



Governing Board
106 Dorset Road, Baie d'Urfé
ANNUAL REPORT
2023-2024

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

The 2023-2024 year was my third year as the Chair of the Dorset Governing Board. I am extremely thankful to the parents and staff of the Governing Board for their ongoing support and dedication to our school. We are very fortunate to have such an engaged and active community at Dorset Elementary. The involvement of teachers, staff and parents is what makes our school such a special place to be.

Over the course of the year, the Governing Board members had a chance to hear about all the wonderful field trips, activities and fundraisers that our children would enjoy. We discussed many issues that affect the entire student population at Dorset, always keeping in mind that our goal was to provide a supportive and safe environment for each individual who enters our school. Our students' overall success remains the top priority.

We were privileged to have LBPSB Commissioner Mike Besner and Community Representative Suzanne Black in attendance throughout the year. They brought with them years of experience and contributed to our discussions with valuable insight. I am grateful for the time that they devoted to Dorset.

Sadly, we bid farewell to our dedicated Principal, Jason Thivierge. We were honoured to have Mr. T. at Dorset for two years and there is no doubt that he will find great success as Principal at Macdonald High School. Mr. T's kindness, leadership and care for all students at Dorset will not be forgotten. The Governing Board looks forward to welcoming Deborah Shizgal as Principal at Dorset in the 2024-2025 academic year and is certain she will be a wonderful addition to our school.

MEMBERSHIP

Parent Representatives (years of mandate)

Lauren Broad (2023-2025) – Chair

Holly Lawson (2023-2025)

Cindy McCartney (2023-2025) – Parents' Committee Representative

Emma McGillivray (2023-2024) – IEP Parent Representative

Christine Dallimore McLean (2022-2024)

Harmoni Herbert (2022-2024)

Parent Representative Alternates

Sara Abbott
Julie Hanck
Marissa Keenan
Cindy Porco
Traci Potenza – Parents' Committee Alternate Representative
Zoë Valadez

Staff Representatives

Lisa Gonsalves (Daycare/SEED) – Secretary
Harriet Mitrikas
Claudia Perez
Cassandra Benneter
Theresa Long
Jeffrey Pyper

Staff Representative Alternates

Phil Anderson
France Bourassa
Gwendolynn Knechtel

Principal (non-voting)

Jason Thivierge

Community Members (non-voting)

Suzanne Black
2nd position vacant

Commissioner (non-voting)

Mike Besner

MEETING DATES

During the 2023-2024 school year, the Dorset Governing Board met a total of eight times: seven regularly scheduled meetings and one special meeting. The regular meetings were held on Thursdays at 5:00pm in-person at Dorset Elementary on the following dates:

September 21, 2023
November 9, 2023
January 11, 2024
February 8, 2024
March 18, 2024 – Special Meeting held on Zoom
April 11, 2024
May 16, 2024
June 13, 2024

The minutes of the Governing Board meetings may be requested from the Principal's office and once approved, are posted on the Dorset website.

ACTIONS, ISSUES AND CONSULTATIONS

At the Annual General Assembly of Parents held on September 7, 2023, the parent body agreed to have Parent Alternates and decided against forming a Parent Participation Organization (PPO). They also agreed to have an IEP Parent Representative on the Governing Board. Issues discussed by the Governing Board and Actions Taken:

- Adopted the Governing Board 2022-2023 Annual Report
- Adopted the Internal Rules of Management
- Approved field trips and SEED/Daycare activities and ped days
- Approved fundraisers
- Adopted the School Budget 2023-2024
- Adopted the SEED/Daycare Budget 2023-2024
- Adopted the Governing Board Operating Budget
- Approved that the school to apply for a playground embellishment grant
- Approved the School Fees 2024-2025
- Approved the Supply Lists 2024-2025
- Approved the Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence (ABAV) Plan 2024-2025
- Adoption of the Educational Project
- Approved the Dorset Ped Days/Calendar 2024-2025
- Approved the Blanket Permission for Specific Activities & Outings 2024-2025
- Approved Progressive Entry for Kindergarten 2024-2025

Consultations Addressed:

- LBPSB Policy on School Daycare and Lunch Program Services and the Policy on School and Continuing Education Fees
- LBPSB By-Law 9 – Complaint Process
- LBPSB Commitment-to-Success Plan 2023-2027
- LBPSB Enrolment Criteria Policy
- LBPSB Selection Criteria for the Appointment of the Principal/Centre Director for the School/Centre 2024-2025
- LBPSB Budget 2024-2025
- LBPSB Three-Year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2024-2027
- LBPSB Governing Board Composition 2024-2025
- LBPSB By-law 1 and 1E (2024) – Day, Time and Place of Council of Commissioners and Executive Committee Meetings 2024-2025
- LBPSB Policy on Equity, Diversity, Dignity and Inclusion (EDDI)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2024-2025

Training for LBPSB Governing Board members was made available by the school board at the beginning of the 2023-2024 academic year. We hope that this training will once again be provided for anyone who is interested so that they may better understand their roles and responsibilities.

The Governing Board looks forward to working in collaboration with Ms. Shizgal this coming year and are sure she will be warmly welcomed by our entire community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lauren Broad". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a long, sweeping underline.

Lauren Broad
Chairperson
Dorset Governing Board 2023-2024