

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

**CONSULTATION ON THE MODIFICATION OF
THE EDUCATIONAL VOCATION OF
RAWDON ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL
BEGINNING IN THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

Dear Consultee,

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is considering the transfer of secondary one and two students from Rawdon Elementary and Middle School (REMS) to Joliette High School beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. Article 212 of the Education act stipulates that any modification in the vocation of school is subject to public consultation.

The approach of this consultation aims at finding solutions through consensus. It will require the active participation of all stakeholders. The information provided by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board will provide insight as to the reasons supporting the suggested changes. The process chosen will facilitate the participation of all stakeholders in allowing them to become actively involved in proposing solutions to the Council of Commissioners.

It is hoped that all parties will work together to develop various options that will provide long lasting solutions. To this end, School Board administrators will be available to assist and provide information upon request as the school communities work through the process. With this approach we are trying to find common ground that will provide our students and parents with an understanding of each others needs as well as viable solutions to the needs of all parties. In order to do this we need to enter into the process with an open mind so that we can hear one another and try to come to as broad a consensus as possible. It will also require commitment of time and spirit of compromise. It will require examining any and all possibilities.

The consultation period will include:

- A public meeting where participants will be provided with information as to the financial logistical and pedagogical consequences of the proposed change as well as the consultation timeline.
- Distribution of consultation documents to all stakeholders.
- Full documentation on the Sir Wilfrid Laurier web site.
- Upon request, distribution of consultation documents to all consultative groups.
- Upon request, meetings between stakeholders and representatives of the School Board administration.

During this consultation period, members of the community are invited to comment and offer possible suggestions with regards to the proposed changes. Although it is expected that most members of both school communities will respond through one of the consultative groups already in place, i.e. Governing Boards, Associations, Unions etc., individuals may submit their views as well.

Those requiring more information may contact:

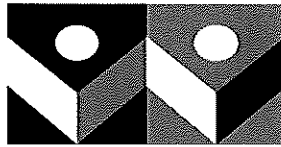
George Paquette
Director of School Organization
Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board
(450) 621-5600 ext.1303
e-mail: gpaquette@swlauriersb.qc.ca

N.B.: This document is also available on our website: www.swlauriersb.qc.ca under Use of Rawdon Elementary and Middle School beginning in 2010-2011.

Individuals or groups wishing to submit a brief should send it to George Paquette, Director of School Organization, by December 4th, 2009.

The Council of Commissioners looks forward to working with all stakeholders throughout the consultation process.

George Paquette
Director of School Organization



**COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
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**CONSULTATION ON THE USE OF
RAWDON ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL
BEGINNING IN 2010-2011**

SUMMARY OUTLINING REASONS FOR CONSULTATION

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's mission is to provide a stimulating learning environment, develop accessible educational services and enable our students of all ages to become responsible independent citizens in their community and beyond.

In an attempt to continually improve services offered to students, the current educational vocation of Rawdon Elementary and Middle School is being reviewed.

It is felt that secondary 1 and 2 curriculum needs can be addressed more completely in a setting where there is continuity for the students to transition into the second cycle of secondary as there is more familiarity with teachers and greater access to the resources of a larger school. Joliette High School could provide this continuity as well as a much greater access to services not available at Rawdon Elementary and Middle School.

Joliette High School can also offer students a much richer educational experience that a full service high school can provide while preserving its small school charm.

- Excellent academic standing (06-07, Garfield Award/07-08 – 2nd in academic standings for the Lanaudière region)
- Well equipped science and computer labs (new reform science courses in place);
- New art room;
- Green club (numerous activities);
- Robotics club;
- Woodcarving club;
- Sushi club;
- Leadership activities (free the children, Uganda project, etc...)
- Full service library;
- Wide variety of courses offered;
- Strong bilingual flavor;
- Fashion show
- Excellent physical education facilities;
- School newspaper club;
- Lunch hour intramural program offering a diversity of sport to students at all levels;
- Vibrant student council;
- Full service cafeteria.

Summary outlining reasons for consultation continued

Students can also benefit from a variety of after-school programs and enjoy the benefits of after-school busing provided for these programs. These after school programs include.

- ✓ Tutoring ongoing during the school year with a special focus during exam periods
- ✓ After school hockey (floor hockey league)
- ✓ Drama club rehearsals
- ✓ Various other afterschool programs relating to the an assortment of programs offered in the school.

The final decision by the Council of Commissioners on the use of Rawdon Elementary and Middle School will be based on a number of considerations including recommendations from the school community. Please make every effort to participate in the consultation process. Your comments and suggestions are important and are needed to ensure that every option has been considered.

George Paquette
Director of School Organization



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

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

**TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO
THE EDUCATIONAL VOCATION OF
RAWDON ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL
BEGINNING IN THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

TIMELINE

May 12, 2009	School Organization Standing Committee will review consultation proposal for recommendation to Executive and Council;
May 19, 2009	Executive Committee will review the consultation proposal for recommendation to Council;
May 20, 2009	Council of Commissioners will review the consultation proposal and approve, in principle, a consultation period to consider modifications to the educational vocation of Rawdon Elementary and Middle School beginning in the 2010-2011 school year;
June 2, 2009	The School Board shall initiate the consultation with a public notice calling for a public assembly to be held on June 2, 2009. The public shall be provided with information as to the consultation timeline as well as an outline of the proposal;
October 5, 2009	Public Consultation begins; Full documentation available on the Sir Wilfrid Laurier website;
October/Dec 4, 2009	Meetings with stakeholders as required so that the consultation process can move forward and meet the target date of December 4 th , 2009;
December 4, 2009	End of public consultation and submission of briefs;
December 7, 2009	School Organization Standing Committee workshop for Commissioners – review of proposals and recommendations contained in briefs;
December 8, 2009	Review and recommendation by the Executive Committee;
December 9, 2009	Review and final decision by the Council of Commissioners;



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
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**EXTRACT OF DELIBERATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD**

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION ON THE USE OF RAWDON ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

REFERENCE: CC-090520-TS-0129

WHEREAS Rawdon Elementary and Middle School currently enrolls students from kindergarten through to Secondary 2;

WHEREAS upon completion of Secondary 1 and 2 students from Rawdon Elementary and Middle School transfer to Joliette High School;

WHEREAS Secondary 1 and 2 curriculum needs can be addressed more completely in a setting where there is continuity for the students to transition into the second cycle of secondary enabling students to be more familiar with their environment, better acquainted with teachers and have greater access to the resources of a larger school, which Joliette High School can provide;

WHEREAS the School Organization Committee has reviewed the situation and has recommended that the School Board consult the Rawdon Elementary and Middle School and Joliette High School communities for its input on the proposed relocation of Secondary 1 and 2 students from Rawdon Elementary and Middle School to Joliette High School beginning in the 2010-2011 school year;

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Director General and the Director of School Organization to consult the Rawdon Elementary and Middle School and Joliette High School communities for its input on the proposed relocation of Secondary 1 and 2 students from Rawdon Elementary and Middle School to Joliette High School beginning in the 2010-2011 school year;

AND THAT a public meeting to be held on 2009-06-02 to advise the Rawdon Elementary and Middle School and Joliette High School communities of the upcoming consultation;

FURTHER THAT a formal consultation will begin on 2009-10-05 and end 2009-12-04.

Carried unanimously

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY of a resolution adopted at the Regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2009-05-20 at the Administration Centre, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec.

Marie-Claude Drouin, *Secretary General*