

Macdonald High School Governing Board Annual Report
2016-2017

Governing Board (GB) has been busy for the 2016-2017 school year. Every year GB has several consultations to reflect on and reply to, as well as school budgets, school board budgets, and policy revisions. Additionally this year there was the close of the Major School Change launched in the spring of 2015 and the new Strategic Plan which will be brought to school boards for implementation in the near future (maybe 2018-2019?).

*****Four parent positions are up for election on Sept, 14 2017*****

Every parent position has a two-year mandate.

Membership:

Voting Members:

Amanda Tweedie-Smith, Chairperson	2 nd year
Jodie Lennon, Parent Representative	Secretary, 1 st year
Mike Besner, Parent Representative	Treasurer, 1 st year, Parent Committee representative
Kris de Forest, Parent Representative	1 st year, Parent Committee Alternate
Melanie Dignard, Parent Representative	2 nd year
Jennifer Drake, Parent Representative	1 st year,
Tracey McKee, Parent Representative	2 nd year
Sean Ross, Parent Representative	2 nd year

Gabrielle Contrino, Student Representative
Melissa Ujvari-Lebel, Student Representative

Lisa Brown, Teacher Representative
Tamara Bush, Teacher Representative
Sylvie Campeau, Teacher Representative
Katerine Danis, Staff Representative
Karen Jones, Teacher Representative
Amanda Mathier, Teacher Representative
Lori Macdonald, Staff Representative
Chelsea Thomson, Teacher Representative

Non-voting members:

Jad Deegan, Principal, ex-officio;
Lara Holmes, Home and School Liason;
Shirely Kapitsky, Vice-Principal;
Dominique Pavone, Parent Commissioner; and
We had no Community Representative this year.

Meetings:

Meetings were held the last Wednesday of the month at 19h00. All members of the community are invited to attend. There is a portion of every meeting set aside for questions or comments from the floor.

Please feel free to come any time.

2016/17 dates were:

September 15; September 28, October 26 ; November 23 ; December 1 ; February 22 ; March 29; April 26; May 29; June 19

Parent Committee Structure

The biggest change in 2016-2017 was in the change of structure at the Parent Committee level. In the recent past the school board was broken up into three regions (Macdonald HS was part of Region 1), and monthly meetings were held by both region and then elementary/high school. There was also an umbrella committee where each region would send five representatives called the Central Parent's Committee (CPC). This year that structure was abandoned and replaced with a Parent Committee (PC) which met monthly, and then subcommittees and ad-hoc committees which would report back to the PC. Additionally there were three additional committees: high school, elementary east, and elementary west. Last year's high school's meetings were poorly attended, despite the committee chairperson's best efforts. Meetings were held over the summer to redefine the structure and make the necessary adjustments to make the PC a more functional, well attended body – especially the subcommittees.

Consultations:

As in every year, the GB was responsible for either submitting a brief or feedback for several consultations for the school board. The regular process for the consultations would be a consultation launch, followed by discussion at a GB meeting. Then either a brief would be written and submitted to the appropriate person at the LBPSB.

Lester B. Pearson Budget
Enrollment Criteria
Three Year Plan of Allocation

Financial Reports:

At the January meeting GB approved the final financial report submitted by the principal, J. Deegan for 2015-2016. At that time the proposed budget was also submitted for 2016-2017. At the June meeting 2016-2017 report was approved.

Extra Curricular Activities (ECA)

At almost every meeting this year the Macdonald High School staff would present various ECAs to consider that enrich students' experiences at the school. The amount of events which take place at a school like Mac in a typical year, from grade seven to grade eleven, is impressive. All grade levels had the opportunity to participate in various trips that are offered, including Boston, Florida, India, and Europe.

The robotics team performed very well again at the annual CRC Robotics competition, all the more impressive as this year they competed almost exclusively against other top performing high schools and local cegeps.

Intramural and varsity sports continue to thrive at Mac thanks to its dedicated teachers and staff. Several teams brought banners back to the school after winning their divisions.

What's Ahead?

The school board is drafting its strategic plan. In the near future Macdonald High School will be expected to use the school board plan and draft its own plans, which reflects our local realities.

If trends continue, in the future, there will be pressures to continue to increase the enrolment at the school. Incoming cohorts continue to increase in number, and graduating cohorts are consistently smaller than the incoming groups. Governing Board, along with the administration, has submitted requests to the different gov't levels to address the actual physical space availability at Mac and will have a role to play in keeping the school population at manageable levels given the current infrastructure.

Next year GB will continue to have the numerous consultations we see every year, plus there will be revisions of some outdated policies now that the Major School Change consultation is done.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Tweedie, Chairperson
Macdonald 2016-17 Governing Board
With thanks to Mike Besner for preparing this report.