

St. Thomas High School Governing Board

Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Wednesday, January 10 at 19:00 St. Thomas Library

Name	Member Type	Attendee
Marie-Josée Coiteux	Principal	x
Ian Alexander	Vice Principal	x
Prateep Menon	Vice Principal	Regrets
Sylvie Pelletier	Vice Principal	x
Celena Scheede-Bergdahl	Parent	x
Robert Craft	Parent	Regrets
Mark Hancock	Parent	x
Loretta Kao	Parent (PC Alternate)	Regrets
Kenny Mandel	Parent	x
Eric Schultz	Parent	Regrets
Tifanie Valade	Parent (PC Rep)	Regrets
Anthony Benzo	Parent	x
Robert Gilmartin	Support Staff	x
Amber Carlon	Teacher	x
Denver Thomas	Teacher	x
Sharon Lamb	Teacher	x
Melanie Nadeau	Teacher	x
Isabelle Alarie	Teacher	Regrets
Andrew Miller	Teacher	x
	Teacher	
Elena Richardson	Student	x
Emily Elrick	Student	x
	Student Substitute	
Allison Saunders	Commissioner	Regrets
Galia Desautels	Parent Substitute	Regrets
Nathalie Dubois	Parent Substitute	Regrets
Sylvia Papazian	Parent Substitute	X (Replacing Eric Schultz)
Pamela Lee	Parent Substitute	X (Replacing Robert Craft)
Amanda Coones	Parent Substitute	Regrets
Tony Scalia	Parent Substitute	X (Replacing Tifanie Valade)
Maria Antoinetta Davoli	Parent Substitute	Regrets
Mark Diraddo	Parent Substitute	X (Replacing Loretta Kao)
Janis Kelly	Teacher Substitute	Regrets
Josee Godbout	Teacher Substitute	X (Replacing Isabelle Alarie)
Sharad Bhargava	Community	x
	Community	

1. Call to Order (6:59pm), Land acknowledgement
In order to show our deep respect for the land on which our school stands, we would like to acknowledge that Lester B Pearson School Board and St Thomas High School are located on the unceded territory of the Kanien'keha:ka People. The Lester B. Pearson School Board and St Thomas community honours, recognizes and respects the Kanien'keha:ka People as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet today and recognizes that this land has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. We also acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and commit to informing ourselves about this truth to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of collaboration and reconciliation.
2. Announcement of the Alternates for the meeting.
Please note alternates mentioned above in attendee overview.
3. Introduction of public (if applicable)
There were no public members in attendance.
4. Approval of the Agenda -Robert Gilmartin and Melanie Nadeau.
5. Approval of previous meeting minutes- Kenny Mandel and Robert Gilmartin
 - a. Meeting of November 1, 2023
6. Public question period-There were no questions received from the public.
7. New Business
 - a. Initial budget 2023-2024 Marie Josee Coiteux presented the budget and distributed documentation for overview of the GB. To note there are excess funds available for use in the following categories: extracurricular activities, tutoring, furnishings and technology equipment.
Budget was approved with no objections or abstentions.
In favor of budget-Andrew Miller and Josee Godbout
8. Field Trips
 1. Quebec City (sec 2) February 26-27 2024: Approved.
 2. Toronto-Niagara (sec 3): Approved.
 3. Disney World Florida Field trip (Exploring the storytelling behind the magic): Trip was approved with one abstention from Mr.Denver Thomas.
 4. Haliburton, Ontario (Canadian Student Leadership conference): Approved.
 5. Ottawa, Ontario (Musicfest Regional Competition & Festival): Approved.
 6. France (Voyage Culturel en Europe) 45 sec. 4/April 17th-25th, 2025 5-6 Adults. Approved.
 7. Europe (Germany, Netherlands, France, Belgium) Sec 4: Approved
 8. McGill Engineering STEM workshop: Approved.

9. Reports

- a. Commissioners Report – N/A
- b. Student Life- Great Things happened in 2023 and more to come. Raising Food Basket and Sock drive were a fantastic success. Snow Jam Dance well appreciated by students and was fruitful in raising funds for the food basket drive. Currently there are extracurricular activities such as basketball, hockey and futsal available to student body. IB Showcase will be on January 16th 2024. The Principal Ball will be held on February 8th 2024. Exciting events to come are Pep Rally- Spirit Week and Writing Club and Comicon
- c. Faculty School Improvement and IB-Saint Thomas High School has passed the IB evaluation process. Amber was thanked for all the hard work. Letters of admission and refusal will be sent out on January 15 2024 for the upcoming school year. The admission request numbers have dropped slightly but are within normal range for the 2024-2025 school year.
- d. Administration and School- Academic Assembly Mentions will be held on January 11 2024. Honour Role Students, as well as dedication awards and passion for learning mentions will be highlighted. Key available to garage in case of emergencies. Awaiting instructions from Quebec Government regarding disposal of Covid PPE, which are currently stored in school garage. Updates will be provided as soon as directives are available from government. Thanks to Ms.Macdonald for her involvement in food baskets. Participation to Comicon will now be reserved to the afternoon and evening timeframes only. The senior concert held on December 8th 2023 was greatly appreciated. Black History Month: Feb 12 for Sec 4 and 5- Overture of the arts; Feb 13 Roen Higgins for Sec 2 and 3; Feb 14 Svens Telimaque for Sec 1.
Minister of Education Quebec stated that government exams for Sec 4 and 5 will count as 20% and not 50%. Extra funds provided by government to help students in terms of tutoring. Plan is to identify students at risk and reach out to the parents by the end of January 2024. Tutoring sessions are to be held at lunch and after school. March break and staff professional days will not be affected by strike recovery plan.
- e. Parent Representative (LBPSB PC)-N/A
- f. SNAC (Robert Gilmartin)-N/A
- g. Home and School- Basket drive and pizza day went well.

10. Other Business/Varia-No additional business mentioned.

11. Public question period-No questions brought forward.

12. Adjournment Approved by Tony Scalia and Mark Diraddo