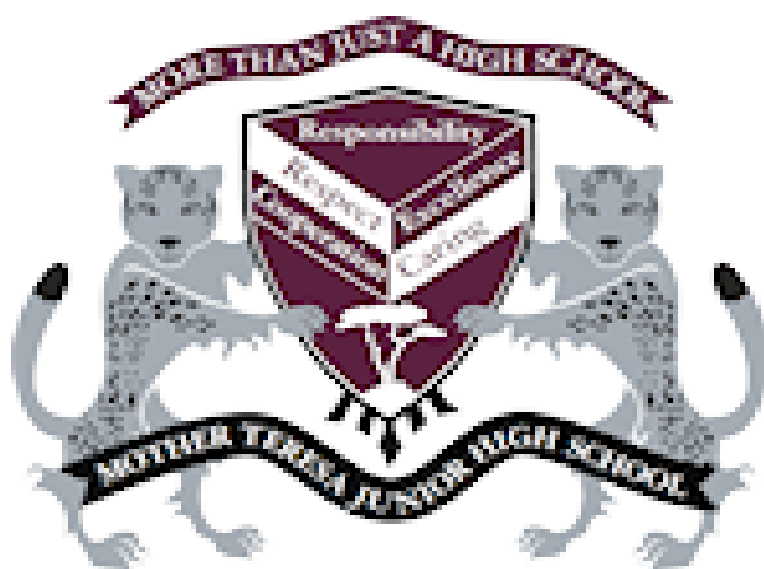


Mother Teresa Junior High School

Governing Board Annual Report
2013-2014



Submitted by

Ms. Dena Chronopoulos, Principal



School Context

Mother Teresa Junior High School is located in Chomedey Laval, at 2323 Daniel-Johnson. Mother Teresa has a student population of approximately 685 students, encompassing both secondary 1 and 2 students.

Mother Teresa Junior rates a 5 in socio-economic index (the rating ranges from 1-10; 1 being most advantageous).

Most of our students are from dual-income families. Our clientele is growing as evidenced by our increased yearly enrollment. We are getting more and more attention as a *Junior High School Institution of Excellence*, being recognized as an active and participating school in the Laval community.

We have a large and diverse staff at MTJHS. Along with the Principal and Vice-Principal, there are 43 teachers. There are 1.5 student supervisors, 3.5 full time attendants, 2 full-time and 1 part-time secretaries. In addition, we have a full-time Behaviour Technician, a full-time Special Education Technician, and a full-time Guidance Counselor. Within a shared building, we share a Psychologist, a Librarian, a Nurse, a Social Worker and 7 caretakers with LSHS.

Student engagement is an important consideration of the teaching staff. Project-based activities and the use of technology continue to be incorporated in the classroom, and will continue to be incorporated in the development of lesson plans next year. The school is equipped with a wireless network and many new additions are being installed before the next school year to align ourselves as a 21st Century learning institution.

Students, in addition to their MELS curriculum, participate in a variety of activities, including:

- Transitional activities/orientation for new students
- Welcome Back Barbecue (September)
- End of Year Barbecue (June)
- Terry Fox Run
- Remembrance Day Ceremonies
- Community Breakfast (Joint initiative between MTJHS/LSHS)
- Winter Carnival
- Broadway Production Play: *GREASE*
- Anti-Bullying week
- Moot Court (Superior Court simulation led by ELA students)
- ECA activities

- Sports Clubs
- Leadership Grade 6 Soccer Tournament/Bois de Boulogne yearly tournament
- School-wide Shakespeare presentation
- Reptiles-Fineline Serpents
- Ericsson Project with ALP
- Leadership Lunchtime activities
- Organized Sports Competitions within the school board (soccer and basketball-boys/girls)
- Intra-mural sports activities
- Les Brigades Culinaires
- School Dances
- La Ronde-school-wide initiative
- School-Wide viewing at The Colliseum movie theatre
- Day of Pink (International Day against bullying, discrimination, homophobia and transphobias in schools and communities)
- Boston Trip
- Leadership Camping Trip
- Assemblies
- Award Ceremonies
- Science Fair
- Comedy Night Fundraiser
- Scholastics Book Fair
- Fundraisers: Purple Day, Free the Children, Denim Day, Window of Hope, Leukemia, Alesia's Magnolias etc.)
- Poetry Institute Contest
- Young Authors Initiative
- End-of-Year dance for Grade 8 students

Programs Available:

- Positive Behavior Support through a Positive Behavior Plans
- SOS Learn
- Daily Tutorials provided by teachers
- At-Risk Tutorials (mid-year)

- Homework Center
- Chillin' Lounge
- Beyond Words (Anger Management Program)
- Girl Talk
- Dance Troupe
- École en Santé
- Peliqu'an (Initiative with Ecole Armand Corbeil)
- Special Measures- Culture in Schools (visiting authors), Jeune-Actif
- Individual Education Plans for students with special needs
- Soccer Program
- Afterschool Hockey Program
- Ericsson Canada (project consisted of developing mobile apps)

Governing Board

Membership

The Mother Teresa Junior high school Governing Board is comprised of 5 parents, 4 teachers and 1 professional. The Principal and Recording Secretary attend all meetings.

- Chairperson: Mary Cataldo *2 year term*
- Alternate Chairperson: Dorinda Raymond *2 year term*
- Parent Representative: Ottavio Luca *2 year term*
- Parent Representative: Chantal Pelletier *2 year term*
- Parent Representative: Orazio DeRosa *2 year term*
- Parent Representative: Joanne Dion *2 year term*
- Parent Committee Representative: Dorinda Raymond/Chantal Pelletier (Alternate) *annual term*
- Principal: Dena Chronopoulos
- Teacher: Valerio Gazzola *1 year term*
- Teacher: Iskander Awadalla *1 year term*
- Teacher: Nathalie Potier *1 year term*
- Teacher: Richard Pellino *1 year term*
- Professional: Dominic Di Stefano *1 year term*
- Secretary: Angela Martorana *annual term*

Brief Description of Meetings

- GB meetings – Starting Time: 7:00 p.m.
- GB meetings are held once a month from September – June. This year, we conducted 9 meetings in total.
- GB dates are fixed at first meeting in September.
- Agenda is prepared by the Principal and discussed with the Chairperson issued two days prior to the GB meeting.
- GB agendas, minutes, and Principal's report outline are issued by email before the GB meeting.
- Parent guests have 10 minutes to express any questions.

Main Decisions Taken in 2013 - 2014

- Internal Rules of Procedure
- Future of Laval Schools
- Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Plan
- Calendar of Activities
- Programs of Study 2013-2014
- School Fieldtrips
- Budgetary Consultation/Budget Approval/Annual Budget
- Fundraising
- Use of Premises-Rentals
- Catering 2013-2014
- Subject-Time Allocations 2013-2014
- Guest speakers and presentations (example: Teen Truth, the Alouettes, etc.).
- Dress Code
- School Fees 2014--2015
- School Organization 2014-2015
- Success Plan (MESA)
- Budget Building Process Consultation
- Consultation: Criteria for the Selection of a Principal
- Capital Projects for the School

- Deeds of Establishment

Mother Teresa Junior high school has a vibrant and dedicated Governing Board and Parent Participation Organization. Both Committees meet every month to oversee the organization and running of the school. Both committees have demonstrated their commitment and interest to school improvement and continue to work in a harmonious way with the staff and administration.

Additional Information

As all the stakeholders in the School/Centre Community work cooperatively together, supporting each other, we are able to achieve success for our students. Our commitment to success is of paramount importance as we implement and monitor and adjust the objectives we have outlined for our school this year.

- We have worked hard to create a *Standards and Procedures* document which outlines the processes used to determine judgment for students' achievement.
- The Code of Conduct was revised and updated.
- Our Resource Team, professionals, and support staff have reviewed their plan for next year to better support all our students and teachers within an inclusive setting.
- We are creating a new '*Planning Room/Resource Room*' to better support our at-risk clientele.
- A *Jeune Actif* grant of approximately \$22000 was allocated to our school this year to support physical activity for all our students.
- A MELS grant of \$10000 was submitted to create new school sports teams for both boys and girls. This amount will help purchase equipment, uniforms, and subsidize the recruitment of coaches.
- A grant of \$1800 was awarded by SWLSB to our Green Club through the Young Entrepreneur Initiative.
- The Regional Soccer Association provided us a grant of \$3000 to help promote fut-ball in Laval-this contribution helped support our Leadership Program's initiative to organize our yearly Grade 6 soccer tournament and to subsidize the transportation of all the feeder schools who participated to MTJHS.
- 8 students attended the Laurier Gala in May 2013. Administration and MTJHS staff members were present to support our recipients.

- Two GB and one PPO member attended the SWL Foundation event in January 2014, with the Principal, one teacher and one of our professionals. 10 teachers, professionals, and support staff members attended the Lobster Mania event on June 12th.
- The following materials were acquired through various measures, school funds, PPO fundraising initiatives to complement the technology and programs already in place at our school:
 - 20 iPads
 - 13 SMART boards
 - 13 laptops
 - 1 iPad charging cart for iPads
 - 1 charging tray for the IPL-C class
 - A fully equipped Video-Conferencing Unit
 - WiFi and new access points within each classroom
 - New refurbished computers for our library
 - Various assistive technology and sensory materials
 - Science resources for our school laboratory
 - French resources
 - English resources
 - Physical Education equipment
 - Math licenses for technology and interactive device to use with Smartboard
 - Special needs material to support our students in our Focus and IPL-C classes

APPENDIX:

The Complete Calendar of Events/Fieldtrips & Fundraising 2013-2014

August

- Aug. 30 STL OPUS Card- Sec. 1
- Aug. 30 Orientation Day-First Day

September

- Sept. 02 Labour Day
- Sept. 06 Corn Roast
- Sept. 12 Parent/Teacher Mini School Night/ General Assembly
- Sept. 16-17 School Portraits & ID Card Photos
- Sept. 19 Dress Down Day
- Sept. 23-24 Sec. 1 ALP Arundel Trip

October

- Oct. 04 CIEAU & Rabaska a la Riviere des Mille Iles
- Oct. 09 – 10 Jardin Botanique & Biodome
- Oct. 10 First Communication
- Oct. 10 Dress Down Day – Leukemia
- Oct. 16 Environmental Education Performance
- Oct. 18 Dance/Dress Down Day-Student Council
- Oct. 31 Halloween Costume Day

November

- Nov. 06 Ender's Game Movie Outing
- Nov. 11 Remembrance Day
- Nov. 15 Walking Tour of Montreal
- Nov. 15 Dress Down Day-Leadership
- Nov. 18-22 Book Fair
- Nov. 19 1st Term Report Card
- Nov. 20 Salon du Livre
- Nov. 21 Parent/Teacher Night
- Nov. 25 WE Day
- Nov. 25 Wendake Day Trip
- Nov. 25 Window of Hope Fundraiser Begins

December

- Dec. 06 Dress Down Day- Charity
- Dec. 12 Open House
- Dec. 19 Community Breakfast- Window of Hope Fundraiser Ends
- Dec. 20 Dress Down Day-Leadership

January

- Jan. 10 Dress Down Day-Leadership
- Jan. 23 Culturelle à Trois Riviere
- Jan. 31 Exam Day

February

- Feb. 03-04 Exam Days
- Feb. 07 Dance-Student Council
- Feb. 12 Holocaust Museum
- Feb. 14 Dress Down Day(Red)
- Feb. 18-2nd Term Report Card
- Feb. 20 Dress Down Day-Leadership
- Feb. 20 Parent/Teacher Night
- Feb. 24-28 Winter Carnival Week
- Feb. 28 Grade 9 Tournament

March

- Mar. 03-07 Winter Break
- Mar. 14 St. Patrick's Day(Green)
- Mar. 18 Radio Canada
- Mar. 21 Movie-Divergent
- Mar. 21 Comedy Night Fundraiser-Franco Taddeo
- Mar. 24-28 Anti-Bullying Week
- Mar. 25 Alouettes
- Mar. 27 Teen Truth
- Mar. 28 Purple Day(Epilepsy)
- Voyage Educatif à Quebec City

April

- Apr. 03 Dress Down Day-Play
- Apr. 03 Art Museum
- Apr. 14 Cabane à Sucre

- Apr. 17 Dress Down Day-Earth Day
- Apr. 23-25 Leadership Camping Trip
- Apr. 28 Honourable Judge Karen Kear-Jodoin

May

- May 8-9 Broadway Production-Grease
- May 09 Moot Court-Ms Christine Beltempo
- May 13 National Denim Day(Wear Jeans)
- May 14-16 Reward Trip-Boston
- May 19 Victoria Day
- May 23 Dress Down Day-Student Council

June

- June 03 Awards Night
- June 05 La Ronde School-Wide Activity
- June 06 Last Day of Classes/BBQ/ Assemblies
- June 09-13 Final Exams
- June 18 Sec. 2 End of Year Dance