



Mother Teresa Junior High School

More Than Just a High School

2323 Daniel-Johnson Blvd, Laval, Qc, H7T 1H8
Tel: 450-686-6333 Fax: 450-686-1577
<http://www.swlauriersb.qc.ca/schools/mtjhs/>

Governing Board

Meeting Held in the School Library

Monday, November 17th, 2014 @ 6:30

Present: Parents: Mary Cataldo (chair), Johanne Dion, Chantal Pelletier (co-chair) and Orazio De Rosa, Robert Bomba (PC Rep)

Teachers: Richard Pellino, Valerio Gazzola, Irene Politis, Lia Maggiorino, Natalie Potier, Angelo Virone,

Support Staff: **Professional:** Dominic Di Stefano

Student Representative: Michael Capuano

Absent: Rose Huss, Frank Tenneriello

Principal: Dena Chronopoulos

Vice-Principal:

Community Member: Natasha Lupin (parent)

1. **Call to order & verification of quorum:** The meeting was called to order at 6:34 by Mary Cataldo, Chair

2. **Addition to agenda-**no addition to agenda

3. **Acceptance and adoption of agenda**

Motion No. 115 moved by Lia Maggiorino and seconded by Johanne Dion

All in favor

4. **Approval of Minutes- October 6th, 2014**

Motion No. 116 moved by Orazio De Rosa and seconded by Johanne Dion

Motion passed 2 abstentions

5. **Reports:**

5.1 **Chairpersons Report:**

Mary Cataldo attended the swearing in of the Council of Commissioner. The ceremony was a 45 minutes long and it was a nice presentation. It was refreshing and has high hopes that this council that was put in place will work together with the community and move forward in a positive direction. SWLSB Foundation will be holding their annual gala on January 22nd, 2015 at Chateau Royal Reception Hall, the gala Rhapsody Orchestra cost of tickets \$225.00.

As in the past the G.B.chair will attend, teachers and other G.B. members will be selected via draw.

5.2 **Principal's Report:**

- The new health center in Laval for Vocational Adult Education/ International students, that will be housed at the Daniel Johnson building postponed to start at a later date, necessary construction in preparation to house students will be done before, updates on going.
- Requested for two more classes for English and French literacy lab to start a.s.a.p. very happy to report the addition of these classes.
- Laval Families, Clip 'n Climb contest winner was Ms. Rudolph's English class Sec. II
- Young Authors Contest 2014-2015, MTJHS has the most applications and applauds the participations from our students and wishes them well.

Policies/Programs

- **Ericsson Partnership 2014-2015:**

Ericsson has joined MTJHS this year to continue their partnership with our students. Their goal is to help this generation of learners become global citizens in a time where we are immersed in 21st century learning. The organizers have already met with our ALP students, and will continue to work closely with them, to establish the creation of an app that is important to the group. They will have an opportunity to showcase their work, once again, at the Ericsson building at the end of the school.

- **Programs in Phase II of Reorganization of Schools.:**

Our teachers along with ESD will be meeting to discuss the programs in discussion for Phase II of the Reorganization of the Laval Schools. This discussion will be brought to the PGB table that will be looked at in more detail.

- **Lockdown Procedures-Committee:**

We have sent out an invitation to our staff members who are interested in taking part in a focus group for our upcoming lockdown procedure scheduled for January 5th with all four Laval High schools. The purpose of this committee is to review and establish parameters concerning information, procedures, and practices prior to our scheduled simulation in January.

- **Jeunes-Actif Grant:**

Our school is continuing to retake part in many school initiatives this year to make sure our students have opportunities to keep active. New this year, we have two hockey teams combining boys and girls, a ball hockey team that has just started, and 2 rugby teams, for both boys and girls that begin in the spring. Our students have also joined forces with LJHS to take part in Cheerleading this year. New this year, we are trying to include the arts in active living, by starting up a folklore group called, "In Living Colour". This troupe of students will showcase their talents, stressing the importance of ethnic harmony through dance. We are presently in the organization stage for this initiative.

Pedagogy:

- **Special Needs:IEPs and Scheduled Meetings with Parents**

We are in the midst of completing meetings with all our parents whose children have special accommodations in class. We have had many parents call in and take part in these meetings, along with our students. We are pleased with the participation from our school community to continue working with us in partnership, one of our main goals this year.

- **First Term Report Card- November 20th, 2014**

Our first report card will be sent home with our students on November 20th. All IEPs will be finalized and sent home on November 20th as well. ON that evening, parents will have an opportunity to meet with their teachers to discuss their son's/daughter's progress since the start of the school year. MTJHS will welcome parents between 6 :00pm- 9:00 pm that same evening. Assemblies will be held on Monday, November, 24th.

- **Honor Roll:**

We will be celebrating our students' success on different levels once again this year. We will be recognizing students who have achieved academic success for achieving 85% and higher as a final mark, but also students who have exhibited "best effort", but don't necessarily have the best marks in class. During term II in February, we will also be recognizing students who have improved by a 5 point mark between terms I and term II.

- **ELI Project 2014-2015:**

The ELI project continues to be the focus of our school board, ESD as well as our school through our FOCUS classes. Our teachers are continuing to take part in the workshops being offered at the board level to better support our students in class. We have received chrome books, and plan to purchase more so that all students who have been placed in the FOCUS, will be able to use these devices to better support their learning.

- **Literacy Lab for ELA and FSL:**

Ms. Lynn Senecal and our consultants from CSD and ESD are working with our school to pilot a Literacy Lab that is being formulated as an extension of the services offered by the formation of the Planning Room this year and our Resource team. We are in the initial stages, having been provided with Professional Development for our staff as well as a mobile reading lab for our

departments until this project is complete. We are aiming at having this lab up and running at full speed after the winter holiday.

- **Technology Update:**

We have recently installed the last 4 Smart boards in rooms that did not have them mounted on the walls or did not have one installed in the room-the IT department has taken care of all expenses related to this expense. Furthermore, as mentioned, we will be purchasing 14 more chrome books to have a more complete class set at our school for student use.

Athletics:

- **Leadership: Genesis Tournament:**

Our Leadership team is organizing, along with the guidance from their teacher, their yearly soccer tournament with all feeder schools on Tuesday, November 25th. They are working hard to make sure that this year's event will be as successful as in previous years.

- **Volleyball:**

Our girls had their first volleyball game this past month and everyone had a great time, including parents. Though this is the first year that our school has initiated a volleyball team, our girls have shown perseverance, teamwork and school spirit, and we could not be more proud. We intend to continue offering volleyball as an ECA option on a yearly basis.

- **Soccer:**

The soccer season has come to an end for our girls' team, and even though they did not make it to the championships this year, they truly exhibited a solid foundation of the game and a love for the sport. At a time when we are trying more than ever to get our girls to be involved, this year has been exceptional.

- **Basketball:**

Information concerning basketball will be sent out shortly for those interested in basketball so that our school could be involved in the SWLSB home league competition this year. Our students are excited, and Mr. Brohi is currently working on getting this started.

Presentations:

- **Workshop for Parents-*How to Strive and Thrive during the Adolescent Years:***

Our turnout at this initiative to help support parents with our students was not the big turnout we expected, however, the parents who did take the time to join us that evening found the information useful and relevant. We will be planning to offer more such workshops for our community in the coming months.

6.3 PPO: Johanne Dion, chairperson

Working in tandem with Laval Jr. the community breakfast will take place December 19th, which is the last day of school and will be open to everyone in the community to attend. Same as last year the staff will be serving up the breakfast, looking for donations, PPO will be supporting effort. Should be done by 11:00 A.M.as per past experience, perhaps a movie might be shown. Next meeting scheduled for Dec. 4th, at 7:00.

6.4 CPC Delegate Report-Robert Bomba-

- Prior to elections in regards to the amalgamation of school boards resulting from low numbers at the polls. SWLSB is not on the radar; we are growing as a school board in the English language youth sector and will continue to do so for the next couple of years. The French School board will probably be affected by the proposed mergers.
- Mr. Pierre Chouinard presented a power point on EPCA, 7 out of 9 school boards are part of EPCA
- Meeting is planned to with Mr. Bolduc
- The elections will cost the SWLSB \$400,000 out of their budget as the elections are run by the boards and not by the provincial government. This on the heels of ongoing budget cuts.
- Bill 10 was highlighted as being a concern and the impact it will have on the educational profile.

6.5 Student Representative-Michael Capuano: refer to principals report for highlights.

6. Business arising from minutes:

6.1 MESA 2014-2014

- This year main focus Math, History and Science, working closely with ESD. More project based learning. Establish connection, encourage tutorials, bridge the learning experience between home and school.

7. New business

7.1 Field trips/fundraising

- **End of year party for Sec. II fundraising** to offset cost. The ticket price to attend would be \$10.00 decreasing from the \$25.00 that was charged last year. Wine gift baskets would be raffled off at the Community breakfast as was done in the past. The end of year party held last year for exiting Sec. II students was a success and really enjoyed by all who attended.
- **Underground City of Montreal Adventure:** Nov. 24th no cost offered to students who worked at Snack Depot during recess, selling food to the school community. The profits are being used to subsidize transportation to and from Montreal and lunch.
- **Quebec City Carnival:** February 12th & 13th, 2015- Sec. I students \$220.00 cost per student all meals included, security at hotel 11PM to 5 AM entrance to all activities covered.
- **Centaur Theatre- Old Montreal- Chloe's Choice-**Dec. 10th, 7:30 A.M. to 2:00 PM –bus and metro cost per student \$16.84
- **Montreal Museum of Fine Arts:" Van Gogh to Kandinsky"** Dec 18th for Sec. I and Jan. 9th for Sec. II – Departure 8:45PM and return time 1:45AM-cost per student \$25.00- transportation school bus.

Motion No. 117: fundraiser & fieldtrips moved by Lia Maggiorino and seconded by Irene Politis

All in favor

7.2 Evaluation of Cafeteria:

Communication ongoing regarding the cafeteria, letting the students know that the cafeteria is open during all of the lunch hour therefore; access to food is available during the allotted time. Also, concerns were brought up regarding the quality of food being served this should also be looked at. Perhaps a suggestion box so that feedback can be obtained from students and teachers to target items that are questionable on the menu. Lia Maggiorino volunteered to initiate and putting in place the suggestion box, this will serve to gauge the dissatisfaction of the services and food provided by the clientele.

7.3 Consultation: Enrichment and Adaption of Programs:

Resource team is working very hard to implement the enrichment programs such and ALP as well IEP's and other spectrum of learning, accommodating parents. Follow up by teachers is very positive.

7.4 Open House:

The open house scheduled for Dec. 4th, has been postponed, due to the time frame of the subject time allocation and the presentation to the Council of Commissioners of Dec. 10th.

This will allow for the consultation to take place and put in place programs that will be offered at the Jan. open house date to be determined. Follow up at our next meeting.

7.5 Community Breakfast: discussed as part of the PPO report. Date Dec. 19th

7.6 Dates of G.B.:

The motion on the table is to rescind the previous motion for the start time of the MTJHS G.B. meeting from 4:00 initially voted in to 6:30 from. The time became an issue and therefore, changing the meetings to 6:30 would be better and would allow public to attend, the scheduled dates remain the same. Next meeting Dec. 8th, 2014

Motion No. 118 change of time, Chantal Pelletier, seconded by Robert Bomba

Motion passed, 1 Against

7.7 MTJHS Deeds & 3 Year Plan 2015-2016 document was presented and discussed. Motion No. 119: moved by Chantal Pelletier and seconded by Johanne Dion approved as presented. motion carried.

7.8 ABVA Resolution: this is the resolution that was past at our last meeting
"7.2 ABVA Plan 2014-2015-document was read by members no additions or changes brought to document.

***Motion No. 110:** moved by Irene Politis and seconded by Nathalie Potier
All in favor "*

7.9 Budget- documentation regarding budget was distributed to members and presented by principal.

8. Correspondence-none

9. Question period-none

10. Varia-none

11. Date and time of next meeting: Monday, December 8th , 2014@ 6:30 in the Library

Adjournment @ 8:40 **Motion No. 120** moved by Chantal Pelletier and Seconded Domenic Di Stefano
All in favor

