

**CONSEIL D'ETABLISSEMENT- SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**DATE: JUNE 12 2019**

**Opening:**

The School Council dated June 12,2019 was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by the Head of School, Alain Delaune.  
Secretary appointment: Samia Bentabet & Patricia Bonillas

**Review of agenda**

School Agenda agreed on without modifications.

**Attendees:**

*Parent representatives:*

Mun Wa MS1, Elizabeth Davey (CE1), Karelyn Hrushowy (CPB), Roja Bagheri (PS2), Yara Schoucair (CPA), Lizeth Escobedo (CE2), Valerie de la Grange (GS2), Loïc Lefevre ( CM2), Catherine Simon (CE1/CE2,6e), Melanie Foussourier (MS2), Qiongli Wu (PS1), Kara Misra (CE1/CE2), Michelle Dallas (CM1), Andrea Ryce (GS1), Stephanie Campbell (CPB)

*PAC representatives:*

Stéphanie Campbell (PAC)

*Teacher representatives:*

Vincent Acezat (collège), Daphné Guillot Adonai (Cycle 3), Michaël de Bérail (Primary Coordinator), Elodie Pillot(Cycle 2), Sarah Marescaux (Maternelle), Meryem Derkaoui (Maternelle)

*Assistant representatives:*

Séverine Debusscher, Nejia Fliss

*Administrative representatives:*

Alain Delaune, Samia Bentabet, Patricia Bonillas

Board representative:

Jeff Swanson

**Regrets:**

Karin Payani  
Shauna Turkington  
Tatiana Soboleva  
Laylee Mehrdad  
Golnar Ghazitatabaei

Vista Tretheway  
Vincent Vanackere  
Prisca Rasaonaivo  
Sandrina Saldanha

## MOVEMENT OF STAFF

5 teachers are leaving

1 changing position- Sandrine Laroche as VP for Preschool and Kindergarten  
Julie Pla and Magali Chulia are moving to the CSF

Marc Santenac is going back to France

Clotilde is going to a French school in Los Angeles

Sébastien Hoonhoorst: Not his will to leave. His academy did not accept his "detachement" in April.

Alain emailed the inspector in Ottawa. Finally, they sent him an email where they agreed for him to stay but it was too late. Sebastien had already made plans and cancelled everything in Vancouver. No one had informed the school that they were taking into consideration Alain's request for him to stay.

*Question from Stéphanie Campbell:* Is it possible to prevent a problem like this to occur again?

No, it is not possible. Every year the "Académies" review their teachers abroad, depending on their location.

Alain has let the Ministry know that it is important for them to let us know when they are reviewing a case in order to prevent a problem like that one from happening again.

Final note Nicole Sitaya has been invited to the kermesse for a special ceremony but she said she was not ready for it as it has been an emotional year for her.

New teachers that are coming:

- 1) One from Toronto- a school psychologist that will be teaching Grade 4 or 5.
- 2) A young French teacher from Kiev in Petite Section
- 3) Another teacher, her husband is relocating from Virginia and she will be teaching Kindergarten.

Our school counsellor will also be leaving as she said 3 hours per week was not enough to cover the needs of the school. Her role for the Socio Emotional Learning of students will be taken over by the teacher who is also a school psychologist.

## CLASS PROJECTS

### Maternelle:

#### PS:

- Every child participated in the International Day dance.
- Sports day
- Field trip to Lynn Canyon Ecological Centre
- NorthShore Black Bear Society conference where they learned what to do when they encounter a bear.

Next projects:

They will be going to Maplewood Farm on June 21, 2019

**MS:**

Same as Petite Section

- A child in MS participated in the talent show.
- Once a month they go to the Forest school
- They worked on a caterpillar project where they raised them until they became butterflies and then released them.

Next projects:

Honey Bee Centre on June 24, 2019 close to Surrey.

**General maternelle (PS- MS-KG)**

- They enjoyed the writer's presentation during the library inauguration.
- They participated at the contest "Les incorruptibles" where they read books and then voted for their favorite book at the end of the session.
- Students from CE2 class (Thierry Tacail's) read books to children in Petite Section and Moyenne Section
- They were present at the Eco-Schools event and the students from Moyenne Section appeared in Radio-Canada's report on Eco-School.
- Students participated in garbage recollection around the school.

**Grade 1 to Grade 3 (cycle 2)**

**General projects:**

- School choir where they sang sustainable development and ecological songs. They sang during the Eco-School presentation on June 5th. They will present on June 14th before the Kermesse.
- Participated in the inauguration of the library with francophone writers.
- Sports day
- International Day
- NorthShore Black Bear Society presentation on May 23, 2019 where they spoke about how to react to bear encounters.

**Grade 1:**

They went to Camp Jubilee and had a great time.

**Grade 2:**

They played "The fables from Lafontaine" at the school library.

**Grade 2 and 3:**

They will be leaving to Camp Cheakamus in Squamish from June 17th to 20th

Next projects:

On June 17th they will start the cycling project where they will work on street awareness, safety and improve their skills.

### **Grade 4 and Grade 5 (cycle 3)**

#### **General projects:**

They participated in the inauguration of the library by listening to francophone writers.  
They were present of the Eco-Schools event.

#### **Grade 5:**

Finally released Salmon. Next year, it will be a project for Grade 4.

Next projects:

They will be launching mini rockets on June 13 2019.

They will be sailing in West Vancouver during 2 days in June.

### **Collège (cycle 4)**

#### **General projects:**

- Same as the others: International Day, Library, Eco-Schools
- They are working on the "Pinewood challenge" : They are preparing race cars for competition. Some of the students are building the cars. The competition will take place once it is ready.

Next projects:

- They will be handling the "Buvette" (drinking station) during the school fair.
- They will be presenting the theatre play "Quel Avare" on June 13 2019 and they presented on June 12 2019 to all the students.
- June 19th they will see a performance downtown.
- End of year they will have a surprise field trip.

Pedagogical projects:

- They are starting to prepare the schedule for new teachers.
- They will be adding additional BC math to cover the gaps in the curriculum.

### **FIELD TRIPS AND TRIPS**

Next year the classes are thinking of field trips related to nature, nothing has been decided.

For Grade 6 , considering going to Lycée Français de Queretaro. Queretaro is considered a safe place in Mexico.

*Question from Yara Schoucair:* Who was Acciona?

A Spanish NGO specialized in Sustainable Development.

## OTHER ITEMS

Ministry of Education in BC will be inspecting the school next year. FISA will be sending someone for 1 day to train new teachers about the BC curriculum.

CIS membership:

The school will be visited by CIS as well but the inspection will overlap.

*Question from Roja Bagheri:* For Eco-Schools, is there any plan to work with indigenous communities? In UBC they work with them and show them how to respect nature.

*Reply from Alain:*

It will be discussed. For Eco-schools, we work on three actions, biodiversity, waste minimization and global citizenship, next year, we will need to add one more action, it could be related to this.

## COMITE ACTION PARENTS - PARENTS ACTION COMMITTEE

The Parents Action Committee is still looking for a President and Vice President for next year.

The PAC would like to thank all the parent volunteers for their support to the school throughout the year and for their fundraising.

\$33,800 of fund raised have been allocated to the school in 2018/2019 (\$25,000 was from previous years fundraising activities):

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$12,000 Library</li><li>• \$5,300 Field trips</li><li>• \$4,000 IT upgrade</li><li>• \$3,500 Emergency supplies</li><li>• \$2,000 Technology</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$2,000 Eco-school</li><li>• \$2,000 - PE equipment</li><li>• \$2,000 Scholastic (bonus points)</li><li>• \$1,000 Dictée PGL</li></ul> |
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An estimated 2,500 hours of volunteering will be completed by parents by the end of the school year through participation in committees and events:

- Representatives - Eco-Committee, Class Representative, Board Member, and PAC member
- School Events - Field trips, Open House, Journée Internationale, Terry Fox, Winter Concert, Lynn Valley Days
- Fundraising - Merchandise, Art Cards, Portraits, Scholastic, Two River Meat, Gaming Grant, Book Fair
- Social Events - Whitecaps Family Night, Movie Nights, Kermesse
- Charitable Giving- Strathcona Backpack, Woodward childcare, North Shore Neighbourhood house
- Administration- CIS, Emergency Supplies, Translations, Library

## QUESTIONS FROM PARENTS

**Q. The ranking of the school at the Fraser Institute dropped in 2018 - from 10 point in 2016 to 8.2/10. What can be the reason for this drop?**

A:

Kids from Grade 4/5 take a test depending of the number of students in the class. Last time it was 2016. The school has gone from 10 to 8.3.

It is not catastrophic. There are several reasons:

1) Research shows that stability increases academic results. The school has been unstable since 2015.

A head of school was fired in 2015 and a teacher was placed in his position. Then, they hired a Principal for one year.

The first reason children do well is because of teachers and the second reason is management.

It is faster to break than to rebuild.

2) The children were not ready to take a test. Teach them how to present a test. A number of small factors can explain it.

Out of all the school we are 19. We will work as a team to improve it.

**Q: What is happening with the lease?**

A: We are currently on a 1-year recurring basis. Negotiating with the school district for 3 years.

The school wants to have sufficient funds for it to own its building.

Refresh that plan for the AGM.

**Q: Why has there been no communication from the board, what are they working on?**

A: They will try to improve their communication.

They are on track for the year. The budget is being revised for next year.

Budget is following the strategy that was set, the goal is on track. The Board is confident that moving to own location will be reachable in 3 to 5 years.

A church can be an option as they have financial difficulties. Some schools have bought them to renovate them.

**Q: Can we have enrollment numbers per grade? (Understanding that they will fluctuate, just looking for a snapshot)**

A: Roughly: Same numbers of classes as last year.

220 students this year, next year we hope 225/230

Opening Grade 9 next year and going to Calgary to present the Brevet exam.

The challenge is to fill up the Petite Section classes, as they have started to decline during the last 2 years.

Patricia spoke to the North Shore Community Centre and the childcare for groups 3-5 are the least sought after in the North Shore. Parents are also being educated on looking for play based instead of academic schools.

**Q: What is the budget ?**

A: Income:  
School makes \$4M  
75% School fees  
15% Grants  
10% Activities

B: Expenses:  
75% Salaries/wages  
15% Lease/building maintenance  
15% Program expenses

**Q: What is the marketing scheme?**

A: It is the first time the school has a marketing position, the school name is spreading The data that we have will help us improve our marketing so it is going to get better. The main idea is to fill the pre school classes.

**Q: What extra services/upgrades will the school do?**

A: CIS- CIS will expose us internationally and improve the school's position. The only other schools that have CIS are Mulgrave, Maple Ridge and UWC in Victoria.  
Raising teachers' salaries to align with the district's salaries : there is still work to do.  
Administrators are not enough to cover every aspect of school's needs. Looking for a VP for next year to help with Administration and to be focused on the education aspect. Need to improve the educational aspect (Always room for improvement)  
Patricia will be leaving the team so we will open a new position.

CTBS results are on average at 65%, not that bad. We need to add more English hours. The Preschool kids need proper exposure to English from PS to MS.

**Q: How many split classes have you foreseen?**

A: It is difficult to say but if it happens, parents should be informed that a lot of planning has gone into the split classes and they should feel reassured

**Q: Lice**

*"An important issue that the school needs to address is lice.*

*The frequency of lice outbreaks this year at Cousteau was inexcusable.*

*While we appreciate that the school has made substantial efforts to inform and educate parents (putting together a protocol, asking parents to take bedsheets and clothes home for washing, treating helmets and classrooms etc) the continued outbreaks throughout the year are a clear indication that our current collective approaches (both school and parents) have failed.*

*The recurrent lice problem at Cousteau requires that the school MUST consider different approaches. We cannot continue to do what we have been doing and expect a different outcome.*

*We should be open to new ideas and proposals on how to deal with these pests. Despite the best efforts on the part of the vast majority of parents and the school, as long as one child is not treated (or not treated properly using ineffective substances, for eg, tea tree oil), the lice will return to the classroom/school. Perhaps we should have a school or VCH nurse come and educate parents about lice treatment and prevention, with mandatory parent attendance? Mail out materials on lice (since emails get disregarded by some)? Should Cousteau have new policies and procedures in place if children are discovered to have lice? If we are not able to send kids with lice home, should the parents of kids with lice be receiving more targeted messages than the generic ones all parents are getting, especially repeat offenders? We would be interested to learn about other ideas or suggestions."*

A:

There are two things that happen when head lice is detected:

- 1) A generic letter is sent to the whole class.
- 2) The families whose kids have lice receive an individualized letter with thorough instructions.

It happens in every school, especially after the camps. We could look into seeing if a school nurse can come to school and talk to parents.

We have contacted the VCH nurse and there is nothing else that we can do, except to increase the messaging to parents. We are not allowed to exclude children in BC nor are we allowed to inspect children's hair. Head lice requires commitment from the parents as they need to do an initial treatment, check the hair during the week and apply a second treatment.

**Q: "Will college and elementary students start at the same time next year?"**

The whole school will start at 8:35 a.m.

On the week of August 29, 2019, there will be a week of preparations for the parents and an information session for parents.

**Question from Jeff Swanson:** The Board would like to know what you think about communication this year?

**Answer from parents:**

Communication has been good, we know what children are doing at school but we have not heard from the Board.

*Jeff Swanson has encouraged parents to post reviews online.*

*Michelle Dallas has encouraged parents to come and vote at the AGM.*

**Meeting adjourned at 7:39**