

**Minutes of the Governing Board meeting held on  
Monday, December 14th, 2020 at 6:30PM on Zoom**

**Present:** Anna Mondelli, Mike Leuzzi, Dori Raymond, Debbie Godin, Julie Collins, Tommy Reis, Natalie Codner, Tania Cundari, Sabrina Valletta, Manda Zalac, Eric Spooen, Vanessa (parent)

**Administration:** Dena Chronopoulos, Jessica Savard

**Absent:** Julia Durso

**1. Call to Order**

The fourth regular Zoom meeting of the Governing Board for the 2020-2021 school year was called to order at 6:31pm by Anna Mondelli.

**2. Adoption of agenda**

Natalie Codner would like to add book sales to the agenda.

Ms. Chronopoulos mentions that the date on the agenda should indicate Monday instead of Wednesday.

- ✓ **GB 2020-12-14-01** Motion to approve the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 GB agenda with the modifications listed above made by Dori Raymond and seconded by Debbie Godin. By unanimous show of hands, the motion is passed.

**3. Approval of minutes**

*a. Minutes of the November 25th, 2020 GB meeting*

- ✓ **GB 2020-12-14-02** Motion to approve the November 25th, 2020 Governing Board minutes made by Tommy Reis and seconded by Julie Collins. By unanimous show of hands, the motion is passed.

→ Manda Zalac joins the meeting at 6:33pm.

**4. Business Arising from minutes**

*a. Internal Rules of Operation 2020-2021*  
No changes.

**5. Reports**

a. Principal

Manda Zalac proposes to offer an 'adopt a Chromebook' program to families where they could donate a Chromebook to the school to help lower the costs of getting one per student. Their name can be listed as a contributor if they wish to participate.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that she has taken note of the suggestion and will inquire into if this would be possible.

Natalie Codner asks if the 12,500.00\$ has been received or has been promised.

Ms. Chronopoulos replies that it has not been received yet but the school will be receiving it soon.

→Eric Spooren joins the meeting at 6:35pm.

Natalie Codner asks for details about the robotics program.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that the school already has a Blue Bot in the school but it is currently only used in Kindergarten and Pre-K to start being exposed to coding at a younger age. The grant will allow 3 robots to be purchased per class so that every class can use them more frequently. The classes will get not only the robot, but the floor platform that allows the students to see the results of the coding as well.

Natalie Codner asks if the older grades also have the programs.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that the older grades have raspberry pi to use for coding that is a different program but a follow up to the robot program used in the younger grades.

Natalie Codner asks if the school yard container will be coming next school year.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that it will be in place this school year, the plans just need to be made as to where it will be placed.

Natalie Codner asks about the collection of CO<sub>2</sub>. Were only the mechanical sensors checked for the levels.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that the school has a hybrid model of sensors and that it was taking into consideration for the tests. All of the school's areas were examined for the report.

b. Chair

All questions relating to Covid were forwarded to administration.  
Nothing else to report.

c. Parent Committee

Natalie Codner explains that she asked the school board if online payments can

be used by the schools. Ms. Absolonne answered that it was up to the school to decide which payment methods they wished to use.

Natalie Codner adds that Hillcrest is using an application to do online payments for their fundraisers and it was going well.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that she will contact Ms. Lazaris, the principal of Hillcrest, and inquire about the application they are using but it is possible that the application is used by HAHS through means that are not necessarily available to for the schools to use for security purposes.

Manda Zalac asks if it would be possible to sent up payments through the Mozaik portal. There was a system in place in Ontario that allowed online payments to be applied to the account through the school board's set up.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that she will inquire with the IT department to see if it would be possible.

d. Daycare

Sabrina Valletta goes over the report.

Since December 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> were mandated by the Government daycare services will be available the full day from 7:00am until 6:00pm. Activities have been planned for the whole day if needed.

The schedule for snow days has been prepared and submitted to the administration. Daycare services will be available from 7:00am until 4:30pm if they were to happen.

Tommy Reis asks if the initial resolution made about the early closure of daycare was in effect until January and needed to be re-approved.

Melissa Ayotte refers to the October Governing Board minutes and answers that the resolution was approved until the current Covid situation changes.

Ms. Chronopoulos adds that for now the closing time will be maintained at 4:30pm to support the maintenance staff. Parents will be informed ahead of time that this will remain the case for the time being.

e. PPO

Anna Mondelli goes over the PPO report.

PPO would like approval for pizza day sales twice a month.

Tommy Reis asks how the payments will be made for orders.

Anna Mondelli answers that at this time PPO is planning to keep the same methods are before and use cash.

Ms. Chronopoulos adds that all of the money that is collected will be handed right away to PPO and together the school and the PPO will figure out a way that

involves minimal back and forth of the money from in and out of the school building.

Tommy Reis asks if PPO has considered snack options for the students who have allergies or dietary restrictions.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that Maxi has graciously provided peanut-free bear paws for the pre-holiday snacks. Moisson Laval has also given snacks to the school that will be provided if needed. The school is also looking into having some gluten-free options available at all times in school. Ms. Savard is currently looking into it.

- ✓ **GB 2020-12-14-03** Motion to approve the PPO pizza fundraiser starting in January 2021 made by Debbie Godin and seconded by Eric Spooren. By unanimous show of hands, the motion is passed.

**6. Public Question Period**

No questions

**7. New Business**

a. No Fundraisers

b. No Rentals

c. ABAV Report

Ms. Chronopoulos explains that the ABAV committee got together and deemed that the survey was deemed very important so it was done as soon as possible. The survey was done during the time period where classes were shutting down one after another so the anxiety was very present in the responses. The students are feeling the anxiety more and more as the year progresses, and even if they were asked to keep certain things in mind while taking the survey it was hard for them to ignore them completely and it affected the results. The presented ABAV report is the starting point for the program this year and will be re-evaluated at the end of the school year.

Ms. Chronopoulos asks for an e-vote to be held after tomorrow because TC will vote on the report tomorrow and any changes will be brought to GB by email before sending out an e-vote.

Ms. Chronopoulos hopes there will be an improvement in student anxiety during the second survey this year but that may not be the case.

Natalie Codner asks about element 4 of the report and if there is a time period where the incident reports are sent home to the parents.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that incident reports are not sent to parents, they go to administration who look into the incident. Communications with parents vary

depending on the situation (pink slip, phone call, etc) but the actual incident report is never sent out as it is used for administration programs only (ISM) and kept confidential.

Ms. Chronopoulos adds that in her three years in the school there has only been one major case of reoccurring bullying. The other cases are immediately dealt with, including parent involvement if needed to put a stop to it.

Natalie Codner asks if the pink slips can be considered as minimal detailing of "something happened with your child".

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that yes, that would be an accurate way of viewing them.

Natalie Codner asks what is the ratio of supervisors to students during recesses.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that this school year it is also 1 lunch supervisor per class which gives approximate 1 monitor per 25 to 30 students. During recesses with teacher supervision, it is 1 monitor per 30 students.

Natalie Codner asks what is the number of cases of bullying in the school.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that a lot of parents and children use the term bullying easily when the situation does not fall under the definition of bullying. Bullying is defined as a repeated situation, and none of the situations reported this year fall into this category.

Natalie Codner asks if there is a class situation that involves a majority of the students in one group do the administrators and support staff go into the classrooms.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that yes, that Ms. Savard and herself have done it before as well as Ms. Jenny in order to build relationships with the students and to pass a general message that the administration is there to help but will also be present to prevent problems. Ms. Chronopoulos adds that they always like to thank the students that are doing what they should be doing so that the students don't only know of the bad decisions but also of the good and see that they can be rewarded for doing the right thing instead of just punished for the bad.

Natalie Codner asks does mindfulness work more for the younger or older students.

Ms. Chronopoulos says the program is aimed at both and works equally well amongst the groups.

Julie Collins adds that the social-emotional group (zones of regulation, dealing with social and emotional challenges, etc.) has a visible impact on the older grades, so the efforts being put into the program are working.

Natalie Codner asks if the zones of regulation is a new thing.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that the zones of regulation is about getting in touch with your emotions before something happens and determining ways to approach problems before they escalate. The program started with the younger grades last year but was cut short in March because of the Covid situation. This year every cycle has some teacher representative on the Zones of Regulation committee.

Natalie Codner asks if the zones of regulation can be sent home for parents to use.

Ms. Chronopoulos says she will look into it to see if there are possibilities for use at home.

Anna Mondelli asks what is done to help children with the anxiety that they feel. Ms. Chronopoulos answers that there are many programs in place: zones of regulation, restorative practices, weekly schedules for discussions are some examples. The special education technician and a stagiaire work closely with the kids when there is a need felt. Ms. Savard's and Ms. Chronopoulos' office doors are always available for students and staff alike if they would like to talk.

Eric Spooen adds that often when coming back in from outdoor recess teachers will put on some calming music to help get the students in a mindset to learn.

➤ Resolution is tabled for an e-vote later this week.

d. Budget

Ms. Chronopoulos goes over the documents that were sent. The first document indicates the money that was received and what it was spent on. The most recent addition is from Solidarité Alimentaire who provided some money to the school in order to purchase snacks for students who may need some. The second document shows that the Ministry gave some money to the school board who got rid of the school's deficit allowing the school to start the 2020-2021 school year with a 0\$ balance.

Tommy Reis asks if the school board covered the deficit of every school or only Twin Oaks.

Ms. Chronopoulos answers that they covered the deficit for every school. They wanted to support the children and their education as best as they could in these hard times.

Natalie Codner asks to have the lunchtime supervision numbers explained.

Ms. Chronopoulos explains the table in detail and what each column represents. Even if one part of the budget is in red it can be offset with amounts from another budget.

- ✓ **GB 2020-12-14-04** Motion to approve 2019-2020 budget as well as the 2020-2021 budget spending plan made by Julie Collins and seconded by Manda Zalac. By unanimous show of hands, the motion is passed.

e. Book sales

Natalie Codner asks if there is any news of the online book fair sales.

Dori Raymond answers that at the moment there haven't been official numbers received. The last communication received had sales at about 2000.00\$, which is significantly less than previous years.

**8. Public question period**

No questions.

**9. Date & Time of Next meeting**

Ms. Chronopoulos suggest Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for the next GB meeting.

No one is opposed.

The list of dates for the upcoming Governing Board meetings is as follows:

- *Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021*
- *Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021*
- *Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021*
- *Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021*
- *Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm on Zoom.

**10. Meeting Adjournment**

- ✓ **GB 2020-11-25-05** Motion to adjourn the Governing Board meeting at 7:26pm made by Debbie Godin seconded by Dori Raymond. By unanimous show of hands, the motion is passed.

Date minutes approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_