

**PIERREFONDS COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD 2018-2019
Minutes of the Meeting held Monday February 18th, 2019
13800 Pierrefonds Blvd. (Library)**

Members Present: Aaryn Bradley, Susan Brown, Amy Campbell, Angela Crosbie, Aaliya Farid, Heather Himbury, Juan Lamosa, Sarah Larkin, Isabelle Leduc, Kathleen Martleton, Dayo Odubayo, Jennifer Sholzberg, Susan Stacho, Luciana Cifarelli, Meghan Guyver, Kate Lagendyk, Brenda Tremellen (parent alternate), Stacey MacNeil (parent alternate)

Administration: Colleen Galley, Principal
Lyanna Bravo, Vice-Principal
Tom Rhymes, LBPSB

Commissioner: Craig Berger

Community Representative:

Regrets: Greg Piggins, Bill Riddoch

Absent:

Recording Secretary: Susan Brown

Public: Eric Vander Wee, Shane Ross

1. Call to Order

Quorum having been established, the meeting was called to order at 6:09pm by Juan Lamosa (Chair).

2. Agenda

2.1 Additions

No Additions

2.2 Approval

GB 19-02-01 It was moved by Heather Himbury and seconded by Angela Crosbie to approve the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Questions from the Public

The following questions were asked:

Why the closure of one school has necessitated a closure of another school?

Why wasn't the major school change policy followed?

Why wasn't the timeline in policy followed?

Who is benefiting by this rushed process?

Why should one group/community be prioritized over another?

As there are open boundaries then why do the students have to come to PCHS (and why does there have to be a merger? Couldn't parents choose to send their children wherever they want?

This discussion continued in 8.4 below

4. Minutes of the Meeting held January 15th, 2019

4.1 Corrections

None

4.2 Approval

GB 19-02-02 It was moved by Jennifer Sholzberg and seconded by Sarah Larkin to approve the minutes. The motion was carried (carried with 2 abstentions, Kate Legendyk and Luciana Cifarelli).

5. Minutes of the Special Meeting held January 31st, 2019

5.1 Corrections

None

5.2 Approval

GB 19-02-03 It was moved by Jennifer Sholzberg and seconded by Amy Campbell to approve the minutes of the January 31st special meeting. The motion was carried (2 abstentions - Kate Legendyk, Brenda Tremellan).

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1 Educational Project

Tabled until we have more information regarding the changes to the requirements from MEES.

6.2 Marketing Committee

Tabled until the next meeting

6.3 GB Budget

Tabled until the next meeting

6.4 LBPSB – Consultation on the 2019-2020 Budget

Tabled until the next meeting

6.5 TTFM - Tell them from me survey results

Tabled until the next meeting

6.6 Sexuality education

Tabled until the next meeting

7. Reports

7.1 Principal's Report

Written report submitted. The report included:

Thank you to PPO for the staff appreciation. It was amazing, greatly appreciated.
Busing cannot be brought to PCHS during exam times

Fact vs Fiction: There was a Question and Answer assembly with the students about merger. There were great questions from the students, and they were answered with as much information they had at the time.

Painting of the walls in the school was scheduled prior to merger (capital projects money was provided). Painting of additional walls was an add-on as the painters were already present in the school. There were only a few extra walls which were painted over (some murals were covered but they were very very old).

Merger committee: Very positive environment, students participated well, the staff members from both schools cooperated. There will be a Town Hall Tuesday February 26th at PCHS (details to follow).
Why a merger – the school board indicated that historically, the best solution has been to close both schools, and create new ones.

Parent-Teacher interviews will be on 5:30-8pm, February 28th

Fusion report cards will be released at 4pm on February 25th.

Parent – teacher interview scheduling: Fusion will open on February 26th. If more than 5 mins is needed, then parents can contact teachers directly by email to arrange for a longer interview at another time.

7.1.1 Field trips

The following field trips were presented for approval:

It was moved by Angela Crosbie and seconded by Sarah Larkin that the following field trips be approved:

GB 19-02-04 Battle of the Books; March 12th, 2019; 10am-1pm; C. A. Case; Sec III-V; transport by carpool; Ratio 2:7; Cost per student \$ 0 (grant). The motion was carried unanimously.

GB 19-02-05 PC Players workshops (at different LBPSB elementary schools); March 21st- 22-28-29 8:30am-3:30pm; L. Brown; Sec III-V; transport by carpool; Ratio 1:4; Cost per student \$0.00. The motion was carried unanimously.

GB 19-02-06 Doing Is Believing; April 2nd, 2019; visit to WICC, 12:30pm-2:30pm; L. Bravo; grade 7 all; walking; Ratio 1:20; Cost per student \$0.00. The motion was carried unanimously.

GB 19-02-07 Mothers Against Drunk Driving assembly; March 12th, 2019; 1:15-2:30pm; P. Aldred; Sec IV-V; in-school PCHS; Cost per student \$0.00 (grant). The motion was carried unanimously.

7.1.2 Rentals

None

7.1.3 Fundraising

None

7.1.4 Service Contracts

None

7.2 Teachers' Report

Thank you to the PPO for staff appreciation, really appreciated. Timing was great! There were 4 basketball teams that made playoffs, Model UN is this week (Tom Mulcair will be speaking), Grade 7-8 junior dance, Grad semi-formal dance took place, Science Fair will be on March 14th (everyone is invited),

7.3 Support Staff Report

Thank you to PPO for the staff appreciation. It was great to go and eat with other staff members in the staff lounge.

Single use Water bottles will be banned at PCHS as of Earth day 2019

7.4 Students' Report

A written report was provided.

7.5 Commissioner's Report

A written report was provided.

7.6 Community Reps Report

No Community Representative

7.7 Parent Representative's Report

Merger was discussed. PC chair was invited to the GB meeting tonight.

7.8 PPO Report

Thank you to the staff appreciation subcommittee for all of their hard work.

7.9 Chairperson's Report

No report submitted.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Oral Report from the Merger Committee

Tom Rhymes explained that the Merger Committee was created to facilitate the dialogue between the two schools, but decisions are made at the Governing Board level. Merger Committee makes suggestions to the Governing Board which approves items for the new school (as appropriate).

This discussion continued in 8.4

8.2 Programs of Study / Option Classes / Subject time Allocation

The programs of study for 2019-2020 document was reviewed and discussed. All of the programs currently offered at PCHS (alternative programs to be addressed at a later date) are included in the proposed programs of study.

GB 19-02-08 It was moved by Aaryn Bradley and seconded by Luciana Cifarelli to accept the programs of study as presented (and the alternative programs are not included in this motion). The motion was carried unanimously.

The option classes for the 2019-2020 school year document was reviewed and discussed. All of the options currently offered at PCHS will be included in the options offered next year. Woodworking and Robotics will also be offered.

GB 19-02-09 It was moved by Angela Crosbie and seconded by Amy Campbell to approve the Option classes for the 2019-2020 School Year (with the music option to be reviewed next year by the members of the new school.). The motion was carried unanimously.

The subject time allocation for 2019-2020 document was reviewed and discussed.

GB 19-02-10 It was moved by Jennifer Sholzberg and seconded by Sarah Larkin to approve the subject time allocation as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

8.3 Code of Conduct

The proposed Code of Conduct was reviewed and discussed.

GB 19-02-11 It was moved by Kate Lagendyk and seconded by Jennifer Sholzberg to approve Code of Conduct as presented . The motion was carried unanimously.

8.4 School Name

Why the closure of one school has necessitated a closure of another school?

Why wasn't the major school change policy followed?

Why wasn't the timeline in policy wasn't followed?

Who is benefiting by this rushed process?

Why should one group be prioritized over another?

If we have Open boundaries at the high school level then why do the students have to come to PCHS (and why do we have a merger), can't parents choose where to send their children?

This process began because the Minister of Education (CAQ government) decided to cede the Riverdale High School building to the Marguerite-Bourgeoys School Board. The School Board took the decision to close PCHS and merge the two school populations into one new school entity. The

students from Riverdale had to be assigned (at least initially) to a school for administrative and planning purposes, and so they were assigned to PCHS.

There are Open boundaries in the high schools, however there is an Admission Policy which must be followed. So if a school is full, then just because people apply does not mean that students will be admitted to the school.

(Shane Ross arrived at 7:28pm)

Major School Change is launched by the school board when taking the decision to consult with stakeholders. However, in this case the timeline does not allow for the required time needed to proceed with Major School Change Consultation. The school board was in extenuating circumstances and decided to merge the students from Riverdale and into PCHS and facilitate the merger process. The school board had to decide how to deal with this quickly (as it takes effect as of July 1st, 2019) (rather than launch a consultation process that generally takes 18 months).

The Governing Board can create a motion to say that they want to stop the merger process and have a major school change consultation launched to consider all of this, but in the end the students need to have a building to go to as of July 1st and decisions such as programs, options, registration and staffing have to be made long before that.

The school board closed PCHS – why did the school board close PCHS without consultation? why did the school board close PCHS knowing they can't go to Major School change? why didn't they close Riverdale and leave PCHS as is and have PCHS welcome the Riverdale community into its school.

A statement was made that PCHS has not been closed. The school board has decided that there will be a merger but a merger can mean many things. But PCHS governing board were told that the PCHS was closed and a new entity would be created in the PCHS building. There was discussion and questions about what was said previously and what was being said now. It seems that the closing of PCHS and creating a new entity in the PCHS building is an option of a merger.

The PCHS Governing Board can say that we want to welcome any and all students from Riverdale, including new options, artifacts, traditions and staff, but that we don't agree that the process of a merger (meaning closure of both Riverdale and PCHS and reopening of a new entity in the PCHS building).

At the first merger meeting, many of the proposed documents were approved and accepted, but staff and parents from PCHS attended the meeting believing that PCHS closing was a 'fait accompli'. We were not aware that there were other options. PCHS want to work towards combining both populations into the PCHS building.

The school board must still consult with the governing boards and the Governing Boards can then object to the process.

(Aaliya Farid left at 8:02pm)

The LBPSB community has lost both high schools without discussion or consultation. What are our options? How do we speak? what are the steps in the process? As a PCHS community, is the only way for us to bring Riverdale students and their community into PCHS by closing PCHS?

Part of the problem is the timeline. These are extraordinary circumstances and the School Board did not have a formal procedure in place for this short-term transition.

In the absence major school change policy then the decision process to be used is Article 40 of the Education Act which requires the School Board to consult with Governing Board prior to closing a school.

A formal letter will be sent from LBPSB to GB to launch that formal consultation as required by Article 40, so Governing Board will have a voice to express our concerns. The consultation is regarding the Deed of Establishment (which is the legal document which contains the name of the school, how it is being used...). A decision has to be made by the Council of Commissioners. The problem will come if one community wants to close and create a new entity and the other community wants to keep the status quo.

Rather than having a Merger Committee, could we not create a committee to 'welcome' the Riverdale into PCHS? We would need to have activities from now till the end of the 2019 school year to begin the welcoming / integration process. We want to listen to the parents at Riverdale and hear what they have to say and their ideas. Our students can be ambassadors to help welcome new students. We can create a Riverdale hallway in order to honor the history as well as we would like the Riverdale artifacts to be brought into PCHS. Let PCHS live up to its reputation of being the welcoming school.

We do not understand why the school board wants to upset an additional 700 people when they already have 300-400 people who are upset

We are not willing to sacrifice all of the work that was done to create PCHS and the great reputation that has been developed.

We don't want PCHS to stay the same. We want to be able to offer new option courses. This is an opportunity to grow and improve. We want to integrate the two schools.

PCHS worked towards great branding.... MODEL UN with John Rennie – in the NEWS, sports teams which lead to Soccer concentration, in the news for the basketball team..... science fair... public....

Innovation from science lunches with specialists.... Community and Alumni,

Parents are choosing PCHS because of the name and the reputation, the hard work has not been appreciated.

Tom Rhymes left following the questions and discussions.

GB 19-02-12 It was moved by Sarah Larkin and seconded by Angela Crosbie to have a meeting on Thursday February 21st at 7pm to discuss the motion about the merger. The motion was carried unanimously.

9.0 Correspondence

9.1 Incoming
None

9.2 Outgoing
None

10.0 Varia

11.0 Questions from the Public
None.

12.0 Adjournment

GB 19-02-13 It was moved by Heather Himbury and seconded by Angela Crosbie to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 pm. The motion was carried unanimously.

J. Lamosa, GB Chair 2018-2019

C. Galley, Principal P.C.H.S.

January 2019 Students Report

- Career Fair (*January 8th*)
- Purchase of Grad Semi Formal Tickets (*January 14th-17th*)
- Rugby Tryouts (*January 17th*)
- PPO Pizza Lunch (*January 17th*)
- Grad Semi Formal (*January 18th*)
- Science Exam Grade 7-10 (*January 22nd*)
- Physics Exam Grade 11 (*January 22nd*)
- Social Studies Exam Grade 7-10 (*January 23rd*)
- English Exam Grade 7-11 (*January 24th*)
- Math Exam Grade 7-11 (*January 25th*)
- French Exam Grade 9-11 (*January 28th*)
- French IB Exam Grade 9-11 (*January 29th*)
- Chemistry Exam Grade 11 (*January 30th*)

Council News

Regular Meeting held January 28, 2019

Youth Sector Calendar 2019 - 2020

A resolution was adopted by Council to modify the Youth Sector Calendar for the 2019 - 2020 school year so as to correctly reflect the date of the teacher's convention as being Friday, November 8, 2019.

Entente with English Montreal School Board

A resolution was adopted by Council approving the entering into a Vocational Education Agreement with the EMSB for the offering of the Computer Graphics Program (5844) for the school years 2018-2019 and 2019 - 2020 with a possibility of renewal upon request.

Transfer of Riverdale High School

It was announced on the morning of January 28th that the Minister of Education was exercising the powers granted under Section 477.1 of the Education Act in order to transfer the building presently housing Riverdale High School to the Marguerite Bourgeoys School Board effective July 1, 2019. Council adopted a resolution expressing its commitment to continue to deliver the best possible educational services to the students affected by the decision to transfer Riverdale's building to CSMB. The Governing Board, staff and administration of the school have been met with in relation to the transfer and are committed to making the remainder of the school year as normal as can be expected and to support their students as they prepare for a transfer to a new school for 2019 - 2020. It is important to understand that Riverdale is not being closed but that it will be merging with Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School to form a new school in the building presently occupied by PCHS. A merger committee is in the process of being set up with meetings to be set up as soon as possible so that the necessary decisions can be taken by the end of the school year. The Board has received assurances that it will be compensated for the building as has happened in the past.

Agreement for the Leasing of Classrooms

In view of the overcrowding at Commission Scolaire Marguerite Bourgeoys and a need for additional space Council adopted a resolution accepting the entering into an agreement between the Board and CSMB for the renting of seven classrooms at Riverdale High School and eight classrooms at Lindsay Place High School

Request For Info on Religious Symbols

The Board received a request to provide a list of teachers and staff that wear religious symbols in the execution of their duties. To date the school boards on the island have been consistent in refusing to provide such information and stating that they do not keep such a list. Council awaits further indications on this issue and tabled a discussion on same to its next regular meeting.

Unions and Employee Associations Question Period

H. Yetman, President of the Pearson Teachers Union, A. Provost, President of the Independent Association of Support Staff and M. Newton, President of the Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels de l'ouest du Québec anglophone all expressed their disappointment in the exercising of the powers of the Minister of Education in relation to the transfer of the Riverdale building. Ms. Yetman and Ms. Provost thanked the Board for addressing the concerns of their members. It was pointed out that the Minister's actions circumvented the Board's Major School Change Policy and even the articles of the law dealing with same. Finally, concern was expressed about the request for the list of employees wearing religious symbols.

Other Items of Interest

Consultations

Budget 2019 - 2020 - March 2019

Governing Board - March 2019

All consultation launches and policies presently in place can be consulted on the School Board website. Any person and/or group may reply to any Board consultation whether or not they have been formally invited to do so.

**GOVERNING BOARD
PIERREFONDS COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL
2018-2019**

Selection Criteria for the Appointment of Principal 2019-2020

According to Article 96.8 of the Education Act: *The Principal of a school shall be appointed by the school board in accordance with the selection criteria established by the school board after consulting with the Governing Board. The school board may designate a person to fill the position of Principal temporarily, having regard to the provisions of the applicable collective agreements or regulations of the Minister.*

It is the decision of this committee that a Principal of P.C.H.S. possess the following qualifications:

- At least eight (8) years classroom teaching experience.
- At least two (2) years relevant experience as a high school level Vice-Principal and two (2) years as a Principal.
- Excellent proficiency in oral and written English and French.
- Up-to-date, sound overall pedagogical knowledge and visionary educational leadership abilities to maintain school and student success.
- Experience with Alternative Learning Programmes, International Baccalaureate Programmes, Universal Design for Learning and Deep Learning.
- A strong proponent of technology in education.
- A high degree of interpersonal and communication skills essential to the proper transmission of information to all the educational and community partners. The ability to build and bring together a school community.
- Commitment, a strong sense of ethics and a definite advocate of good teaching to ensure all students are provided with a school that is secure, stimulating and a place where everyone can learn and grow.
- Planning, organization and general administration knowledge and skills such as managing budgets, collective agreements, applying for additional grants and funding, organizing teachers' workload, managing and facilitating meetings.
- Thorough working knowledge of the Education Act as it pertains to High School and the Governing Board.
- Is willing to commit to an extended term so as to promote continuity in the educational process.

Regards,

Juan Lamosa
PCHS Governing Board Chair
2018-2019