

**Annual General Assembly September 13, 2021, 7:00pm  
Draft Minutes**

**Attendance:** 47 parents in attendance, Michael Rabinovitch, France Poirier

**1. Opening and Welcomes**

Mr. Rabinovitch begins the Webinar at 7:00 pm and passes over hosting duty to outgoing Governing Board Chair Mark Kashetsky  
Mark begins the AGA at 7:10 pm  
Introduction of Principal Michael Rabinovitch, Vice Principal France Poirier, and our commissioner Craig Berger  
Thank you to parents for coming to the meeting

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

**3. Naming of Secretary**

**2.1.** Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch is named as secretary, with thanks for accepting the role again this year

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Agenda was sent earlier by email, and is read through briefly  
It is stated that a vote to approve is assumed unless hands are raised using Zoom function to oppose or abstain  
Motion to approve AGA agenda: Mark Kashetsky  
Second: France Poirier  
All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved

**5. Approval of Minutes from AGA September**

Minutes were sent by email.  
Request for any corrections to the minutes – none  
Motion to approve AGA 2020 minutes: Mark Kashetsky  
Second: France Poirier  
All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved

**6. Adoption of the online election procedure**

The AGA is being held virtually again this year, using the Webinar format. The voting will take place through Zoom Polls. To vote for your representatives, you had to have registered in advance. Each candidate will be added as a panelist and will have 1-2 minutes to present themselves. All parents are encouraged to take notes to assist with decision making. Following all the presentations, each of the 5 available seats will be voted individually until all 5 seats are filled.  
Motion to adopt the online voting procedure for the 2021 AGA: Mark Kashetsky  
Second: Alaina Gross  
All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – voting procedure adopted

**7. Governing Board**

**7.1. Roles and functions of the GB**

The Westpark Governing Board is a body of individuals, made up of 9 parents, 7 teachers, 1 member of the support staff, our daycare coordinator, and up to 2 community representatives, who play an important role in the decision-making and consultative process of the school. Members of the GB represent their peer group and work collaboratively to deal with collective issues rather than individual ones. The GB meets approximately once per month and members commit to participate actively in discussions and to be well informed before making decisions. The GB has the responsibility to ensure that all decisions are made in the best interest of the students.

**7.2. Introduction of current members**

The 4 parents beginning the second year of their 2-year term: Maria Antonietta Davoli, Karl Griffin, Kenny Mandel, and Phil Pinsky  
A heartfelt thank you goes to the 5 parents who are completing their 2- year term tonight: Kelly Arfin, Alaina Charszan, Mark Kashetsky, Steven Small, and Michelle Sternszus

The staff who served on the GB for the 2020/2021 school year were: Alia Odubayo, Chelsea Bayer, Giulia Carosielli, Kiara lafano, Lisa Peress, Margaret Gogoris, Mary Lawrence, Sylvie Lepage, Diane Rooney

Many thanks to all of you for your time and dedication

To our community member, Cindy Tansky-Litwin and to our commissioner, Craig Berger, we extend our gratitude to you for your dedication

Thank you so much to our secretary, Sara Chiasson, and to Kelly who pitched in with the minutes on a few occasions

To our Administrative team, Mr. Michael Rabinovitch and Mme France Poirier, many thanks for your commitment to Westpark School

### **7.3. Presentation of Annual Report 2020-21**

The annual report was sent out to the Westpark community by email and in the interest of time, it is not read through in its entirety tonight. A few key points to mention are the topics of inclusivity and diversity, and fostering healthy conversation and collaboration in the face of differences. Many thanks to the Westpark community for their support in our fundraising endeavors. We look forward to continued collaboration.

### **7.4. Election of Parent Representatives**

This year, we have 5 parent representative positions up for election. As a parent representative to the Governing Board, your role is to represent the interests of the student and parents as a whole. These positions carry a 2-year term and are open to any parent who currently has a child enrolled at Westpark Elementary, including those whose oldest child is in grade 6. If a parent of a grade 6 student is elected, or in the case of a parent elected whose child leaves the school for any other reason, the position will be vacated, and it will be up to the remaining parent representatives on the Governing Board to appoint a new parent rep to carry out the remainder of the 2-year term.

#### **7.4.1. Nominations Received Ahead of Time**

Ten nominations placed in advance. Check to see all in attendance

The nominees are: Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch, Carrie Carson, Erica Cuthbertson, Erica Grand, Alaina Gross, Mark Kashetsky, Jennifer Ovadia, Michelle Shapiro, Cindy Tansky-Litwin, and Tiffany Uman

Jennifer is not in attendance at the meeting, so her name is stricken from the list of candidates

#### **7.4.2. Call for nominations at the meeting**

Additional Nominations from parents who would like to self-nominate or who wish to nominate someone are asked to raise their hand using the zoom function or type it in the chat

No nominations made at the meeting

#### **7.4.3. Closing of Nominations**

#### **7.4.4. Presentation of Candidates**

Each candidate is asked to take 1-2 minute to present themselves

#### **7.4.5. Voting**

Voting process begin.

Vote 1: Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch

Vote 2: Mark Kashetsky

Vote 3: Alaina Gross

Vote 4: Erica Cuthbertson

Vote 5: Carrie Carson

Congratulations and welcome to the 5 newly elected parents.

Request for new members to please send an email to [westpark\\_GB@lbpearson.com](mailto:westpark_GB@lbpearson.com) with their full names, email addresses, and telephone numbers.

### **7.5. Election of Substitute Parent Representatives**

#### **Nominations Received Ahead of Time**

Michelle Sternszus, Sara Chiasson, Sherri Rabinovitch, Tiffany Uman, Michelle Shapiro, Erica Grand, Cindy Tansky-Litwin

#### **Call for nominations at the meeting**

Nominations made at the meeting using the zoom raise hand function

**Nominations received at the meeting**

Adam Steinberg  
Stuart Becker

With 9 positions for substitute parent seats, and 9 candidates, there is no vote needed. These 9 parents are acclaimed. Congratulations and welcome to the GB. Request for new members to please send an email to WestparkAGA@gmail.com with their full names, email addresses, and telephone numbers.

**8. LBPSB Parents' Committee****8.1. Roles and functions of the Parents' Committee**

At each school, 2 parents from the governing board are elected as the delegate and alternate delegate to represent all parents of the school. The Parent's Committee is an advisory and consultative body of delegates from every school within the school board. The role of the parents' committee is to ensure that the parents' needs and advice are communicated to the Council of Commissioners and to the board's administration, with delegates representing all parents at the school and not just the governing board. The delegate for 2020-21 was Alaina Charszan. The alternate delegate for 2020-21 was Michelle Sternszus. PC members attend a minimum of 3 meetings per month with additional meetings for those members elected to the advisory and to the school board's subcommittees. The PC is also very active in training GB members and chairs as well as in planning presentations for the board's parent community at large.

**8.2. PC Annual Report**

The annual report for the parents committee can be found on the PC's website (parents.lbpsb.qc.ca). It highlights the main topics that were addressed this past year. The PC remained very active during the pandemic. Some of the main points include the ongoing discussions about diversity and inclusion, Bill 40 and the future of English School Boards, and mental health.

**8.3. Election of the parent delegate**

It is noted that both the delegate and alternate delegate must be current members of the GB.

Thank you to Alaina and Mark for their dedication and service this past year.

**Nominations Received Ahead of Time**

Alaina Gross

**Nominations received at the meeting**

None

Alaina Gross wins by acclamation. Congratulations.

**8.4. Election of the Alternate Parent delegate****Nominations Received Ahead of Time**

None

**Nominations received at the meeting**

Erica Cuthbertson

Erica Cuthbertson wins by acclamation. Congratulations.

**9. Home & School Presentation**

Presented by Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch, chair of Home & School.

Despite the challenges and restrictions, Home & School had yet another very successful year. The ongoing fundraisers of Jadon uniform sales, FundScrip, and Lovable Labels continued, and we were able to bring back Pizza Lunch towards the end of the year, which was very successful. With the help of a grant from the school board, we saw the school yard revamping project through completion with the installation of the 2 new play structures. We started the year with the school kit sale, and we gave all homeroom teachers allocations for classroom supplies, and over the year, we fulfilled many requests from wish lists. We provided funds for the science and music programs. We held another virtual Bingo night, and we introduced a limited-time-only tie-dye Westpark hoodie. We provided ice cream pops and popcorn treats for all students and staff in the last week of school.

**10. Formation of a Parent Participation Organization (PPO)**

Westpark has not had a PPO since 2016, when its activities were minimal because of the vibrance of our H&S, our leadership team, and the initiatives of teachers and support staff. Our school has been very successful at adding so much to the school culture and to our children's academic experience, in the absence of the PPO. It is added that most schools do not have both Home & School and PPO committees. With Westpark having a very strong Home & School, it would be to its

detriment to have both committees running simultaneously, in terms of the requests made of the community, the volunteers needed, and the time and participation of the school's administration.  
No PPO formed (vote was cast), no election for chair is called.

#### **11. Varia**

Date and time of the first Governing Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 7pm  
All parents are encouraged to come to meetings as they are open to the public.

#### **12. Adjournment**

Mark Kashetsky adjourns the meeting at 8:38 pm

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch