

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
Ville de Rosemère

A Regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board was held in the boardroom of the Administration Centre, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, QC and via video conferencing on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 19:30 hours, at which were:

Present at Administration Centre: Paolo Galati, Chairperson; Gaëlle Absolonne, Director General, Frédéric Greschner, Assistant Director General; Paolo Spizzo, Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer.

Present video conferencing: Vicky Kaliotzakis, Vice-Chairperson; Bob Pellerin, Vice-Chairperson Alternate; Commissioners Anick Brunet, Jacques Duro, Guy Gagnon, Peter MacLaurin, Anne McMullon, Emilio Migliozi, and Parents Council: Tara Anderson, Anthony Beliotis and Stéphane Henley.

Also present via video conferencing were: Michel Dufour, Director of Material Resources and Transportation; Geoffrey Hipps, Director of Pedagogical Services; Stephanie Krenn, Director of Human Resources; Chao Ling Pan, Director of Financial Resources.

Absent: Commissioners Melissa Wall.

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone who is viewing the meeting online.

TIME: 19:32 hours

0.0 Recognitions

0.1 Adopt-a-Family Initiative

The Chairperson read the following statement thanking those who participated in the Adopt-a-Family Initiative:

“This evening the Council of Commissioners recognizes the Spiritual Care and Guidance, and

- x Administrators and secretaries collaborated to allot budgets for the families in their school, identify families who may need support with the Spination team, process receipts and facilitate reimbursements in an efficient and timely manner.
- x This project helped 67 families who receive groceries on a weekly basis through a

Josée was instrumental in supporting the emergency daycare teams. Her contagious energy is always appreciated by all who work with her. THANK YOU Josée for making a difference and for your continued support to our schools.

A special thank you to four ladies who worked with Josée Pomminville to ensure the smooth running of the emergency daycares during the pandemic:

- x Sharon McCulloch from Mountainview Elementary,
- x Maria DiLillo from Laurentia Elementary
- x Sharon Silverson for Cathy Seale from LES
- x And Suzanne Beaudette from Rawdon Elementary

Again: THANK YOU and enjoy your well-deserved summer break!!

He continued by expressing gratitude to the following:

Adele Fata, Alannah Ferreira Morris, Amanda Collins, Amanda Diodati, Andrea David, Anna Gianninni, Anna Tamburri, Anne-Marie Schmitt, Debra Agostini, Campbell Riddle, Carl Jung, Caroline Barrett, Cassandra Stroubakis, Chelsea, Cherie Hurdle, Connie Valerio, Debra Searle, Despina Vafliadis, Diane Hollingsworth, Donna Desmarteaux, Diana Gavin, Effie Theodosiou, Ellen Muir, Gail Lang, Garyfallia Haskaris, Ghyslaine Massé, Ginette Linhares, Ilon Reisser, Jahaira Torres Leon, Jesse Mackay, Jessica Pirro, Joan Cameron, Josée Pomminville, Katie Boismenu-Moncrieff, Kelly Marsden, Kerri Aggett, Kim Clarke, Kim Vautour, Laurie Bergerson, Line Motard, Lorrie Clifford, Louise, Lynn Belanger, Lynn Dubois, Lynn Martin, Maeve Brooks, Marcelle Dagenais, Margareta, Maria Di Lillo, Maria Di Novella, Maria Soulis, Marie Karamanoukian, Marlene Lalumiere, Ma

0.4 Communications

The Chairperson drew attention to the remarks of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Communications Team with the following statement:

“Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, and more specifically face the COVID-19 pandemic, the SWLSB Communications Team has been instrumental in supporting all our stakeholders. Maxeen Jolin and Susan O’Keeffe, with their professionalism, through visuals and content-oriented communications, have ensured parents, student, staff and the public, are kept informed with timely information regarding the health, safety and education of our community.

They have ensured the promotion of English Speaking Education, and play a vital role in sustaining the vitality of our network. Leading the way with their dedication and work ethic, they consistently rise to every challenge they face with a positive attitude and positive mindset.”

The Chairperson called the meeting to order welcoming everyone who is viewing the meeting online and verified quorum with the Secretary General.

After roll call, the Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General confirmed quorum.

TIME: 19:53 hours

1.0 Opening of Meeting

1.1 Acknowledgement of the Land

“We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Kanien’keha:ka or Mohawk. The Mohawk Nation is also known as the “Eastern Door Keepers” and is a member of the Haudsaunee Confederacy, which also includes the Seneca, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Onondaga and Oneida Peoples.

All those who gather here are counted as esteemed stakeholders in our community and most importantly friends.”

2.0 Approval of the Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda

12.0 VARIA

12.1 Council Letter to the MEES

12.1.1 Communication Practices by the MEES RES

12.1.2 Directive with Regards to a New Logo for SWLSB..... RES

12.2 Engagement – Coordinator of Information Technology RES

Approval of the Agenda Commissioner Guy Gagnon MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as amended in document #SWLSB-2020/06/25-CA-001.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.1 May 27, 2020:

Approval of Minutes
May 27, 2020

Commissioner James Di Sano MOVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on May 27, 2020, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

CC-200625-CA-0115

Carried unanimously

3.2 June 5, 2020:

Approval of Minutes
June 5, 2020

Parent Commissioner Stéphane HAMEL MOVED THAT the minutes of the special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on June 5, 2020, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

CC-200625-CA-0116

Carried unanimously

4.0 Question Period

In response to a question from the Chair, the Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General confirmed that no questions were received for the first question period.

The Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General explained the parameters of the question periods, as follows:

- x As per the rules of procedure, the parameters regarding question periods must be explained to the public prior to the first question period:
- x The agenda provides for two 20 minute question periods;
 - x For the first question period, questions are to be addressed to the Chair either by fax or by email by 13h00 the day of the meeting;
 - x Thesecond question period must be restricted to questions pertaining to agenda items discussed at the meeting;
 - x The purpose of these questions period is restricted to answering questions only, and not to enter into debates or conversations;
- x For the members of the public who might be present in the boardroom:
 - x Each speaker is allowed 5 minutes to present all their questions.
 - x After each speaker's 5 minute presentation, the Chairperson will provide any available answers.
- x For the members of the public who are using the link provided on the school board website to view this meeting, you may type your questions in the Q&A Section of our website. Please make sure to type your full name before all your questions.
- x For any questions not related to agenda items, please consult the school board website. A FAQ section has been created in the COVID-19 dossier in which you will find answers to Frequently Asked Questions regarding the current extraordinary circumstances. Within this FAQ section, you will also find a link in which you may send the school board your

- x June 18, 2020 – Attended the Souvenir Park School Drive-In Graduation with Commissioners James Di Sano and Vicki Kaliozakis and the Director General. The dedication of the administrators and school personnel was very visible and, even though

7.0 Business Arising:

7.1 Management Agreements

- 8.0 Decision Items:
- 8.1 Financial Resources

- 8.1.1 2020-2021 Initial Budget

The Director of Financial Resources advised Council that the school board budget for 2020-2021 is balanced at \$186,784,537.00 noting that assumptions had to be made for some of the budgeting due to lack of information from the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) and the presented budget does not consider COVID19 related financial impacts. He went on to highlight the following from the budget:

- x Enrolment projections;
- x The budget details concerning revenues and expenses;
- x The percentages of sources of revenues that a balancing grant is received from the MEES as well as compressions;
- x The MEES allocations by category;
- x Teacher posts account for \$79,926,021.00 of the budget. An external consultant was engaged to analyze the teacher envelope and there was a deficit of 17.57 posts between the 865.41 posts funded versus the 882.98 allocated. There has to be remedial resources at the elementary level, from provincial agreement, but only nine posts are funded but 39.85 are required so the school is in a deficit position from the beginning;
- x Other educational expenses \$7,487,941.00 – the largest portion of this budget are the allocations to the schools;
- x Mesures d'appui et petits milieux \$10,924,014.00 – a large portion of this amount are the measures allocated to the schools;
- x

WHEREAS in accordance with the Education Act (Chapter I-13.3), the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board must adopt and submit to the ~~Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur~~ (MEES) its operating, investment and debt service budget for the 2020-2021 school year (the "budget");

WHEREAS the 2020-2021 budget was built based on consultation budget parameters presented on May 29, 2020;

WHEREAS the budget is balanced for the 2020-2021 school year based on a typical school year;

WHEREAS the 2020-2021 budget does not include potential impacts caused by the COVID-19 in revenues, additional expenditures and costs savings;

WHEREAS the MEES needs to consider financial adjustments to transportation, staffing and other additional costs currently predicted due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS directives from the MEES with regard to the payment of incremental costs due the COVID-19 remains to be disclosed;

WHEREAS the adjusted standardized assessment of taxable immovables before exemption that was used to determine the balance subsidy was of \$9,670,15,264 on May 1, 2020, in accordance with the Education Act and the budgetary rules for the 2020-2021 school year;

WHEREAS the school tax proceeds, which were of \$14,432,212 on May 1, 2020, were determined by taking into account:

2020-2021 Initial Budget WHEREAS in accordance with the Education Act (Chapter I-13.3), the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board must adopt and submit to the ~~Ministère~~ ~~Ministère~~ de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEEES) its operating, investment and debt service budget for the 2020-2021 school year (the "budget");

CC-200625-FR-0120

WHEREAS the 2020-2021 budget was build based on the consultation budget parameters presented on ~~May~~ ~~29~~, 2020;

WHEREAS the ~~budget~~ is balanced for the 2020-2021 school year based on a typical school year;

WHEREAS the 2020-2021 budget does not include potential financial impacts caused by the COVID-19 in revenues, additional expenditures and costs savings;

WHEREAS the MEES needs to consider financial ~~adjustments~~ ~~adjustments~~ related to transportation, staffing and other additional costs ~~predicted~~ ~~predicted~~ due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS directives from the MEEES ~~with~~ ~~with~~ to the treatment of incremental costs due the COVID-19 remains to be disclosed;

WHEREAS the ~~justified~~ ~~justified~~ standardized assessment of taxable immovables before exemption that was used to determine the balance ~~subsid~~ ~~subsid~~ of \$9,670,157,264 May 1, 2020, in accordance with the Education Act and the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ bud

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board ~~is~~ ^{is} the "Secretarial Studies - Legal" and

WHEREAS public notice given with regard to the amendments to By-Law #BL2008-CA-15: Day, Time & Place of Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and a copy of the draft By-Law was sent to each governing board and to the parents' committee;

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED that the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners5.02omre9(CorporaT*19.04 Tm -.00 69Tc .072to the a

11.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

12.0 Varia

12.1 Council Letter to the MEES

12.1.1 Communication Practices by the MEES

The Chairperson noted that the upcoming resolution is an important one as it sends a clear message to the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur ("MEES") and the Coalition Avenir Québec ("CAQ") government that the existing Council of Commissioners deserve to be respected while still in office. In recent months the MEES and the CAQ have been bypassing the Chairperson of the school boards and dealing directly with the Directors General.

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin commented that, as a minority, the English school boards have taken a stand and should be voicing concerns as the government is attempting to dilute the excellence that each school board has established. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has been in the forefront of forward thinking education and should be very proud of this fact.

Communication Practices by the MEES WHEREAS the Government of Quebec enacted Bill 40 "An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance" on February 20, 2020 ("Bill 40");

CC-200625-CA-0126

WHEREAS within that same law it is provisioned that English language school boards are to remain in place until November 2020;

WHEREAS since the adoption of the law, the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur ("MEES") has been communicating, ~~for~~ ~~directly~~ with the Director Generals of all English language school boards and ~~bypassing~~ their respective chairperson;

WHEREAS according to Bill 40, the official spokesperson of each English language school board remains the chairperson until November 2020;

WHEREAS Section 23 of the Canadian Rights and Freedoms grants an exclusive power of management and control over minority language ~~language~~ facilities to rightsholders or their representative;

WHEREAS the members of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board have been duly and legally elected by their ~~members~~ representatives and governing body of our school board;

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid

12.2 Engagement – Coordinator of Information Technology

The Chairperson noted that Commissioner Martin and Emilio Migliozi and himself were part of the Selection Committee for this position and that the person selected is a testament to the excellent personnel this school board has engaged over the years.

The Director of Human Resources provided additional information on the selected candidate noting that she has been an Analyst in the department for the past 12 years and that she will be an asset to the Management team.

Engagement

Coordinator of Information
Technology

CC-200625-HR-0128

Thank you to the head office teams for supporting our schools and centres and for making sure communications were sent in a timely manner. Thank you for adapting so quickly to a working from home reality and for continuing to offer quality service to our stakeholders despite the difficult context. Thank you for keeping connected, despite the isolation of the confinement.

Thank you to our emergency daycare teams for being there and accompanying our families, day in and day out!

Thank you to our caretakers, for making sure our buildings were safe and met Public Health sanitation guidelines.

Thank you to our teachers for their adaptability and for quickly learning new ways of teaching and for reaching out and connecting with our students and families.

Thank you, to the principals, vice-principals and directors for being positive leaders in a time of uncertainty and for supporting your teams.

Thank you to our unions and associations for your openness and your flexibility.

Thank you to each and every one of you, who have been working countless hours all while keeping up with your regular duties in addition to the added COVID-19 responsibilities that nobody could have planned.

Council would like to give a special shout out to our parents and students. We know it's been hard and we appreciate your understanding and patience while we were navigating through these uncharted waters.

And lastly, on my personal behalf, I would like to thank my fellow Commissioners for their continued support during this past school year. We don't always see eye to eye, but we always come together for the good of our students and staff and I am very appreciative of that.