



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER  
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

## ANNUAL SCHOOL TAX MAILING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Q. Why are there two payment stubs?

Any amount over \$300 can be payable in two equal instalments. The first payment is due on August 15, 2018, and the second on November 5, 2018.

### Q. Can I pay the full amount?

Yes, the amount can be paid in full on or before August 15, 2018.

### Q. How can I pay?

1. At most financial institutions (telephone, counter, automatic teller or internet) using the 20-digit reference number starting with 02584.
2. By cheque using the envelope enclosed with your invoice. Please include the payment stub (detachable portion at the bottom of your bill).

**Please note that we do not accept any payments at the school board.**

### Q. Will I have interest charged to me if I pay after August 15<sup>th</sup>?

If the first payment is not made by the first due date of August 15<sup>th</sup>, then the full account becomes due and interest is charged daily, at a rate of 15% annually, until the account is paid.

### Q. I am having difficulty getting through on the phone line (extension 1341). Is there another way to communicate with the Taxation Department?

During the summer months and at other peak times during the year, we may experience a high volume of calls, making it difficult to respond quickly to every caller. Alternatively, we can also be reached by email at [taxes@swlauriersb.qc.ca](mailto:taxes@swlauriersb.qc.ca).

### Q. Why have I received an invoice from the French school board this year even though I signed a form, before April 1<sup>st</sup>, to change to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board?

If you are a new owner, the change will be effective only when the official certificate from the city is registered with the school board. Unfortunately, as this change may have been received after April 1<sup>st</sup>, you will be billed by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board only the following taxation year.



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**Q. Is the tax rate the same as the French school boards?**

This spring, the government adopted Bill 166, *An Act to reform the school tax system*. This amendment to the *Education Act* provides for one regional tax rate for all the taxable properties within the same administrative region.

The tax is calculated based on the value of the adjusted standardized assessment of the immovable that exceeds \$25,000 (see example below).

**Q. How is my property value determined?**

The school board uses the values entered on the municipal rolls to calculate the value for school taxes. These values are then averaged over the life of the roll as prescribed by law.

**Q. How is the averaging calculated?**

The difference between the previous municipal valuation roll and the new municipal valuation roll is divided by three and added in incremental steps to the previous year's valuation, whether it is an increase or a decrease. Starting in 2018-2019, the first \$25,000 is removed from the value used to calculate the school tax.

2015-2017 Previous roll	2018-2020 New roll	Difference	2018-2019 Value for school taxes	2019-2020 Value for school taxes	2020-2021 Value for school taxes
\$100,000	\$130,000	\$30,000	\$110,000 <u>(\$25,000)</u> \$ 85,000	\$120,000 <u>(\$25,000)</u> \$ 95,000	\$130,000 <u>(\$25,000)</u> \$105,000

**Q. Why is there no averaging on my account?**

If there was a change in valuation after January 1<sup>st</sup>, the law provides that there is no averaging.

**Q. What does the school board do with the monies collected from school taxes?**

Please refer to the pamphlet enclosed with your tax bill and our website for a detailed explanation.

**Q. Will I receive a reminder from the school board if my account remains unpaid after the November due date?**

The school board does **not** send reminders or notices for unpaid invoices.

**Q. Can I obtain a receipt for income tax purposes?**

The original bill that is mailed to you is considered your receipt for income tax purposes. There is a \$20 fee to issue a duplicate invoice or receipt.



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**Q. Can I obtain a copy of my invoice online?**

The school tax bill is now available online at [https://www10.swlauriersb.qc.ca/tfp2000\\_internet//asp/tfp.aspx](https://www10.swlauriersb.qc.ca/tfp2000_internet//asp/tfp.aspx). Please click on the "Visitor" button.

Take note that, for privacy purposes, past due balances, including interest charges, are not included on the annual school tax bill. The school board's Taxation Department must be contacted to obtain the current balance due.

**Q. What action should be taken if the property changes hands but the invoice is still addressed to the previous owner?**

The new owner must pay this bill before the due date despite the fact it may have been addressed to the previous owner in order to avoid paying interest charges. If you are not the owner of the immovable for which this bill has been issued, please forward this bill to the new owner or return it to us.

**Q. I have not yet received my tax bill. What action should I take?**

School tax bills are mailed at the beginning of July. If you have not received your tax bill, it is important to contact the school board's Taxation Department as soon as possible in order to verify your mailing address and receive a copy of your bill.

**Q. Will the tax bill be sent to my financial institution?**

The school tax bill is mailed only to the property owner at the mailing address recorded in the taxpayer file. It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to ensure that a copy is forwarded to their financial institution.