

BEACON HILL GOVERNING BOARD
Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 7:00 p.m
Via Zoom

Draft minutes

Attendance: Jeremy Asch, Gareth Lim, David Newton, Ian Chuprun, Celena Scheede-Bergdahl, Isabelle Bélanger,
Gina Piccinici, Catherine Fini, Jasmine Lacombe, Marie France Cousineau, Nathalie Noiseux, Sabrina Sciascia, Samantha McLean, Susan Hamblin Brayne. Marilyn Boyer

Jeremy Asch called the meeting to order at 7:07pm, no members of public present

Agenda

1. Approval of the Agenda (David Newton/Sabrina Sciascia, approve)
2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. November 17, 2020 and November 24, 2020 (Nathalie Noiseux/Ian Chuprun, approve)
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
4. New Business
 - a. Field Trip Approvals: None
 - b. Fundraiser approvals: See H&S
 - c. School Annual Report: (Nathalie Noiseux/Ian Chuprun, approved)
 - d. Budget Adoption - Daycare Budget: Not available
 - e. LBPSB Budget Consultation (March 31, 2021): Carried to next meeting
 - f. LBPSB Principal Criteria Consultation (March 12, 2021): Jeremy Asch to prepare response. Will be forwarded to GB for input prior to submission.
5. Reports
 - a. Chairperson's Report: letter that was to be sent out regarding masks was held back to reflect changes in government policy.
 - b. Principal's Report: see attached
 - c. Teachers Report: no report
 - d. Daycare and Lunch Program Coordinator Report: tax receipts to follow shortly, 51 children registered.
 - e. Region Parent Representative Report: no report
 - f. SNAC Report (In the kit)
 - g. H&S Report (In the Kit): Flip Give gift card fundraiser (Celena Scheede-Bergdahl/Nathalie Noiseux: approve)
 - h. Commissioner's Report (In the Kit)
6. Public Question Period: none

7. Correspondence: none
8. Varia: none
9. Date of Next Meeting (March 23, 2021)
10. Adjournment at 8:22pm

Submitted respectfully by Celena Scheede-Bergdahl on February 16, 2021

Beacon Hill Governing Board – February 16, 2021

Principal's report

Our community has been great at keeping their children home when someone is being tested in the family and when students show any signs that may be related to Covid-19. Students have been good about wearing masks in common areas, with some reminders from staff.

February is Black History month – Teachers are using various books and activities in their classes. One hundred and thirty *Big Dreamers, Black History workbooks* by Akila Newton were purchased for the teachers and students to use.

This week is Staff appreciation week, the staff and I would like to thank H&S and our community for all they have planned.

Next week is carnival week – Information was sent to parents today.

The new Ministry term weightings this year have been changed: Term One - 35% and Term Two - 65%.

Grade 6 Red Cross Babysitter course – One course was completed by the students last week and the extra course will be given next week.

Grade 6 Transition to High School – The sessions are going well with Sharon Klar. I will look at doing the parent session in the spring.


The students in grades 3 – 6 enjoyed Shane Peacock's virtual author talk on Jan 29th. He inspired many of the students who are now working on creating graphic novels and creating their own books.

I have bought the new virtual Dare to Care online program. Dare to Care is a unique program regarded as the most comprehensive and practical bully prevention program in Canada.

Schools have had new filters put in all our water fountains after they were tested for lead. They have recently done a second testing but I have yet to hear the results.

All schools in the board are being tested for CO2. This Thursday, February 18th six rooms have been selected to be tested in our school. Results will follow.

The Minister has created two new Mesures: one is for tutoring. We have decided to put the \$5000 towards reading recovery at the grade 2 and 3 levels. Another Measure of \$5000 was put in to support the social emotional aspect of the students. We have decided to invest in a Social Skills program for grades 4 and 5.

 <p>Special Needs Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Please visit our website: http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca</p> <p>Email address: snac@lbpearson.ca</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SpecialNeedsAdvisoryCommittee/</p>	<p>SNAC Meeting Summary Report to the Council of Commissioners & Parents' Committee</p> <p>From SNAC Virtual Meeting January 20, 2021</p> <p>Pages 1 of 2</p>
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Report Card Change for 2020-2021

The Government has announced that they will be changing the weighting of the two terms this year. Originally they announced it would be 50/50 but they just announced they will have term 2 count for more than term 1. They didn't specify the exact weighting yet. The minister also pushed the date for the term 1 report card allowing schools a few extra weeks to provide them. Ministerial exams are cancelled for this academic year.

The government has also said they are putting more funding into tutoring measures and support for mental health concerns.

For any students in difficulty, teachers will be calling meetings (in person or online). As a parent you can also ask for a phone call or meeting if you have questions or concerns.

I.E.P.s for 2020-2021

Some I.E.P.s have already gone home, others will be with the Term 1 report card (in the coming weeks). The school board is still looking at making I.E.P.s online on the Mozaik Portal for next year, however the first report card will always be sent home also as it has to be signed. Parents may contact their child's teachers should they have any questions. You may also request an I.E.P. meeting with the school.

Creation of an I.E.P. Pamphlet

SNAC is currently proofreading a new I.E.P. pamphlet. They hope to have it finalized by their next meeting to start promoting to parents and schools. This is a summary pamphlet version of the I.E.P. Resource Kit

Parenting During the Pandemic Webinars - Centre of Excellence for Mental Health and LEARN:

Next Webinar is Tuesday February 16th at 7pm - Understanding the Impact of Loss on our Kids

Register at <https://learnquebec.ca/impact>


Recordings of past webinars are available: <https://web-sites.lbpsb.qc.ca/cemh/Webinars-Recordings>

SNAC Facebook Page

Thank you to the LBPSB schools that have begun to follow SNAC. We are receiving a lot of emails from parents, prospective parents as well as staff. The post with Dr. Henault's presentation we boosted reached over 4000 people !

Budget Consultation Response

SNAC is currently discussing their budget consultation response. They will receive a special presentation from Stephanie Stever during the February meeting to help them in the creation of this response.

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Equity and Inclusion Task Force

Wonderful work is being done in this LBPSB task force. They are looking into having mandatory training for all staff regarding students with special needs and are considering including a frequency of training over the years. Very pleased to see that there are now children with special needs in the official videos of LBPSB. They are still requesting real life testimonies to be shared in order to be addressed by the equity and inclusion task force. They are 100% anonymous and can be send via email or press a button and record their voice. <https://boardsite.lbpsb.qc.ca/council-of-commissioners/task-force-on-equity-and-inclusivity>

FREE Online Tutoring for Elementary and High School

LEARN Quebec has openings for more tutoring spots. It is absolutely FREE for english families in Quebec. Their tutoring is always done online (not just due to COVID) and they are all qualified teachers. Visit their website <https://www.learnquebec.ca/home> to learn more or register your child.

Questions / Correspondence that have come in this month:

- **I.E.P.s - When are families informed of their child's needs?**
 - A family contacted SNAC after having received an I.E.P. for their child who has not been formally diagnosed yet. This family was unaware that their child was experiencing any issues at school and has now lost full confidence in the school and wanting to transfer.
- **School Selection & busing for students with special needs**
 - Several parents have written in asking which school provides the best level of support for students with special needs. Are they able to select the school that they would like to register in or is it mandatory to go to your local school. How does the registration process work? Will it affect busing if you select a school not in your local area? Are they guaranteed aide support?
- **New Government Issued Masks in High School - sizing issue**
 - Some students are wearing the government issued mask over their home mask as it is too big for the younger grades. Will there be smaller sizes being issued. Also, there are several varieties of colours at different schools - are all safe?

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer DiMarco

Chair of Special Needs Advisory Committee 2020-2021

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<http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca>

<https://www.facebook.com/SpecialNeedsAdvisoryCommittee/>

GB meeting-Feb 16, 2021

H&S report: Catherine Fini

-Spring (March) Fundraiser-seeking approval: Flip Give

-Similar to Rakuten whereby we get \$ back with purchase/ minimal effort to set up and for parents

-Parents and community members can sign up to Beacon Hill 'Team' using a link, and for every gift card purchased online BH will earn a % back.

-Plenty of popular stores to choose from.

-Min amounts-example starbucks min is \$50. BH gets \$2 back=\$1.

-First purchase within 2 weeks of signing up a bonus \$5 will go to our account.

-Flip Give sends us a cheque once we have earned \$100

Marilyne Boyer – Ward 8 Report- Clearpoint, Sherbrooke Academy Jr. & Sr., and Beacon Hill
mboyer08@lbpsb.qc.ca

January 2021

First, I would like to extend thanks to all the staff in our schools and at the School Board who have been working so diligently to keep the kids safe. We have, throughout the LBPSB family, some exceptional staff, teachers, daycare staff and administrators who spend an uncounted number of hours every day to make sure that they can adapt and follow the ever-changing requirements and needs brought on by the pandemic. I am proud to be part of this exceptional family.

Highlights of interest from Council of January 25, 2021

- Administration Staffing: There were 2 appointments.
 - Jennifer Kurta currently Principal at LCCHS was appointed as the Principal of John Rennie High School effective March 8, 2021 due to the retirement of the current Principal.
 - Deborah Dixon currently Principal at Beurling Academy was appointed as the Principal of LCCHS effective March 8, 2021 due to the re-assignment of Jennifer Kurta
 - Brian Swirsky status as changed from temporary assignment as Vice-Principal at PCHS to Vice Principal
- Staff Inoculation: Council has unanimously adopted a resolution to request that the Minister of Education advocate with the health authorities for the designation of the staff of schools and centers in direct contact with students as essential service employees in order for these staff members to be considered a higher priority under the vaccination list established by the Government of Québec. According to the current plan, teachers and school staff have been placed in the second to last step of the priority list with the exception of those who have underlying health conditions. Council believes that prioritizing vaccinations for teachers and education workers will also add an extra layer of protection in terms of preventing the spread of the virus in its schools while reducing risks for school employees as well as students and their families.
- LBPSB Task Force on Equality and Inclusivity – The LBPSB task force on Equity and Inclusivity is still looking for the LBPSB community (students, staff and other community members) to provide their stories, good or bad. See the school board's website for more information: <https://boardsite.lbpsb.qc.ca/news/post/an-invitation-from-the-task-force-on-equality-and-inclusivity>.
- Central Students Committee – the committee has conducted surveys of their members to see what their current stress levels were and the results indicated that this was variable between the schools but generally was between 7-10 on 10.

Some students felt the online learning reduced the stress related to COVID exposure but that there is no breaks in classwork and that is was very mentally challenging. The graduating students are concerned about how all the changes and challenges will affect the admission process for CEGEP. The Committee is working as preparing their upcoming Online Senior Leadership Days which is currently planned for April 2021.

- Special Needs Advisory Council (SNAC)
 - No formal report but a reminder that there is a lot of information and resources on their webpage [SNAC\(Special Needs Advisory Committee\) \(lbpsb.qc.ca\)](http://lbpsb.qc.ca)
- Parent's Committee – no meetings held other than some sub-committees meetings so no formal report.

- Consultations

No new one, reminder that the Budget Consultation is due 31 March 2021.

Council has assigned the review of the following policies to council committees:

- Purchasing Policy
 - Day Care and Lunch Policy
 - Review of the Student Representation at the LBPSB
- Renovation/Purchases and resolutions of interest:
 - It was confirmed at Council that the installation of the new air purifiers and of the upgraded Hepa filter have been completed in all schools before the Holidays
 - Approved the addition of winter carpets and library supplies to the Cooperative Group Purchasing Plan of the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal (CGTSIM) for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Approved participation in the Centre d'acquisition gouvernementales group purchasing of Audio Visual Equipment and Interactive Solutions for a 24-month term with the option to renew for an additional 12-month term
 - Authorization was given for up to five Commissioners to attend the CAPSLE Virtual Conference to be held from May 2 to 4, 2021. CAPSLE is a national organization whose aim is to provide an open forum for the practical study of legal issues related to and affecting the education system and stakeholders, which include teachers, administrators, board members, trustees, unions, school board associations, educators, academics, students, government and lawyers.

Other News:

PODCAST: The Blank Canvas is a new monthly podcast designed to bring listeners together by sharing the innovations and creative output that is currently happening in different Lester B. Pearson school communities. Weighted heavily on the arts, the podcast will feature interviews with students, teachers, guest speakers, and administrators. To hear the first podcast featuring an interview with LBPSB's Director General Cindy Finn, please click here: anchor.fm/frank-caracciolo

Congratulations to Akilah Newton (a BHS alumni) for her new book Big Dreamers: The Canadian Black History Activity Book for Kids Volume 2 is the second in a series published by Akilah Newton Projects Inc. that celebrates the accomplishments of inspiring Black Canadians.