

WESTMOUNT CHARTER BOARD MINUTES

Regular Meeting – December 21, 2011

Board Office, Westmount Charter School

Present:

Constantine Pefanis
Melanie Guglielmin
Duane Bratt
Janet Vellutini
Diane Field
Shawna Ritchie
Graeme Finlay

Not Present:

Marie Keenan

Administration:

Joe Frank, Superintendent
Megan O'Hara, Secretary-Treasurer

1. Call to Order

C. Pefanis called the meeting to order at 1705h.

2. Agenda Approval

MOTION: 2011/12/21/1:

That the Charter Board approves the agenda for the December 21, 2011 meeting, as circulated.

Moved by M. Guglielmin; Seconded by S. Ritchie.

Approved

3. Minutes of the November 16, 2011 Meeting

MOTION: 2011/12/21/2:

That the Charter Board approves the minutes of the November 16, 2011 meeting, as circulated.

Moved by M. Guglielmin; Seconded by S. Ritchie.

Approved

4. Principal's Report

S. Robinson elaborated upon her work around research including the development of a research protocol and upon several other items in her report.

There was some discussion and questions around the recent media reports on diploma exams and the impact on student grades/access to university.

The Principal's written report included:

- Christmas Festivities
- Research Opportunities
- Sharing with Shelley and Beyond
- School Surveys
- Classroom Visits and Observations
- Bullying, Bullied and the Bystander
- Professional Development

5. Locally Developed Courses

There was discussion around the question of resources and it was clarified that Westmount does have the resources to support these two programs.

MOTION: 2011/12/21/3:

That the Charter Board of Westmount Charter School authorize the following locally developed courses and the resources required to teach them:

Biology AP 35 for 3 credits, acquired with permission from Calgary School District No. 19 for a maximum of 2 years from February 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013 pending review from Alberta Education.

Calculus BC AP 35 for 5 credits, acquired with permission from Edmonton Public Schools for a maximum of 2 years from February 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013 pending review from Alberta Education.

Moved by D. Field; Seconded by J. Vellutini.

Approved

6. School Council Liaison

M. Guglielmin reported on the latest School Council meeting. There was a report from the playground committee, a presentation by the “open-faced sandwich” teachers who reported on their proposal to profile teaching and learning in new ways, and a presentation from several students who are contemplating organizing and hosting a large conference for all high school students.

The question of privacy for our students with the proposed “new” ways of sharing was brought up with some concerns expressed around the proposed “FOIP” agreement. It was suggested that the website clearly state the purpose for publication and that use is restricted. Questions included the use of individual, specific consents as opposed to blanket permissions. CBE, for example, draws a distinction between public “performances” which could be taped by a member of the public versus taping by a staff member. What about a student’s digital reputation? The Superintendent was asked to bring a report on this issue to the next meeting.

7. TAAPCS

C. Pefanis reported that the Minister has been invited to attend the January TAAPCS meeting in Red Deer.

8. Superintendent’s Report

J. Frank elaborated on several of the items in his report. His written report included:

- Accountability Pillar Surveys
- PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) 2012
- Facility Update
- Community Generosity

9. Secretary Treasurer’s Report

M. O’Hara provided some additional information on the items in her report. Her written report included:

- First Quarter Budget Review
- Correction to 2011 Audited Financial Statements
- Insurance Brokerage RFP
- Community Spirit Grant

10. Correspondence

The following correspondence items were noted:

- W. Chow has resigned his position on the board. It was agreed there should be discussion on this in the new year. D. Bratt volunteered to serve on Audit Committee. The Charter Board expressed its appreciation to Winston for his service to Westmount.
 - Nominating Committee will also meet in the new year to discuss the now vacant position.
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MOTION: 2011/12/21/4:

That the Charter Board moves its meeting *in camera* at 1815h.

Moved by G. Finlay; Seconded by M. Guglielmin.

Approved

Regular meeting re-convened at 1819h.

11. Arising from In-Camera

MOTION: 2011/12/21/5:

That the Charter Board approves the staffing changes, as recommended.

Moved by J. Vellutini; Seconded by M. Guglielmin.

Approved

12. Adjournment

The Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 1820h.