

Annual General Assembly of Parents
September 8, 2022 - 7pm
Minutes

1. Opening of the Meeting

Mark calls the meeting to order at 7:07pm

Introduction of Principal Diana Martire, and Vice Principal France Poirier

Thank you to parents for coming to the meeting

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Naming of Secretary

Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch

4. Approval of the Agenda

Sent earlier by email, and is read through briefly

No changes or corrections

Motion to approve AGA agenda: Phil Pinsky

Second: MA Davoli

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions; approved.

5. Approval of Minutes of last year's General Assembly of Parents

Sent by email, and is read through briefly

No changes or corrections

Motion to approve AGA agenda: Carrie Carson

Second: Alaina Charszan

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions; approved.

6. Governing Board

6.1 Roles and Functions of the Governing Board

The Westpark Governing Board is a consultative 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.

6.2 Introduction of the Current Members on Governing Board

The 5 parents beginning the second year of their 2-year term: Kelly Arfin, Carrie Carson, Alaina Charszan, Erica Cuthbertson, Mark Kashetsky

A heartfelt thank you goes to the 4 parents who are completing their 2- year term tonight: Maria Antonietta Davoli, Karl Griffin, Kenny Mandel, and Phil Pinsky

The staff who served on the GB for the 2021/2022 school year were: Alia Odubayo, Chelsea Bayer, Lisa Peress, Margaret Gogoris, Mary Lawrence, Yolanda Galvez, Pina Garritano, Deppy Papandreou, Lonna Velasco. Many thanks to all of you for your time and dedication. To our community representatives, Cindy Tansky-Litwin and Jodi Toledano, and to our commissioner, Craig Berger, we extend our gratitude to you for your dedication. Thank you so much to our secretary, Tiffany Uman, and to Kelly who pitched in with the minutes on a few occasions. To our Administrative team, Mr. Michael Rabinovitch, Mme France Poirier, and Ms. Christine Donald, many thanks for your commitment to Westpark School

6.3 Presentation of the Annual Report 2021-2022

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:

- School and daycare budgets
- Fundraising guidelines
- Field Trips (school and daycare)
- In-house special programming and activities
- Expanding “Green” initiatives
- Safety protocols during Covid-19

6.4 Election of Parent Representatives on the Governing Board

6.4.1 Nominations Received Ahead of Time

Adam Steinberg (absent)

Adrienne Frank

MA Davoli

Phil Pinsky

Sheila Inzlicht

Stuart Becker

Tiffany Uman

6.4.2 Additional Nominations, if any

None

6.4.3 Closing of Nominations

6.4.4 Candidates Present Themselves

6.4.5 Voting

1. Phil Pinsky
2. Stuart Becker
3. MA Davoli
4. Tiffany Uman

Congratulations and welcome to the 4 newly elected parents.

Request for new members to please send an email to westpark_GB@lbpearson.com with their full names, email addresses, and telephone numbers.

Motion to destroy the ballots: MA Davoli

Second: Tiffany Uman

All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions; approved.

6.5 Election of Substitute Parent Representatives on the Governing Board

6.5.1 Nominations Received Ahead of Time

None

6.5.2 Additional Nominations, if any

Adrienne Frank

Nadia Khan

Sheila Inzlicht

Dana Frankel

Tony Scalia

6.5.3 Closing of Nominations

6.5.4 Candidates Present Themselves

6.5.5 Voting

We can have up to 9, no need for election. All substitute parents acclaimed. Request for new members to please send an email to westpark_GB@lbpearson.com with their full names, email addresses, and telephone numbers.

7. Parents' Committee

7.1 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 2021-22 was Alaina Charszan. The alternate delegate for 2021-22 was Erica Cuthbertson. 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.

7.2 PC Annual Report

The annual report for the parents committee has not been released; when it is, it will 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.

7.3 Election of the Parent Delegate

Self nomination: Alaina Charszan

No other nominations. Acclaimed. Congratulations.

7.4 Election of the Alternate Parent Delegate

Self nomination: Tiffany Uman

No other nominations. Acclaimed. Congratulations.

8. Westpark Home & School Association

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. We ran Pizza lunch all year, which was very successful. 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 a holiday raffle basket fundraiser, which was a lot of fun and was successful.

Initiatives funded/supported:

- Teacher Allocations
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Winter Carnival Snacks
- End of Year Carnival
- Door Decorating Contests
- Halloween treats for all
- Teacher requests
- New set of iPads
- Tech supplies (iPad cases)
- 3 New Stationary bikes
- New Shelves for hallway upstairs
- Guest Speakers – Alyssa Sklar & Barbara Coloroso
- Phys. Ed. Equipment (\$2800)
- BREATHE Program for Grade 6
- New Laminator for the staff room
- 2 New Smart TVs
- Administrative Appreciation Day
- End of year treats (Ice Cream, Freezies & Popcorn)

9. 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, no election for chair is called.

10. Varia

New email system was put in place during the pandemic and will be changing again. System limitations prevent emailing the entire list at once, and that could be what was causing some families to either receive double emails from the school, or none at all. Will be looked at and corrected ASAP.

11. Closing of the Meeting

Meeting adjourned by Mark Kashetsky at 8:02 pm