



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

**HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING
LAVAL ELEMENTARY AD HOC COMMITTEE
SECTOR 2
MAY 27, 2013**

In attendance:

Absolonne, Gaëlle – Director, School Organization and Transportation
Bomba, Roberto – Parent Commissioner – Elementary
Buckland, Cliff, Interim Assistant Director General
Ceccolini, Steve – Governing Board Member – St-Paul
Facchino, Nazario – Vice-Chairman, Council of Commissioners
Lambrakis, Costa – Governing Board Member – Twin Oaks
Maccarone, Jennifer – Chair – Parent Committee
Nesi, Grace – Commissioner
Noviello, Antoinette – Governing Board Member – Terry Fox
Paulozza, David – Vice-Chair, Governing Board – Terry Fox
Pizzola, Mike – Commissioner
Vetrone, Rino – Governing Board Member – Souvenir
Vucko, Stephanie – Director General

1 – Opening remarks

Ms. Vucko opened by saying that the first priority is to find solutions that are the least disruptive to the students and communities. In a continued effort to communicate with all stakeholders, all information pertaining to the ad hoc committees can be found on our website.

2 – Overview of situation

The documents distributed to members gave an overview of the situation in Laval with a focus on sector 2 which includes Genesis, Jules Verne, St-Paul, Terry Fox, and St-Vincent.

[Enrollment by sector chart](#): There are three sectors in Laval as per MELS. The chart shows the actual enrollment from 2012-13 for all Laval elementary schools (sectors 1, 2 & 3) and the enrollment as predicted in the three-year plan for 2013-16. Although there are some schools in these sectors that are experiencing overcrowding, sectors 1 & 2 are not overcrowded as a whole. Sector 3 is the only one with steady overcrowding, which is why the school board is looking at requesting an enlargement to one of its buildings.

For example, in sector 2, enrollment is showing that Terry Fox will be over capacity until 2015 while the neighboring schools in that sector still have space to receive students. Therefore, as per MELS regulations, the school board cannot request additional space in sector 2. Requests can only be made when an entire sector is over capacity by 125 students.

LAVAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Enrollment (Three-Year Plan 2013 to 2016)

Sector	Schools	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	Capacity
1	Crestview	264	262	262	262	315
	Hillcrest	515	522	535	542	499
	Souvenir	656	628	641	665	659
	JFK	306	304	311	318	410
		1741	1716	1749	1787	1883
→ Space remains available in this sector.						
2	Genesis	274	273	274	275	297
	Jules Verne	251	261	267	270	291
	St-Paul	424	411	425	445	546
	Terry Fox	615	584	564	530	540
	St-Vincent	357	358	362	365	533
	1921	1887	1892	1885	2207	
→ Space remains available in this sector.						
3	OLP	198	208	224	231	226
	Twin Oaks	433	450	476	502	410
		631	658	700	733	636
→ This sector is overcrowded as a whole.						

NOTE: Numbers in red are showing overcrowding situations.

[Powerpoint on Terry Fox](#)

Overall, the transitional rezoning that took place at Terry Fox & St-Paul had a positive impact on both schools.

Discussion took place on ways to address overcrowding issues:

- Request for additional space (portables, enlargement or new school) can be done only when an entire sector is over capacity by 125 students.
- Rezoning: This is done following Council resolution to address overcrowding situations by modifying attendance zones.
- Application of enrollment criteria: this can be done on a yearly basis when there are more requests than space available in a given school. Students are then re-directed in a neighboring school in the same sector.

3 – Enrollment criteria

A draft of the 2014-15 enrollment criteria was presented to the committee members for feedback. It is not a public document as it has not been adopted by Council. It will be sent to the Parents Committee for the consultation period once it has been adopted. For the 2014-15 school year, the objective is to have the enrollment criteria ready as early as possible to inform all stakeholders before the registration period begins.

Comments from the committee were collected and will be taken under consideration.

4 – Discussion

Should kindergarten siblings of Terry Fox students from the rezoned area be grandfathered in the 2014-15 enrollment criteria?

Some of the comments made by the committee were:

- The Council ratified a resolution that gave positive results and incoming kindergarten students were grandfathered for one year only.
- Usually, only current students are grandfathered, not incoming siblings.
- It would not be fair to grandfather for additional year(s) for people who transferred their siblings to St-Paul knowing that the grandfather clause was for one year only.
- The rezoning has solved the problem at Terry Fox for the next several years.

A discussion then followed about various construction projects.

Comments from committee:

- It would be important to link with contractors to find out if future owners are eligible to English education and if they will be sending their child(ren) to SWLSB.
- We can continue to promote schools that still have space.
- So far the enrollment criteria have been going well where it was needed to be applied.
- As a school board we need to find a better way to promote the schools in our school board.
- The parents are an important partner in promoting the schools. The data shows that students are successful in all of our schools.

5 – Timeline & next steps

In closing, Ms. Vucko explained that although we will not abolish this committee, we do not anticipate having a second meeting in the near future since the rezoning seems to have been successful at this time and the projected enrollment until 2016 show a decrease in enrollment at Terry Fox, alleviating the overcrowding situation. Let's keep the doors of communication open. In case of any questions, committee members can contact Ms. Absolonne.

Ms. Absolonne explained that the next step will be to present the enrollment criteria 2014-15 to Council to be adopted for a consultation period. We will keep everyone informed via our website throughout the process.