

Association des parents d'élèves de l'École André-Piolat

General Meeting

Wednesday 18 September 8PM via ZOOM

Minutes

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE :

Lily WU, treasurer

Etienne LESSARD, secretary

Roja BAGHERI, director

Ginette MILLS, director

Kathryn FOWLES, director

Michelle JICKLING, director

Marta TOESEV, director

Anaïs MOCH

Andrée RICHER

Camila TAVERA

Florian MUKUTA

François PROULX

Geneviève NOEL

Isabelle MIRABAUD

Jacques DUFRESNE

Jean-Michel LAUZON

Johanne NADEAU

Julie DÉZIEL

Katherine HUME

Niloufar KHALOOSMAEILI

Nathalie CHALOIN

Nathaniel VIPOND

Radniya MOUSAVI

Samira ORDOODARY

Sebastian KINDSVATER

Sebastien CRESPIN

Yolanda DROST

Sonia PACKWOOD

GUESTS :

Michel TARDIF, principal

Frédéric BILODEAU, vice-principal

1. Call to order at 8pm

- Ginette Mills

2. Adoption of June 12, 2024 AGM minutes

- Draft minutes from June 13th, 2023 General Meeting shared with members adopted (Natalie CHALOIN proposing, François Proulx seconding).



**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING 12.JUN.20:**

3. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda

Draft agenda shared with members adopted (Nathalie CHALOIN proposing, Lily WU seconding).



Ordre du jour -
Réunion du 18 sept

4. First Nations Land Acknowledgement.

Performed by Roja BAGHARI.

5. Introduction by APÉ (Ginette MILLS)

- Ginette presents 7 membres. Lily WU as treasurer. Étienne Lessard as Secretary. Marta TSOEV for the schoolyard project (who will be recruiting to get a group of parents to help out). Directors Kathryn FOWLES, Roja BAGHERI and Michelle JICKLING.
- Changes in Leadership. Many of the leadership roles in and around the school have changed this year, including the school's principal and vice-principal, Trottin-Trotinette's director and the executive for the APÉ.

- Ways to communicate. There are several avenues to keep in touch with the APÉ (ape_piolat@yahoo.com , Private group APE in Whatsapp and on Facebook)
- Getting involved. Ginette invites parents to contact or become the class reps and to join the group of the Hot Lunch volunteers.
- Activities. Both the APÉ and Trottin-Trottinette organize activities for parents and students after school. To be noted that the APÉ receives \$2 for each registration and is therefore a source of financing.
- Meetings. We will have meetings all months except for December and March. We will try to do meetings in person, based on Mr. Tardif's recommendations.
- Our contact with the CSF. Jacque Dufresne is our representative at the CSF. The first public meeting of the CSF will be Saturday. Jacques is to be our last resort after having gone through the different administrative processes to have concerns addressed.

6. Update from the school administration

- Kick off with the APÉ. M. Tardif, met with the Ginette and Roja previously this week and had a good discussion.
 1. Technological tools. The ministry put out guidelines to set out the use of technology in the classrooms. School boards have been working to put in place new tools in class. Explains that in linguistic minority settings (such as Anglophones in Sherbrooke), technology has been shown to ensure linguistic security. The tech tools in class are behind a firewall and is quite secure. There has been a lot of training on how to use technological tools. We must continue to adapt to a society where technological tools are widely used. Our school was chosen as an Apple school, which is a programme that will aim to help to promote literacy and numeracy
 2. Cell phone usage. The new guidelines call for cell phones to be left in lockers for grades under 8. For grades 8 to 12, no use of cell phones in class, unless teacher requires it as part of teaching activity.

3. Inclusion in code of conduct. They are reviewing different codes of conduct with regards to technology and will consolidate the findings into a final document.
4. Reduction of recess time in the daily schedule. A decision was taken to reduce the minutes during recess for all CSF schools. M. Tardif is working on a plan to get additional 10 minutes without an impact on the schools. M. Tardif proposes that if the members of the APE agree, will take time from the transitions to put in the recess. He has asked the CSF to be exempt from the change.
5. Interventions about the schedule:
 1. Nathaniel Vipond, grade 12, says that the lunch times are now 35 minutes. This amount of time won't allow them to work on our activities and committees. States that they used to have 50 minutes or 1 hour and that more time is ideal
 2. Radniya, grade 12, does not understand the logic and says that elementary school children don't have time to eat and play with their friends.
 3. Guillaume, has two kids in Elementary School and says that they only get 15 minutes to eat.
 4. Andrée Richer, demands an explanation for the change.
 5. Ginette reads through some of the comments in the chat.
- M. Bilodeau, the assistant principal, introduces himself. He has mostly worked in Vancouver, is looking forward to the new challenge and will be full time in October.

7. Update from the teachers' representative

- Magalie Lariviere is the representative. She is the school librarian and has started to put together the list of new books. Will have workshops on the First nations next week. Explains that she goes to different classrooms to show them that books other than comic strips exist. Is asking for a budget for books and specialized section in the library.

8. Update from the students' rep

- Radniya says that he is supposed to be the representative, but he can't because they need more time at lunch.

9. Update from the Comité École Consultatif pour le Rehaussement de l'Éducation Autochtone (CÉCRÉA)

- Genevieve Noel is the representative. She has two kids at the school. The CECREA represents parents with native ancestry at the school. The Ministry of Education in BC provides \$1,500 per child to the school in support of enhancing first nation education. They've created a land acknowledgment plaque and drum at the school and they try to create ties with the local reserves.

10. Hot Lunch Programme

- Ginette says that we always need volunteers. Muncha Lunch is a very important fundraising tool. A sign-up sheet exists for those interested.

11. First Social Event of the Year

- Ginette says that we wanted to do quick meet up to welcome new people. The event will take place on Thursday September 26th at 5:30pm. Bring your utensils and food to share. We'll have icecream. At 6:30pm we will get the School Administration to introduce themselves.

12. Financial Update

- Lily Wu says that we have to validate and vote for the budget at our next monthly meeting.

13. Parent Speaking Time

- *Tablets and video games in class*
 1. Sebastien Kindsvater, created a letter to denounce the usage of these devices, passed the letter around and got 40 signatures supporting him. He notes that the New York Times reported that screen time is related to many psychological and social issues. He disagrees with allowing children to freely roam the internet. Teachers should find other ways to have kids be engaged.
 2. Lily Yu asks if there is a deadline for the code of conduct that would address the usage of Nintendo Switches in class.

3. Principal says that the comité des partenaires will meet in the next weeks to discuss the situation of the électroniques.

- *Bullying*

1. Yolanda is the mother of two kids. Has been working with families for the last 25 years. Romi, her daughter, was subject to many physical assaults last year. She felt that there was not a strong enough response from the school. The situation got so bad that they were keeping a spreadsheet of how many times during the day her daughter would be bullied. She was further shocked about how unruly the children at Brackendale were. She was very embarrassed by the behaviour of the school children, especially since there were other participants from other school districts on the North Shore. She says that in Vancouver, there are set guidelines. 0 tolerance for aggression. 0 tolerance for aggression while encouraging positive behaviour. She notes that neuro-divergent children need to understand the consequences of their actions.
2. M. Tardif, the principal, says that he will take that in consideration in our next meeting on the code of conduct.

- *Changes to the schedule*

1. Sebastien Crespin, still does not understand why the decision was made. He has three kids in high school but says he won't be able to keep them at Andre-Piolat much longer if we get rid of associations for high school students.
2. M. Dufresne, our representative to the CSF, will ask about this situation at the upcoming meeting of the CSF.

- *English teaching*

1. Francois proulx, raises the issue with the lack of English-teaching personnel at the school. English only starts in grade 4 and from the 6 combined years where his children should have received English instruction, they only received it during two years. He comments on the fact that there are no assigned teacher and many substitutes. Every year, it seems that it is impossible to

retain an English teacher. He also raises the issue of not being able to keep his kids at the school if they can't learn English

2. The principal discusses the different approaches being used to recruit English Language Arts specialists. They are still able to ensure some continuity through class prep.

- *Physical Education*

1. Andrée Richer just learned that we still don't have a PE teacher.
2. The principal explains that the FTE dollars are shared between prep time and physical education. He will look into funding to have a band at the school

14. Mini budget

- Lily explains it was developed in June and reviews the different line items on which we will have to vote at the next meeting.
- Frederic Bilodeau says that got a gaming grant to pay the sound system and so it may not be necessary for the APE to pay for this.

15. Meeting adjourned at 10pm

- Ginette Mills closes the meeting

Etienne Lessard, Secretary.