

EMSBPC report May 2, 2024

Land acknowledgement

Presentation by Mme. Rene de Cotret on the closing of St. Raphael School (currently supporting about 30 families with students who have additional needs) and opening of a new school in the Nesbitt building. Presentation says there is higher demand than can be accommodated at St Raphael. The two schools would be in the Nesbitt building sharing yard space, but varying times.

Presentation by Chabab Lifeline on screen addiction. Mentioned addiction being a spectrum, and when intervention or help is needed. Included that their resources can be free of charge to whomever may need them.

Marketing team presentation done by Merika Raimundo pointing out the current weaknesses of communication from the EMSB PC to the general public and what immediate steps can be taken to help improve the situation.

3 actions ideas which could be implemented short term include:

- 1 page highlight reel, which delegates could use when giving their report to their respective GBs.
- Create an information flyer to be handed out after elections in October/November to outline what the PC role is and direct parents where they can find additional information throughout the year.
- Re-Establish a permanent PC subcommittee for marketing and communication.

New Business:

EMSBPC decided that a brief on behalf of PC would be needed to address certain concerns about the St Raphael closing and the opening of a new school in the Nesbitt building. Sub committee was formed, has since met, and submitted their initial brief to return to PC for approval before sending it to the board.

Allocation to members was approved at the rate of 15\$ a meeting to those who have attended 4 or more meetings, and similarly to alternates whom have had to replace members for 4 or more meetings.

School Reports

- Rosemount has brought back the band trip to Disneyland
- Gardenview is working on a new yard with money from Home and School
- EMSB had debaters who made the quarter finals or higher in a National French speaking debating tournament.

Committee reports:

Parent commissioners: Volunteer acknowledgement was held acknowledging 3 volunteers within the board.

Questions arising from the commissioner's reports:

Q: How are the volunteers of the year chosen?

A: Nominations can be made by GBs, admin teams

Q: Mr Ortona has said 2 years in a row at the "Meet your chair" event, that EMSB has a surplus. During the last Council meeting a commissioner brought up a motion which had previously been raised and sent to the finance subcommittee to review about allocating funds to each individual schools as per the precedence set between the years of 2015-2019. These funds have previously been allocated for GBs and school admin to spend on certain items, tutoring and books. Could the parent commissioners please explain why that motion has never resurfaced at the commissioners table?

A: That motion was voted down as only 15% of the accumulated surplus can be spent, and currently we are using the funds in other areas of the budget just to come up even. Further discussion was had about the amount being used for legal fees and whether the amount mentioned is still available and if so whom would we have to approach. Parent commissioners answered they would into it and come back with further information in June.

Next meeting June 6th at St Pius X.