



MONTROYAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MPAC MEETING AGENDA

Date: November 29th, 2017 7:30 pm

Location: Library

Welcome back to a new school year!

1. Welcome/Call to Order

- Declare quorum

2. Intro of Executive

3. Approval of Agenda: any changes, additions, or deletions

- Motion by Cat; second by H. Hill

2. Approval of Oct 5, 2017 MPAC Meeting Minutes

- Approved

4. Barry Forward – School Trustee, North Vancouver School District,

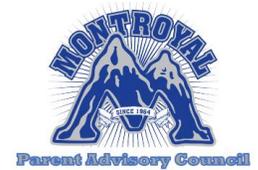
- B. Forward passes out a handout titled Fundamental Board R&R and speaks to status of Handsworth upgrade vs re-build
- C. Sartor asks when Argyle is meant to start; B. Forward believes that it is February 2018
- C. Sartor asks what parents can do at this stage to be involved? B. Forward suggests talking to Liberal MLA's
- B. Forward speaks to the responsibilities of the Board; One of the biggest responsibilities was to hire a new Superintendent which they have completed and the second big responsibility was to develop the strategic plan (next plan to be developed for 2021)
- **Action: C. Sartor suggests posting the link to the plan in the minutes of the meeting**
- B. Forward reports that future Trustee Board meetings will be broadcast (live and archived)

- B. Forward also reports that a strategic planning session will be announced soon that welcomes input from kids and parents
- C. Sartor asks about classroom size; small classes are great for kids but now have less flex space; what can we do to gain the flex space back (e.g., portables)? B. Forward's response is that this is something that is also a key topic for the Board; the Board feels that the good news is that we have more teachers and smaller classes and while split classes has helped with space issues the Board is still trying to work through space issues with the teachers association and government; B. Forward feels that it will take time to really figure out what the needs will be as the change happened only recently (September 2017)
- C. Sartor asks what kind of things the Board is doing to keep our district at the top of the international ranks; B. Forward refers to one of the goals within the strategic plan which has an item specifically around this and outlines that it is something that the Superintendent has as his mandate; if there are areas where us as parents feel that we are not living up to expectations the first step is to speak to the Principal and the second step could be to come to one of the Board meetings to have a conversation
- C. Sartor's direct feedback is that with the changes to the staff there is less support staff and this has affected the kids that need a lot of help as well as gifted kids; J. Campbell talks to the shortage of talent for special education teachers even when they do have an opening; N. Velasquez adds that it would be helpful if the parents know what the process has been around staffing as opposed to just the outcome
- C. Sartor asks if the Board has any information whether the government still has it on their mandate to pay for upgrading playgrounds or whether we should be fundraising to replace ours? B. Forward suggests reaching out to Bowan Ma in the first instance and invite her up to tour the school to get it on her radar then reach out to provincial

government (e.g., MLA) reps to remind them of what they promised about playground upgrade funding

5. Principal/Vice Principal Reports – Mr. Joe Campbell

- S. Teegan (Vice Principal) provides update on basketball season which has just finished as well as on the lunch monitors which has also been going well
- S. Teegan talks to the fact that the teachers are working well through the changes that came in September
- J. Campbell reports that 'Quinns Court' is going ahead and the plan is for spring 2018
- J. Campbell also reports that Handsworth has been sending over volunteers during recess and lunch and this has been going well
- J. Campbell reports that the FSA's were just completed by grade 4's and 7's; N. Velasquez asks if there is the option to opt out and the Principals answer is no, but they can't force a student to take it
- J. Campbell describes how bad the teacher shortage is provincially, but that Montroyal is in a good place because the government has given additional hours for support staff and we actually have the part-time staff to fill the hours
- J. Campbell speaks to the questions and concerns with the Global Learner program – concerns were raised by intermediate students because the Global Learner program seemed to drop off; the reality is that many of the intermediate teachers were already doing many of the things that are part of Global Learner program and as a result they didn't have Global Learner Day; J. Campbell indicated that they are planning something for January; they are also looking at correcting some of the mistakes they made with the program like the fact that they hadn't made and saved lessons plans; staff looking at how to reboot the program and do it more responsibly than the last few years
- J. Campbell reports that new report cards this year, coming out Dec 8th



- J. Campbell also speaks to the fact that the staff are still looking for ways to better handle trash around the school and school grounds

6. MPAC Financials – Treasurer: Howie Hill

- H. Hill updates that HotLunch is just below budget; HotLunch representative adds that they have been thinking of doing a survey to find out why the numbers are down, also some challenges with quality of food from vendors

8. Director & Committee Reports

- Reports posted to MPAC website

11. Other business - none

Meeting Adjourned 9:15 pm

NEXT MEETING: January 16th @ 7:30

SEE YOU THERE!