

St. Thomas High School Governing Board
Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Tuesday June 25, 2024 at 7pm in the Judge Lindsay Place Library

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

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1. Call to Order, 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.

1. Announcement of the Alternates for the meeting (if applicable)

Please note alternates mentioned above in attendee overview.

2. Introduction of public (if applicable)

No members of the public were in attendance.

3. Approval of the Agenda with the addition of a field trip under New Business

The agenda was approved.

4. Approval of previous meeting minutes

The minutes were approved. Moved by Robert Craft, seconded by Eric Schultz.

5. Public question period

6. New Business

- a. Introduction to the new Principal, Dean Graddon, who would be taking over from Mme Coiteux. She was retiring in December, but didn't want to leave in the middle of the school year, so she would be finishing the school year at St. Thomas and then serving as Vice Principal at West Park Elementary in the fall.
- b. Special project for 2024–2025 presented by Dean Graddon – Dean was the principal of St. Patrick Elementary, where he had taken Boon, an English setter, to school to act as a support dog. He would like Boon to transfer to St. Thomas in the fall. He foresaw Boon playing a role in many areas of the school, just as he was doing at St. Patrick.
Motion to approve the presence of Boon at St. Thomas moved by Isabelle Alarie, seconded by Robert Gilmartin.
- c. School fees 2024–2025. Mme Coiteux presented the school fees for the new school year. Motion to approve the fees moved by Isabelle Alarie, seconded by Robert Craft.
- d. Field trip – September 20 + 23, 2024 – Old Montreal / Bonsecours Market. Led by Erika Yannakis and Mélanie Nadeau. \$10/child = bus (max \$25). – Cost might be reduced if grant available.
Motion to approve by Eric Schultz, seconded by Robert Gilmartin.

7. Reports

- a. Commissioners Report N/A
- b. Student Life – Elena and Emily reviewed the highlights of the previous month's activities, including the rugby team, the athletic banquet, a very successful variety show and prom on June 21. The football team had started practising already. The yearbook had placed third in the

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Jostens competition. Kalysta Karpontinis was the incoming Student Council President for the 2024–2025 school year. They thanked everyone for their hard work and participation.

- c. Faculty School Improvement and IB – Secondary 2 students had been introduced to the personal projects. A business/math project had raised \$8,600 that would be donated to Haiti Partage. Seven students would be moving out of the IB program and 11 students would be moving into the program.

For the new school year, students would be required to provide photographic proof of their service hours.

Incoming Secondary 1 students had received their summer reading lists and welcome letters.

- d. Administration and School

Mme Coiteux reported that enrollment for the new school year was currently at 1,097 students. The end of the school year had gone very smoothly.

Thanks to Mme Pelletier and the committee that had scheduled all the final exams.

Prom had been very successful. Ms. Langlais had chaired the committee.

Mme Coiteux also thanked Celena for all her hard work as the GB Chair.

- e. Parent Representative (LBPSB PC) – Loretta had attended the meeting.

In terms of EDDI – the Committee concluded that to offer help, you need to know what they want.

The next school board election would be held on November 3, 2024.

QESBA was running a campaign to encourage eligible people to vote.

- f. SNAC – Robert Gilmartin reported that the next meeting would be the AGA in September.
- g. Home and School – Kenny Mandel reported that the Home and School had held a pizza fundraiser, but did not have the amount earned. They had been able to give the woodworking and music departments \$1,000 each, which was much appreciated.

8. Other Business/Varia

- a. Isabelle Alarie reported that she would be taking 8 immersion and IB students to ComicCon on July 5 (via Projet Passion Pop)
- b. The Secondary 1 trip to La Ronde had been cancelled due to the excessively hot weather. \$15/student for lunches had not been refunded. John Rennie and St. Thomas had contacted La Ronde and arranged for their lunches to go to the West Island Mission.
- c. Isabelle Alarie gave thanks to the St. Thomas family.

9. Public question period – N/A

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Robert Craft, seconded by Isabelle Alarie.