

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

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, Rosemere, QC on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Present: Jennifer Maccarone, Chair; Commissioners Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Paolo Galati, Peter MacLaurin, Anne McMullon, Emilio Migliozi, Ailsa Pehi; Parent Commissioners Sergio Di Marco and Stéphane Henley; and Paul Lamoureux, Director General.

4.0 REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR & DG

4.1 *Chair's Report:*

The Chair welcomed everyone back and proceeded with her monthly report noting:

The school board:

- Ranks 5th in the province with a graduation rate of 84%;
- Has a 94% rate for the integration of special needs students;
- Has the lowest operating cost, 4%, of any level of government;

Enrollment is currently stable as attestation day, September 29, approaches;

As Chair of QESBA, she met with the Premier of Québec, Philippe Couillard; and Sébastien Proulx, Ministre de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, whereby the following was discussed:

The upcoming school board elections were addressed but no discussion concerning potential conflicts with the 2018 provincial elections and the 2019 the federal elections. While no decision has been announced concerning the November 4, 2018 school elections, it is assumed that an extension to the current term of Council or a change in the date of the election is being considered; School taxation was also a topic and the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) is looking for a solution for the inequity between the English and French school boards for the 2018-2019 school year;

Terry Fox Elementary School was selected this year as the location for the launch of the 2017-2018 campaign promoting the safety of students in school zones. The school also has had the honour of having one of its crossing guards named as the best crossing guard in Canada. The theme of 2017-2018 Bus Safety Campaign is *Faites-moi de la place*;

QESBA presented on Bill 144: An Act to amend the Education Act and other legislative provisions, on behalf of all English school boards, at a Parliamentary Commission. The QESBA's brief was well received;

The first meeting of the First Nations, Métis & Inuit Committee was held and Fred Kelley, former Chief of his community and Grand Chief of the Anishinaabe Nation; and Morgan Kahentonni Phillips, a member of the Kahnawake community, were in attendance, as well as Commissioners Guy Gagnon and Ailsa Pehi, Dan Hedges, Pedagogical Consultant, and herself. It is hoped that at least one call to action can be achieved so that our students can begin learning about the aboriginal communities of the Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière regions;

Highlighted various school activities, meetings and events attended.

In concluding her report, the Chair stated that at the beginning of each meeting, the following will be read in order to acknowledge the land on which the school board holds this gathering:

"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 nation. The Mohawk Nation is also known as the "Eastern Door Keepers" and is a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, which also includes the Seneca, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Onondaga and Oneida Peoples.

4.2 *Director General's Report:*

The Director General advised that the 2017-2018 school year got off to a good start. He extended appreciation to the Principals and their respective staff for making the return to school a positive experience for all.

He continued noting the following:

New projects:

Commitment-to-Success Plan is being developed and will replace the current Strategic Plan and Partnership Agreement;

Resource Allocation Committee (RAC), established as per Bill 105, will oversee and manage priorities for financial resources;

Pedagogical Services is working with Human Resources towards the implementation of a new teacher framework on supervision and evaluation, a framework that will be expanded to include all employees;

The MEES has announced that it would like to have all of its buildings to be in satisfactory condition no later than 2030, so it is expected that infrastructure funding will be forthcoming;

The 2017-2018 school year is the second year of the new History of Quebec and Canada program for secondary III students but the first year for secondary IV therefore, secondary IV students will not be

The Chair introduced Mr. Pérusse, who was present in the audience.

5.2 Engagement – Coordinator of School Organization & Daycare:

CC-170927-HR-0009

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-170125-HR-0050, approving the Organizational Chart for Management for 2017-2018 and creating the position of Coordinator of School Organization & Daycare;

WHEREAS the position was posted and a Selection Committee was held on September 25, 2017;

Parent Commissioner Sergio Di Marco MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Council of Commissioners appoint **Claudia Giuliani**, to the position of Coordinator of School Organization & Daycare, effective September 28, 2017, in accordance with the Regulation Governing the Working Conditions of Management Staff of School Boards and the Management Policies of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Carried unanimously

The Chair introduced Ms. Giuliani noting that she is a long-time employee of the school board.

WHEREAS the SWLSB believes all financial allocations regarding student enrolment should be made retroactive to ensure free education for all students at the start of the school year;

WHEREAS the SWLSB is proud of our homeschooling support, partnerships, and community participation that ensure homeschooled students have the best possible education and experience;

WHEREAS our homeschool parents are willing and cooperative participants in education and the SWLSB does not oppose the choice of parents to propose a different learning path to their children by way of homeschooling;

WHEREAS the SWLSB provides homeschooling in support of the orthodox Tosh community;

WHEREAS the SWLSB believes school boards should enter into homeschooling contracts with homeschooling parents and be afforded the professional leeway, by way of mandatory evaluation or other means as deemed required or needed to ensure student success;

WHEREAS the SWLSB believes the Ministry must recognize that when non mainstream communities endeavor to enter into homeschooling contracts with public boards, some reasonable accommodations may be required, exemptions and special considerations;

WHEREAS the SWLSB believes that support and a mandate must be provided to school boards to acquire homeschooled student evaluations;

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board endorse the presentation and position of Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) regarding Bill 144;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the QESBA.

Carried unanimously

6.1.2 Copyright:

CC-170927-CA-0011

WHEREAS the SWLSB is aware the publishing industry has hired lobbyists to influence government opinion and public opinion, suggesting that the Fair Dealing Guidelines are directly resulting in financial losses, and that the Fair Dealing Guidelines were instituted in early 2013, following the ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada that allowed for the copying of short excerpts by teachers;

WHEREAS prior to 2013, school boards, or their Ministries, had been paying a Copyright Board certified tariff, and testimony in the above-mentioned Supreme Court hearing demonstrated that the publishing industry had been facing financial challenges in the years prior to the establishment of the Fair Dealing Guidelines, and that current financial challenges reflect many other factors including the industry's inability to develop business models that have adjusted effectively to new digital learning developments;

Commissioner Anne McMullon MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board strongly support the Copyright Act, including the 2012 education amendments;

AND THAT the SWLSB opposes any Copyright Act amendment that would eliminate educational rights established by the Supreme Court;

AND THAT the SWLSB believes that an erosion of these rights would have a significant impact on the ability of our employees and educators to provide students with broad and comprehensive classroom resources, both digitally and in print;

FURTHER THAT this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada and all Federal Members of Parliament representing the Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière regions.

Carried unanimously

The Chair thanked everyone for supporting the resolution on the Copyright Act.

6.1.3 Federal Bill C-45 – Cannabis Act:

The Chair advised that Federal Bill C-45: Cannabis Act will make this substance more readily available to the public and, in order to ensure the safety of the students of Québec, associations representing education, English and French, are signing a "Deposition from educational partners concerning the framework of cannabis in schools" with names and logos.

In response to questions from Commissioner Guy Gagnon, the Chair advised that the MEES has embarked on an awareness campaign, along the lines of what it has done for alcohol, with a pamphlet of talking points for parents and ways to promote a safe and healthy environment.

WHEREAS all partners of the education system have been asked to unite their efforts and to endorse said declaration;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to make known its endorsement of this declaration;

Commissioner Emilio Migliozi MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board endorse the *"Déclaration des partenaires de l'éducation concernant des encadrements sur le cannabis en milieu scolaire"*;

AND THAT the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board permit its name and logo to be used on said *"Déclaration"* where warranted;

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA).

Carried unanimously

6.2 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.2.1 *Election of Chair & Vice-Chair – Corporate Committee:*

Commissioner Ailsa Pehi nominated Commissioner Guy Gagnon for the position of Chair. Commissioner Gagnon accepted the nomination.

CC-170927-CA-0015

Commissioner Guy Gagnon MOVED THAT Commissioner McMullon be appointed as Chair of the Pedagogical Committee for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Anne McMullon nominated Commissioner Kaliozakis for the position of Vice-Chair. The Chair advised that she had received a letter from Commissioner Kaliozakis expressing her interest in the position and accepted the nomination on her behalf.

There were no other nominations.

CC-170927-CA-0016

Commissioner Anne McMullon MOVED THAT Commissioner Kaliozakis be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Pedagogical Committee for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried unanimously

6.2.3 Election of Chair & Vice-Chair First Nations, Métis & Inuit Committee:

Commissioner Robert Dixon nominated Commissioner Ailsa Pehi to the position of Chair. Commissioner Pehi accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations.

CC-170927-CA-0017

Commissioner Robert Dixon MOVED THAT Commissioner Ailsa Pehi be appointed as Chair of the First Nations, Métis & Inuit Committee for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Ailsa Pehi nominated Commissioner Guy Gagnon to the position of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Gagnon accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations.

CC-170927-CA-0018

Commissioner Ailsa Pehi MOVED THAT Commissioner Guy Gagnon be appointed as Vice-Chair of the First Nations, Métis & Inuit Committee for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried unanimously

The Chair encouraged everyone to become involved with this new committee.

Commissioner Paolo Galati entered the meeting.

TIME: 20:41 hours

6.2.4 *Éducation Internationale:*

CC-170927-CA-0019

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board entered into a membership agreement with Éducation

Commissioner Guy Gagnon stated that he will support this resolution but, while he is not against this project, he objects to the fact that a commissioner does not have a seat on the Selection Committee.

A new partnership and venue for the Lobster Fest are being explored. An update will be provided when more information is known;

Another plan for 2017-2018 will be expanding the partners of the SWL Foundation. A database of organizations that want to donate will be established and then the plan will be further elaborated.

The Chair noted that it is not often that a foundation can request substantial funding and thanked the Ville de Laval for the invitation to the Fonds du souvenir, a Laval organization that supports the lower income community

Stephanie Krenn, Secretary General

Jennifer Maccarone, Chair