

BEECHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00p.m.

MINUTES

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**Attendance:**

Commissioner: Craig Berger

Staff: Nathalie, Donna, David Z, M. Larocque, Ms. Ruth English, Ms. Pam, Ms. Peppe, Ms. Suzanne Gagné, Ms. Anne, Ms. Haller (principal)

Parents: Ms. Spanier, Mr. Ronnie K, Ms. Liverman, Mr. Neal C, Ms. Lipstein, Diandra (Alternate), Ms. Weiner (Alternate), Ms. Levy (Alternate), Ms. Hilary Ludwick (guest-public)

Absent: Derrik C.

1. Call to Order and Welcome – 7:02pm

2. Appointments:

2.1 Appointment of Chair

Motion to appoint Karolyn Liverman as Chair –, 1<sup>st</sup> by Nathalie, ratified by all.

Motion to appoint two Trainee/Co-Chairs to be David and Stephanie, 1<sup>st</sup> by Mr. Larocque, ratified by all.

2.2 Appointment of Secretary

Motion to appoint Stephanie as Secretary, 1<sup>st</sup> by Ms. Peppe, ratified by all.

2.3 Appointment of Parent Committee Representative and Alternate

David to act as Parent Committee Representative. 1<sup>st</sup> by Stephanie, ratified by all.

2.4 Appointment of Community Representative

Nathalie to act as community representative. 1<sup>st</sup> by Ms. English, ratified by all.

3. Approval of Annual Report 2016-2017 – As per summary provided at AGA.

1<sup>st</sup> by Randi, ratified by all.

4. Adoption of Agenda with addition of Music Program and ballots.

1<sup>st</sup> by Neal, ratified by all.

5. Adoption of Minutes from June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

1<sup>st</sup> by David, ratified by all.

6. Announcements and Correspondence

“Welcome to the new principal”

7. Reports:

7.1. Commissioner

The commissioner reports that this year, the enrollment criteria (relevant were the demand exceed capacity – to establish prioritization order for waiting lists) is not going out for consultation since no changes are being made to it.

Equipment and Services Department did a great job this past year. Projects were on time and on budget.

Over the last few years there have been issues about the air quality in schools. All studies are completed and available to administration and staff upon request.

Pearson Educational Foundation – Two fundraising events will be held; A comedy event on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> (hosted by John Rennie High School) and the other is an annual football game to be held on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## 7.2. Principal

New Beechwood Staff Members – We have six new members of staff at Beechwood this year. They include Megan Mitchell, Jaime Borenstein, Maristella Brancatella, Annie Renaud, Paul Kanash, Fabienne Darriet, Joanna Michaels (Welcome back), Lisa Pothier, Alvinie Moodley, Presleigh Klein, Megan Jean Laplante, Phil.

Emergency Preparedness – Beechwood has successfully practiced two fire drills and one lockdown procedure.

Beechwood Library – We have many parent volunteers to help in the library this year and the library officially opened yesterday.

Extra-Curricular Activities – Beechwood is planning to offer some extra-curricular activities to the students this year including Basketball, PELO (language programs), Art, Dance, and Jungle Sport.

Terry Fox Run – The Beechwood Terry Fox run is rescheduled for Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 to 2:30pm in the neighborhood because PCHS is unavailable. Speak to Natalie if you are interested in volunteering.

PEF Montreal Alouettes tickets – Tickets are available to watch the Montreal Alouettes play on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> through the Pearson Education Foundation.

Soccer field access- Clearing woods behind fence, surveyor, re-visit options in spring.

Home and School – Thank you to Home and School for donating flowers and helping replant the front garden.

Beechwood Inspection Report –

- Air Quality at Beechwood is in good range
- There are recommendations and priorities
- Priorities are: removing debris from drains
- Ventilation system needs regular maintenance and needs to be changed in 5 years.
- Fibre management study – create a registry

Corn Roast – The annual corn roast took place on September 12<sup>th</sup> and was a huge success. Special thanks to Donna Pinchuk and the daycare team.

Important Dates:

1. Dress Down Day: Friday September 29<sup>th</sup>
2. Professional Development Day: Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>
3. Home and School meeting: Next meeting schedule for Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>
4. School Photos: Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>
5. Interim Report Cards: Will go home with students on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

6. Halloween: Update to come.

7.3. Daycare Report

The number of children in the daycare program is 141 and 124 children in the lunch program.

There have been some changes in the daycare staffing this year. Daniela Arbogast has accepted a post at Westpark Elementary. Pamela Rosenblum has replaced Daniela in the grade 3 daycare group.

Lin Li-Ling has been hired to take on a group of kindergarten daycare students. Both of these educators have a degree in Child Studies.

Our first ped day was on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The day was spent at Beechwood with Dynamix. The activity was "Teamwork Adventures." There were 38 students who participated in the ped day. The 22<sup>nd</sup> was a Jewish holiday and that was likely the reason for the low registration.

We had a good turnout for the Corn Roast held on September 12<sup>th</sup> with everyone enjoying the inflatables, corn and watermelon. Special thanks to the staff who helped make this event a success.

Two after school programs are being offered to all students at this time "The Wondering Artist" and "Champs." The Wondering Artist has 2 groups' k-2 and 3-6. Champs will once again be on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Leadership Training and Recess Success workshops were to be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. They were cancelled after it was realized that the 22<sup>nd</sup> was a Jewish holiday.

The daycare gardening program with Sue Stacho is now winding down.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Ewenson, a top aerospace expert in Canada and NASA's space Program, will visit Beechwood. His presentation is interactive and hands-on. The audience for the first presentation will be the k's and grades 1. He will present to grades 2 to 6 afterschool at 2:45.

7.4. Parent Representative (Region 2) N/A

7.5. Home and School

Hilary (participating in meeting as public) indicated that the Home and School Association would like to host a Vendor's Forum on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm.

First Home and School Association meeting to be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> where they will address budgets and allocations.

## PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

- Discussion regarding police clearances to volunteer. Nathalie explained that the consent to obtain police clearances forms part of the documents sent to parents each year. The clearance must come back clear prior to any volunteering.
- Discussion regarding access to photos on Facebook. Nathalie explained that the school requests consent to post images as part of the documents sent to parents each year.
- Discussion regarding the website – needs to be updated. The principal explained that she will help to support innovation.
- Will the *Boks* program be available this year? Unsure at this time.

## 8. Operation

### 8.1 Review of Rules of Operation (as outlined in Education Act)

- We must modify the language with respect to voting via e-mail.
- Must write up policy with respect to alternates.
- Amendments will be presented at next meeting to confirm text.

### 8.2 Modification/Approval of Internal Rules of Management

N/A Relates to above.

## 9. New Business

### 9.1 Consultation Launch: *Food and Nutrition Policy* Deadline: November 24th

Propose discussion – for the next meeting, we should be ready to discuss the Policy. Tabled to October.

### 9.2 Music Program:

Recorders to purchase for grade 3 students. \$8 per Recorder.

1<sup>st</sup> by Suzanne, ratified by all.

### 9.3 Ballots – Motion to destroy ballots from AGA.

1<sup>st</sup> by Ronnie, ratified by all.

## 10. Field Trips and Fundraisers

### 10.1. To Ratify

### 10.2. Field Trips

- Leadership Camp – Grades 5 and 6 (along with student council). 75 students in total. \$120 per student. 24<sup>th</sup> of January.
- Patricia – Spiritual Animator – Visits with seniors with Grade 6 students. No cost. Car pooling. Community Service and inter-generational conversations.
- Labonté Verger – K, 5 and 6. 26<sup>th</sup> of October. Cost of \$25 per student. Pumpkin picking and decorating pumpkin.
- Apple and Pumpkin picking trip – Oct 11<sup>th</sup>. Grade 1 students. \$32 per kid. Likely to be subsidized to \$27 per student.

Motion to pass all listed field trips- 1<sup>st</sup> by Pam, ratified by all.

### 10.3. Service Contracts

N/A

### 10.4. Fundraisers

- Vendor Fair for school fundraiser – Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, Raffle Prizes, Bake Sale and Table Rental.  
1<sup>st</sup> by Randi, ratified by all.
- Halloween Haunted House – Oct 31<sup>st</sup> with Grade 4 and Student Counsel. \$2 and will donate the money to charity. Bake sale.
- Socks to Socks – Doctor is coming in to discuss program. School-wide – collect new socks for the homeless.  
1<sup>st</sup> by Mme Anne, ratified by all.

11. Determine dates of GB meetings for 2017-2018 & Adjournment

Resume meeting as of 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month.

Next meetings will be held –November 7<sup>th</sup>, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 2018, Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm