fenner, Fe Manibog
Community Representatives	Chelsea Doret

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Call official meeting to order (Quorum, Welcome) at 6:54pm.**
2. **Adoption of Agenda.**
 - Approved by Joanne, seconded by Brenda.
3. **Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from October 25th, 2023.**
 - Approved by Stephanie, seconded by Carol.
4. **Business Arising from previous meeting.**
 - No new business.
4. **Reports**
 - a. **Principal Report (Ms Denton):**
 - i. A fire drill was conducted on Nov 2nd at 9:30 am. The school was evacuated within 3 minutes and 50 seconds.
 - ii. On Nov. 8th, junior and senior assemblies were held, with guest speakers from the Royal Canadian Navy, in honour of Remembrance Day. Poems and songs were prepared as a tribute to our veterans, followed by a procession led by a bagpiper.
 - iii. Term 1 Report Cards were posted on November 20th with Parent/Teacher interviews held on the evening of November 20th and during the Ped Day of November 24th. (The original dates were changed due to the scheduled strike days of November 21, 22 & 23).
 - iv. Through Measure 18014, a grant was received to purchase pickleball equipment for our P.E. Program, totaling \$2,375.
 - v. Grade 6 Enrichment Program Exams were held at the school on November 17th. 27 students registered to write the exam.
 - vi. The Transco Bus Strike is ongoing which currently affects students on Bus 15. Extended supervision has been offered to those families.

- vii. Appreciation to families for their understanding and flexibility with regards to the strike action taken by the Common Front. Also, commendation to DES Staff for their continued professionalism throughout these challenging times.

b. Teacher report (Mme Stephanie):

- i. Grade 6 students successfully prepared and ran Halloween stations for all grade levels providing lots of fun for all.
- ii. Miss Patricia has been working with classes to create Christmas cards for seniors. She will continue this activity until the winter break.
- iii. The Leadership Program with Cycle 3 students has started. These students are out on duty during recess.
- iv. After much preparation and hard work the report cards for Term 1 have been posted. Between report cards and Parent/Teacher interviews, everything has gone well.
- v. Enrichment exams for Grade 6 students took place on Nov 17.
- vi. Grade 1 classes had the Eco-Museum come in on November 28th.
- vii. Friday, December 1st is Dorval tree-lighting ceremony with some students participating in a concert organized by Mme Suzanne.
- viii. Friday, December 1st, some grade 6 students will participate in a robotics competition at Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School.
- ix. Teachers wish to express their thanks to parents for their ongoing support during the strike.

c. SEED Program Report (Ms Fe)

- i. Back-to-back activities were organized for the two Friday ped days, with Carnival day taking place at the school on the 17th, and Movie day (movie: Trolls) taking place at the cinema on the 24th. The kids really enjoyed both activities.
- ii. Ms. Fee expressed gratitude to SEED staff for their joint support, especially during the absence of Ms. Rosa. Everyone is stepping up offering to help to ensure that everything continues to operate smoothly.
- iii. A glitch was reported with the Avant Garde system regarding billing. As such, Avant Garde is still being used but it is now also being backed up with the Mozaik system.

d. Support Staff (Ms. Carol)

- i. Happy to Welcome Mr. Jacob Soles to the Seed program. Jacob is the new Handicap Attendant.

e. LBPSB Parent Committee (Jinny Conte)

- i. Budgeting issues with integration aides was reported. The committee would like to see if they can help the schools on this front.
- ii. Sub-committees were formed (based on proximity to each other) to join 3 times a year to have closer discussions together (Dorval, Pointe-Claire, and Lachine, for example).

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f. LBPSB District Commissioner (Patrick Whitham):

- i. Mr. Whitham sent his regrets, as well as a document outlining some of the highlights from the last regular Council of Commissioners meeting of November 27th, 2023.
- ii. Main highlights from this document detail new Administrative Appointments, and other administrative decisions.

g. Community Representative (Chelsea)

- i. DES Story Time – December 15th for the kindergarten classes (had to change the schedule due to the strike)
- ii. The Holiday Craft Corner – From December 1 to January 7 at the Peter B. Yeomans Cultural Centre. The schedule is Monday to Friday, 1pm to 9pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 5pm. Free coffee, hot chocolate and cookies will be available, while listening to Christmas music, or reading a book, or making a craft.
- iii. The Dorval Art Hive will take place December 3, 10, and 17 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. This will entail free arts and crafts at the Peter B. Yeomans Cultural Centre.
- iv. The Dorval Christmas Market will be held from December 1 to 17. Operating hours: Friday: 4pm to 9pm; Saturday: noon to 9pm; and Sunday: noon to 5pm.
- v. Tree lighting takes place December 1st in the Dorval Village.
- vi. Dorval Museum will have a holiday exhibit called Toy Stories. The operating hours are Thursday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm.
- vii. A special event is being organized on Saturday, December 9th from 11am to 3pm. Stéphane Corriveau, a great connoisseur and collector of antique toys will be onsite to tell the stories behind any old toy that visitors bring in. Those interested can make an appointment to bring in their toy to learn the toy's history. Advance registration is required.

h. Home & School (Christina):

- i. The Fall Fair was a great success with approximately \$9k in revenue. Final numbers still being tallied. Thanks to all those who came out to enjoy the activities offered. Special thanks to all volunteers.
- ii. The next initiative being focused on is the Christmas baskets collection to Dorval Community Aid. H&S requests that teachers continue to remind parents via their communication platforms that the collection is ongoing until mid-December.
- iii. Upon return after the winter break, focus will shift to Staff Appreciation (taking place in February).
- iv. Next meeting: January 15th (virtual meeting)

5. New Business

a. 2023-24 Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence document

- i. Was circulated to GB. Only the highlighted parts are for us to comment upon. In short, there is a new section on sexual violence, and there will be a year-end evaluation of how the school performs against these new measures.
 - Sara asked who is involved in the school with this?

Heather-Anne advised that there are different representatives from each cycle and resource staff.

2. Sara asked if the results of the year-end evaluation be shared? Heather-Anne advised that the results would be share at one of the end-of-year meetings.

Motion to approve: unanimous approval

b. Field Trips:

- i. Grade 6: April 4 & 5 winter camp; includes 2 days of animation, meals, bus & 6 adults. The estimated cost is \$180 per student. This cost factors in the fundraising they are doing during the year.
Approved by Joanne, seconded by Ms. Fe.
- ii. Robotics Challenge: Friday, Dec 1st at PC HS. Staff and volunteer parents will be carpooling to bring the students there. 12 students going.
Approved by Jessica, seconded by Brenda.
- iii. Grade 1 to go to L'École du Cirque in Verdun in January. All 3 classes will be going, as well as 7 adults. The cost is \$38 per student. They will spend the day engaged in different fun circus-related activities (no trampoline or tight rope!), transportation will be by bus. The full cost will be to parents, however, H&S will be asked to subsidize.
Approved by Jessica, seconded by Miss Fe.

c. SEED Program Ped days:

- i. Very expensive trying to find activities with bussing.
- ii. Jan. 25: Bowling at Laurentian Lanes, \$15.75 supervision fee, plus \$9 bowling cost, plus \$8. 50 bus fees. The total is \$33.25.
Approved by Stephanie, seconded by Jessica.
- iii. Feb 9: Skating at the Dorval Arena. Students will leave school at 9:45a.m. to walk to the arena. A room will be rented at the arena so that the students can have snack while some are on the ice and vice-versa. Total cost will be \$17.75, \$15.75 invitation fee plus \$2.00 for the ice and room. Adult/student ratio will be met.
Approved by Joanne, seconded by Brenda.
- iv. Feb 19: Pajama party. A pancake snack will be served (in-house) \$17.25 (15.75 invitation fee, \$2.00 for supplies).
Approved by Jessica, seconded by Ms. Fenner.
- v. April 22nd, still working on it (was considering FunTropolis but it's too expensive). Most likely going to be an in-house activity to avoid the bus fees.
Approved by Jessica, Miss Fenner
- vi. May 10: Pop Art Painting on Canvas - \$15.75 invitation fee, \$23 for activity. Total cost of activity: \$38. 75.
Approved by Jessica, seconded by Ms. Fenner.
 - Chelsea asked about renting city buses, however, the staff are not comfortable with the kids standing on the bus (given that city buses do not have enough seats for all children).

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- Jinny asked if SEED would be interested in organizing a dance activity (Funky Feet) as she has a contact. Jessica also has a list with a bunch of activities and contacts that she will share with Miss Carol.
- Micheline asked if these activities (dance) are for the whole day or just a portion? Miss Carol: broken down into groups, operating on a rotation. Miss Carol would be happy to have all contacts offered.

6. **Next Meeting:** [January 24, 6:45pm, virtual. \(link to be sent prior to meeting\)](#)

7. **Adjournment at 7:37pm.** Approved by Jessica, seconded by Ms. Fe.