

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2005-09-28

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, 2005-09-28 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Steve Bletas, Chairman; Carolyn Curiale, Vice-Chair; Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, and Edward Turchyniak, Commissioners; Linda Iaconetti and Tom Mouhteros, Parent Commissioners; and Giordano Rosa-del-Vecchio, Director General.

Also present were: Robert Vallerand, Deputy Director General; François Badin, Director of Human Resources; Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources; Effie Maniatis, Director of Educational Services; Denis Marcoux, Director of Information Technology; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; George Paquette, Director of School Organization & Transportation; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19:32 hours.

The Chairman called for a minute of silence to remember those whose lives have been devastated by hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

TIME: 19:34 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 19:35 hours

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following additions and changes to the agenda were proposed:

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS:

- 6.10 Dress Code - Laurier Senior H.S.....INFO
- 6.11 Modification to Resolution - ANC Sub-Committee.....RES

050928-CA-0020

Morten Schrier MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as amended in document #SWLSB-2005/09/28-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

In a verbal notice, Carolyn Curiale advised that in the minutes of the meeting held on 2005-08-24 the following required correction:

- Page 1332, item 13.2 9th paragraph, 2nd line - the words “funding program for “Village” schools” is to be replaced with “Maintenance de l’école de village” program for schools”.

The following secretarial errors were noted:

- Page 1321, resolution #050824-CA-0004, 2nd “Whereas”, an “s” is to be added to the word “resolution” and the date is to read “2005-07-12”.
- Page 1326, item 6.4, 1st paragraph, 2nd line - an “s” is to be added to the word “employee”.

050928-CA-0021

George Benoit MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2005-08-24, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as corrected.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Walter Fogel, Peter MacLaurin

050928-CA-0022

William Pollock MOVED THAT the minutes of the SPECIAL meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2005-09-13, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Walter Fogel, Albina Pace

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from David Fournier, a student at Laurier Senior High School, the Chairman explained that the decision to implement a dress code falls under the purview of the school's Governing Board and that the moratorium placed on the student body discouraging them from speaking about the issue should be taken up with that board.

The Deputy Director General reminded everyone that on a high school Governing Board the student body has two representatives that act as student voice and vote on their behalf, therefore, the students were involved, if somewhat indirectly, with the decision taken by the Governing Board at Laurier Senior High School.

He went on to note that if the Governing Board of a school feels that a dress code will enhance the safety and security in the school it can make that decision but it may wish to consult the school community before taking a decision of this nature.

Mr. Fournier noted that the student body was aware of the dress code but that he takes issue with the fact that they were not consulted on the colours. He noted that the students at Mother Teresa Junior High School were consulted on their dress code which resulted in interchangeable tops and bottoms.

The Chairman asked Glenn Cuggy, Principal at Laurier Senior to comment on the dress code issue.

Mr. Cuggy indicated that it is the intention of the school administration to seek opinions from the students, parents and teachers on various issues concerning the school and that the issue of the dress code will be approached.

The Director General explained the consultation process to Mr. Fournier noting that that under the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) the Governing Board of a school has the right to make decisions in the best interest of the students even if the decision may not be unanimously supported.

On a “point of order”, Walter Fogel asked for a clarification of a “proper process”.

The Chairman indicated that the process is that the Governing Board makes the decision concerning the dress code of a school and that the Council of Commissioners ensures that the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) procedures have been followed.

4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

4.1 *Report of the Chairman:*

The Chairman advised the Council of Commissioners that the Rosemere High School graduation has been changed back to the school as the CSN has agreed not to interfere with this event and allow access to the school building.

He went on to remind everyone present of the Mix 96 “Shave to Save” fundraiser for breast cancer noting that the Director General will have his head shaved at 10:30 a.m. on 2005-10-11.

He continued noting that there is also a donation box for Hurricane Katrina where anybody who wishes to make a monetary contribution can do so. He also noted that Walter Fogel has volunteered to assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina through his involvement in the Canadian Red Cross.

Walter Fogel advised that he had worked with the American Red Cross during the 9/11 crisis in New York City and that the Canadian Red Cross had contacted him to see if he would be willing to submit his name to volunteer in this crisis and now he is just awaiting a phone call to tell him when and where he will be going.

The Chairman noted that to volunteer for such work is very admirable and asked if it would be possible to have a report when Mr. Fogel returns.

The Chairman advised that the caucus meeting to reflect on the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 school years had gone well and that a report will be drafted and presented to the Council in either October or November.

The Deputy Director General commented on a recent emergency conference call with the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) and its member boards on access to English education and how the law is applied to those seeking entrance into English schools. This has occurred in the wake of several students that attend either the English Montreal School Board or the Lester B. Pearson School Board who are being kept waiting as to whether or not they will receive an eligibility certificate. The QESBA is trying to see what can be done for these students without making waves. A press conference is being planned for 2005-09-29.

The Council entered into discussion.

The Chairman asked that those Commissioners who have not yet responded to the recent invitations to various graduations to please do so.

He went on to introduce Robin Bennett and Nicolas Singcaster, Data Processing Technicians, who are present this evening to assist Commissioners on their first paperless Council meeting.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Chairman assured that those who would not be using a laptop would continue to receive a paper package.

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Maxeen Jolin, the new Information Officer.

He went on to note that over the past few weeks the elected bodies of the school boards have been under the scrutiny of the media with respect to their role in a school board. He read the following into the record:

Fellow commissioners,

Let me start off by telling you how regretful I am of the comments concerning school board commissioners released last week throughout different media, The Journal de Montréal and CJAD among others. These allegations were generalized and disrespectful to us and to the great involvement we have in the public education system. It is obvious that for many people, the roles and functions of a commissioner are unclear, maybe even unknown. Our commissioners give time and energy to this school board and are devoted in its development and expansion. I regret that you had to deal with different remarks and false assumptions people of your surroundings may have come up with, due to the misinformation on commissioners being spread in the newspapers and on the radio.

We, commissioners of the SWLSB do a great deal, and should be proud of what we have accomplished. Lobbying with the Ministry to obtain new schools, initiate the mobile labs project, support after school bussing, sport and music programs are only a few of the major endeavours commissioners have played a vital role in. We also achieved a balanced budget two years ahead of time, and even showed a surplus last year. We value and emphasize the importance of professional development for our commissioners and make sure the money reserved for that effect is spent wisely to meet our needs and those of the school board. It is required by law to have 1% of the mass salary spent in professional development, should this amount not be spent, it has to be paid back to the government. This money does not, in any way come from classroom budgets.

We are dedicated in what we do and you should be proud of our accomplishments. As chairman of this board, I must say I am very honoured to lead such a team of devoted people. Now, I say, let's roll up our sleeves and continue our mandate our heads held up high, and pursue our valuable contribution to the public education system and make this school board and its schools the best they can be, as they are.

Again, I would like to thank you for your dedication to the students of this school board.

The Chairman advised the Council that tonight is Denis Marcoux's last meeting with the school board and wished him well in his future endeavours. He presented him with a gift of appreciation.

The Chairman announced that 2006-01-11 **has been the date chosen** for the "Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala", which is a fund raiser for the foundation.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 Status of June 2005 Property Seizures:

In response to a question from Steve Kmec at the 2005-08-24 meeting, the Director of Financial Resources advised that it takes 3 to 4 months to actually seize a property and that by the time the seizure is processed the taxpayer most often has settled the account with the bailiff/school board.

5.2 Tel-Jeunes - English Service:

David McKinley advised that he has approached Tel-jeunes about the possibility of having its program offered in English and that he is trying to arrange a meeting for next week to explore a possible partnership.

He went on to note that Tel-jeunes is a non-profit organization that provides anonymous assistance to children who are experiencing problems such as bullying, sexual harassment, etc.

The Council entered into discussion and it was noted that a link to the Tel-Jeunes Web site is being placed on the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board corporate Web site to promote the service.

The Chairman advised that he and the Vice-Chair would bring the idea of forming a partnership with Tel-jeunes for the provision of English services to the next meeting of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA).

He went on to note that several Commissioners and Administrators had attended a press conference to launch "Projet AVEC", which is an initiative by the Ville de Laval that will enhance school property while promoting awareness in students of environmental issues.

The Deputy Director General noted that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board had translated the project into English.

In response to a request from William Pollock, the Chairman asked the Administration to obtain copies of the "Projet AVEC" for the Commissioners and the Principals.

In response to a question from Edward Turchyniak, the Deputy Director General agreed to see if there is an electronic version of the "Projet AVEC".

5.3 2005- Summer School:

The Director of Educational Services noted that the 2005 Summer School report was included in her report and that if there were any questions she would be prepared to address them.

5.4 Computer Training for Commissioners:

The Chairman advised that there would be computer training for Commissioners on 2005-10-15 and that if there are any Commissioners who wish to attend and have not yet advised the Director of Information Technology of their participation to please do so.

He went on to introduce the new Director of Information Technology, Line Desgroseilliers.

Walter Fogel inquired as to why on page 1321 of the minutes of the meeting held on 2005-08-24 the Council approved the rescheduling of the Executive Committee and the Deputy Director General noted that the resolution is to show the Council's support of the change of meeting date.

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.1 Report of Communications Sub-Committee Chairperson:

Natalie Auclair, Chair of the Communications & Public Relations Sub-Committee, commented on the last meeting of the sub-committee noting the preliminary package for the 2005 Focus Session was reviewed and that "Learning Improvement Through Technology" is the theme. Glenn Cartwright and Adam Finkelstein from McGill University will animate the session.

The Deputy Director General provided some background information on the animators noting that Dr. Cartwright is the Associate Dean of Education at Mc Gill University, and Mr. Finkelstein is a graduate student. The animators will present a series of ten new technologies and how they may interact with education over the next ten years.

The Council of Commissioners entered into discussion.

Mrs. Auclair continued noting that the proposed communication policy was reviewed as well as the process of reviewing the school success plans which has begun with the Director General. After looking at a few of the school success plans it has become apparent that the length of each one is very different so members of the sub-committee have each taken a group of plans to review and determine if there are any similarities in order to establish a template for the plans.

She went on to advise the Council of the 2005-10-07 board wide pedagogical day, Oktoberfest celebrations and the teachers contract signing. The main topic of discussion at the regional pedagogical day will be the Special Education policy and its procedures manual.

The Council entered into discussion.

Mrs. Auclair informed the Council that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala will be held on 2006-01-11 at the Casino de Montréal and that the show will be "From Rock to Opera". The tickets are 200\$ each and will include cocktails, dinner, and the show as well as door prizes. There will also be a silent auction.

The Chairman noted that this is the first fundraising event of the foundation and that while it is being held at the casino gambling is not being promoted.

In response to a concern expressed by Steve Kmec, the Chairman indicated that the review of the school success plans is not to criticize but to find out the similarities between the schools and their vision as well as to look for ideas that could be implemented across the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

6.2 Report of Adult & Vocational Education Sub-Committee Chairperson:

Carolyn Curiale commented on the recent meeting of the committee noting that a new chair will be elected at the October meeting.

The Director General left the meeting.

TIME: 20:42 hours

She went on to note the new full-time teaching contracts, new programs, the survey on how the public finds out about what Adult & Vocational Education has to offer and Forma-Clé were discussed.

The Director General returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:44 hours

In response to a question from William Pollock, the Director of Educational Services indicated that any Commissioner who wished to attend the regional pedagogical day would be more than welcome and that the session is being held at Rosemere High School.

6.3 Report of Arundel Nature Centre Management Sub-Committee:

William Pollock, Chairman of the Arundel Nature Centre Management Sub-Committee, commented on the most recent meeting noting that the use of the centre has increased considerably and that some work still needs to be done on the centre to make it more accessible

6.4 Reflections on 2003/2004 & 2004/2005 School Years:

This was discussed under item 4.0.

6.5 Proposed Policy #2005-CA-12: Communication Policy:

The Deputy Director General commented on the proposed policy noting that it has taken almost a year to draft this policy.

In response to a suggestion from Steve Kmec, the Deputy Director General noted that the proposed policy is based on past experiences and communications scenarios; therefore, there is no need to run a simulation of what the service can do as it is the basis of the policy.

Nazario Facchino left the meeting.

TIME: 20:50 hours

Walter Fogel noted that the proposed policy is really guidelines and not procedures.

050928-CA-0023

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Communication & Public Relations Sub-Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle proposed policy #2005-CA-12: Communication Policy.

AND THAT this proposed policy be subject to the regular consultation process of 60 days.

Carried unanimously

Grace Nesi left the meeting.

TIME: 20:52 hours

6.6 2005 Focus Session:

This was discussed under item 6.1.

6.7 Conseil d'administration - CEGEP Montmorency:

The Deputy Director General provided background information on the Conseil d'administration noting that this request was received just prior to summer shutdown and the Council of Commissioners was unable to respond, which will be noted in the letter to the Ministre de l'Éducation.

The Chairman inquired if anyone would be interested in have their name put forward for the Conseil d'aminstration for Collège (CEGEP) Montmorency

Nazario Facchino and Grace Nesi returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:54 hours

Steve Kmec nominated Tom Mouhteros. Mr. Mouhteros accepted the nomination.

Walter Fogel nominated Albina Pace. Mrs. Pace declined the nomination.

050928-CA-0024

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has advised the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board that there is a vacant post on the Conseil d'administration at Cégep Montmorency;

David McKinley MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board nominate Tom Mouhteros as a candidate for the vacant position of "représentant des commissions scolaires" on the Conseil d'administration of CÉGEP Montmorency.

Carried unanimously

In response to a question from Merle Parkinson, the Chairman advised that it would be in the best interest of the school board to submit the name of a member of the Council of Commissioners.

6.8 2005-2006 Administrative Organizational Chart:

The Director General commented on the need to modify the 2005-2006 Administrative Organizational chart noting that the position of Director of Adult & Vocational Education was omitted in error on the original document and that with the promotion of the current Information Officer to the position of Director of Information Technology, the position of Coordinator of Communications & Information Services is not required at this time and should be abolished.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General indicated that the financial advantage to these modifications is that the school board will regain the salary of the Coordinator and the position of Director of Adult & Vocational Education will remain vacant. He indicated that he would inquire to the exact financial savings and report back at the next meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

Morten Schrier left the meeting.

TIME: 21:02 hours

050928-HR-0025

WHEREAS the Directorate has reviewed the Administrative Organizational Chart of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2005-2006 school year;

Natalie Auclair MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve in principle the Administrative Organizational Chart as presented in Document #SWLSB-2005/09/28-HR-001.

AND THAT this proposed organizational chart be subject to the regular consultation process of 60 days.

AND THAT this resolution replace resolution #050622-HR-0196 upon final approval at the 2005-12-14 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

6.9 Strike Notice - September 30, 2005:

The Director General advised that a strike notice has been received from the CSN for a 24 hour strike on Friday, 2005-09-30 and that that his office has advised the staff not to cross the picket lines. The day will be declared a pedagogical day for students but all staff will have to report for work and, if necessary, will be asked to work from home if offices cannot be accessed once reporting for the work day.

Morten Schrier returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:06 hours

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General advised that Directors and Principals will be taking attendance and that anyone who does not come to work will not be paid.

The Council entered into discussion on the teacher workload and pedagogical days.

In response to a concern expressed by Steve Kmec, the Chairman indicated that at this time the schools will meet the required 180 days of school for the 2005-2006 school year unless the unions up their strike tactics.

Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

TIME: 21:14 hours

The Director General reminded the Council that it is the CSN that is striking on 2005-09-30 and it is the most militant of the unions involved in the provincial negotiations and the Administration has taken the position that it does not want to put any of its employees at risk by asking them to ignore a picket line. It is the objective of the Administration for the employees to do some sort of work on 2005-09-30 whether it be working from home or having a department planning session in a local restaurant. If there are other strike days each will have to be assessed accordingly as what will be expected of the school board employees.

Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:16 hours

050928-CA-0026

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT any employee that does not work on a strike day will not be remunerated.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec

NAY: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

6.10 Dress Code - Laval Senior H.S.:

The Deputy Director General advised the Council that a letter of complaint has been received from a parent at Laurier Senior High School concerning the newly imposed dress code and the effect it has had on her child.

The Council entered into discussion and the Chairman noted that this student was suspended from school but that it was the choice of the parent not to have the student return to school on the scheduled day.

The Deputy Director General informed the Council that several options have been offered to this student such as changing schools or home schooling but neither of these options were acceptable to the parents.

In response to a question from the Chairman, the Principal of Laurier Senior High School advised that the student in question is not currently attending classes.

Discussion continued and it was noted that if the student is under the age of 16, Youth Protection will have to be advised if the child does not return to school or arrangements are not made for instruction of some variety.

The Deputy Director General noted that there have been many notices concerning the implementation of the dress code starting in the 2005-2006 school year at Laurier Senior High School the first of which began in February of 2005. Several notices have gone home to the school community on this issue with the notation that there would be a transition period prior to sanctions being applied for non-conformity with the school's dress code. The transition period came to an end on 2005-09-26.

In response to a question from Albina Pace, the Deputy Director General advised that it is the in-school Administration that lays down the sanctions but it acts in accordance with what has been adopted by the Governing Board. For a suspension of longer than five days the Director General or the Deputy Director General must be advised and agree to such a sanction.

In response to an additional question from Mrs. Pace, the Director General indicated that a dress code is not apart of the enrollment criteria but of the rules of conduct and safety of the school.

Walter Fogel stated that the dress code is within the powers of a Governing Board and that the school board advises its in-school Administrators to follow the decisions adopted by that body as long as they do not conflict with the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) or school board policy.

6.11 Modification to Resolution - ANC Sub-Committee:

The Deputy Director General provided background information on the need to modify the name of the Arundel Nature Centre sub-committee.

050928-CA-0027

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board modify resolution #050126-CA-0094 by changing the name of the sub-committee to read Arundel Nature Centre Management Sub-Committee.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman called for a 10 minutes recess.

TIME: 21:43 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 22:00 hours

7.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

7.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

The Chairman congratulated Merle Parkinson on her election as Chair of the Financial Resources Committee.

Merle Parkinson commented on the last meeting of the Financial Resources Committee noting that the audit of the 2004-2005 school year has begun and it is evident that there will be a surplus but the amount is not available at this time. The Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) report on special needs spending for 2001-2002 has been received and it confirmed that the school board invests more money in these programs **than** it is given by the government.

In response to a question from Edward Turchyniak, the Director of Financial Resources advised that she would provide the amount spent in special education for the next meeting of the Council.

7.2 Modification to Resolution - Travel Rate:

The Director of Financial Resources advised the Council that the sub-committee established to review the travel policy has also recommended that the travel rate for the 2005-2006 school year be increased due to the rapid rise in the cost of gas. The Financial Resources Committee supports the recommendation which is 0,45\$/km up to 5 000 kilometres and over 5 000 kilometres the rate would be 0,40\$.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to a concern expressed by Edward Turchyniak, the Director of Financial Resources indicated that the rate of 0,40\$ is 0,01\$ above the Government of Canada rate of 0,39\$ and she is fairly certain that the government will not tax on such a small amount per individual, but it will be something to review before setting the rate for the 2006-2007 school year.

050928-FR-0028

WHEREAS the price of fuel has increased at a rapid rate in recent months;

WHEREAS many employees and Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board use their personal vehicles for school board related business;

Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Financial Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board modify resolution #050525-FR-0177 by changing the travel rate to 0,45\$/kilometre up to 5000 km and 0,40\$/kilometre above 5000 km, effective 2005-10-01.

Carried unanimously

7.3 **Proposed Amendments to Policy #1999-FR-01: Travel Policy:**

The Director of Financial Resources advised that the sub-committee established to review the travel policy has made its recommendations to the Financial Resources Committee. The current policy has been reworked and several new clauses have been added.

The Council entered into discussion on the amendments to the policy with much discussion focusing on clause 3.2.2 which concerns the purchase of alcohol.

On a "point of order", Nick Milas called for the vote.

050928-CA-0029

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT section 3.2.2 of the amendments to policy #1999-FR-01: *Travel and Representation Expenses Reimbursement Policy for the Members of the Council of Commissioners and the Employees of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board* be replaced by "there will be no reimbursement for the purchase of alcohol".

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA:	Walter Fogel
NAY:	Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak
ABST:	Steve Kmec

Discussion ensued on whether or not there should be consultation on the amendments to the travel policy.

050928-FR-0030

WHEREAS policy #1999-FR-01: Travel and Representation Expenses Reimbursement Policy for the Members of the Council of Commissioners and the Employees of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, contains a provision for a review of the policy every three (3) years:

WHEREAS this policy has not been reviewed since it was adopted on 1999-09-22;

Tony MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Financial Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle the amendments to policy #1999-FR-01: Travel and Representation Expenses Reimbursement Policy for the Members of the Council of Commissioners and the Employees of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, effective 2005-10-01.

AND THAT this be subject to a consultation.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

8.0 SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

8.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

The Chairman congratulated George Benoit on his re-election as Chairman of the School Organization Committee.

George Benoit commented on the last meeting of the School Organization Committee noting that a project grid has been prepared for the school year, the bus safety program will be taking place at the beginning of October, the establishment of a newsletter, the overcrowding at Mother Teresa Junior High School and the establishment of a Task Force to examine the use of Laval high schools.

8.2 Update on 2005-2006 Enrollment:

George Benoit advised the Council that enrollment currently stands at 14 587, the September 30 student count will take place on September 29 due to the strike and that enrollment has gone down at the elementary level but increased at the high school level. Overall it looks as though enrollment will be up by 181 students from last year.

TIME: 22:30 hours

050928-CA-0031

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the meeting be extended until the completion of the agenda.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

8.3 2006-2007 Enrollment Criteria:

The Director of School Organization presented the proposed enrollment criteria for the 2006-2007 school year noting the changes to the document.

Walter Fogel raised the question of eligibility and discussion ensued.

The Director General advised the Council that the in-school Administrators have been directed not to accept any student that does not have the appropriate paper work to attend an English school.

Morten Schrier excused himself for the evening.

TIME: 22:35 hours

Steve Kmec indicated that he cannot support the 2006-2007 enrollment criteria as he feels that schools should be open to everyone with or without a certificate.

050928-ED-0032

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT section 2.0 of the proposed 2006-2007 Enrollment Criteria be stricken.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec

NAY: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Albina Pace

050928-ED-0033

WHEREAS section 239 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) states *"Each year, every school board shall enroll students in its schools in keeping with the choice of each student's parents or the choice of the student, if of full age. However, if the number of applications for enrollment in a school exceeds the capacity of the school, enrollment shall be effected according to the criteria established by the school board after consultation with the parents' committee";*

WHEREAS section 239 of the Education Act states *"Enrollment criteria must give priority to students coming under the jurisdiction of the school board and, as far as possible, to students whose place of residence is nearest to the school premises. They must be adopted, put into force and sent to each governing board at least 15 days before the beginning of the student enrollment period";*

WHEREAS section 239 of the Education Act states *"The conditions or criteria for participation in a special project may not serve as criteria for enrollment in a school; nor may they operate to exclude a student from the school of the student's choice if the student has a right to enroll in that school pursuant to the criteria referred to in the first paragraph";*

WHEREAS the section 193 (6) of the Education Act requires that the Parents' Committee be consulted annually on the criteria for the enrollment of students in schools, which exceed the capacity of the school;

WHEREAS the registration period for students for 2006-2007 is the week of February 6, 2006;

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve, in principle, the establishment of the criteria for enrollment of students in its schools, subject to the availability of space, for the 2006-2007 school year.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec

8.4 Task Force on the Use of Laval High Schools:

The Director General informed the Council that there continues to be an imbalance in the enrollment in the Laval high schools and that if this trend continues an overcrowding situation will be evident at 2323 boul. Daniel-Johnson. A resolution was adopted that stated that the school board would not examine the issue until 2007 but it is necessary to monitor this situation, therefore, it would be in the best interest of all involved to create a Task Force to keep everyone up to date and to examine future directions.

The Council entered into discussion and it was suggested by Walter Fogel that the Task Force be guided by the original resolution adopted concerning the use of the Laval high schools.

WHEREAS the School Organization Committee recommends that a task force be established to study and monitor current and future enrollment in the Laval high schools;

WHEREAS the School Organization Committee recommends that the task force include the following representatives

- *Two representatives from each governing board for all four Laval high schools;*
- *Two representatives of the Parent's Committee representing Laval elementary interests;*
- *The four principals of the Laval high schools;*
- *Four representatives of the Council of Commissioners;*
- *The Director General;*
- *The Director of School Organization.*

Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish a task force to study, monitor and advise the School Organization Committee and the Council of Commissioners on enrollment in the Laval high schools.

The Chairman suggested that the following be added at the end of the resolution:

"AND THAT the mandate of the task force be in conformity with resolution #040623-TS-0212."

Mr. Fogel agreed that this addition would support his point and Mrs. Rupnik accepted the amendment to the resolution.

Discussions continued and it was suggested that it does not hurt to look ahead in order to be prepared for a decision for the 2007-2008 school year.

050928-TS-0034

WHEREAS the School Organization Committee recommends that a task force be established to study and monitor current and future enrollment in the Laval high schools;

WHEREAS the School Organization Committee recommends that the task force include the following representatives

- Two representatives from each governing board for all four Laval high schools;
- Two representatives of the Parent's Committee representing Laval elementary interests;
- The four principals of the Laval high schools;
- Four representatives of the Council of Commissioners;
- The Director General;

- The Director of School Organization.

Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish a task force to study, monitor and advise the School Organization Committee and the Council of Commissioners on enrollment in the Laval high schools.

AND THAT the mandate of the task force be in conformity with resolution #040623-TS-0212.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman asked if there were any volunteers to sit on the Task Force.

Nazario Facchino, Nick Milas and Grace Nesi volunteered as well as the Chairman.

Tom Mouhteros left the meeting.

TIME: 22:54

hours

9.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT

9.1 Parents' Committee Report:

Linda Iaconetti noted that the first meeting will be held on 2005-10-03.

10.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

10.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

The Chairman congratulated Carolyn Curiale on her election as Chair of the Education Committee.

Carolyn Curiale noted that at its last meeting the Education Committee discussed the establishment of two sub-committees one to look into the development of a field trip policy and the other to look at the semester system for the high schools. The summer school results and the procedures handbook for the Special Education policy were also discussed.

Walter Fogel excused himself for the evening.

TIME: 22:57 hours

11.0 QESBA

11.1 Report of the QESBA :

The Chairman reminded the Council of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) professional development workshop on 2005-10-01 at Far Hills Inn.

Carolyn Curiale advised that anyone planning on attending the 2006 Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Conference in Montréal in May 2006 should consider booking a hotel room now as the rooms are going fast.

She went on to inquire if all Commissioners are receiving the "Monday Message" from the QESBA and asked that the Secretary General distribute this item upon receipt, as well as the "Monthly Message" from the CSBA Conference Steering Committee, to all Commissioners.

Albina Pace excused herself for the evening.

TIME: 22:59 hours

Tom Mouhteros returned to the meeting.

TIME: 23:00 hours

12.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES

12.1 *Report of Committee Chairperson:*

The Chairman congratulated David McKinley on his re-election as Chairman of the Material Resources Committee.

David McKinley commented on the most recent meeting of the committee noting the library projects, overcrowding in Laval schools, the need for additional land for the school yard at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School and the need to keep the school board's request for a new elementary school in Joliette in the forefront at the government level, were discussed.

12.2 *Update on Capital Projects:*

The Director of Material Resources drew the Council's attention to the update contained in the meeting package.

12.3 *Measure 50690:*

The Director of Material Resources commented on Measure 50690, which was discussed at the 2005-07-12 meeting of the Executive Committee, noting that the Material Resources Committee has reviewed the projects being submitted for consideration and decided upon a priority order. The 2005-09-01 deadline for the submission of projects was respected although the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has now requested a formal resolution from the Council of Commissioners supporting the projects.

050928-MR-0035

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has adopted Measure 50690 for the purpose of providing financial assistance to school boards for the maintenance of buildings;

WHEREAS applications for the funding of projects under Measure 50690 had to be submitted by 2005-09-01;

WHEREAS the Material Resources Committee has reviewed the projects and recommends that they be submitted for consideration to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS);

Linda Iaconetti MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve that the following projects be submitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for consideration for funding under Measure 50690:

CODE	BÂTIMENT	PROJET	CAPACITÉ	INSCRIPTIONS 05-06	PRIORITÉ
885042	Mother Teresa / Laurier Senior	Parement extérieur	1470	1751	1
885021	Souvenir	Fenêtres	696	574	2
885001	St-Paul Annex	Fenêtres	510	630	3
885029	Laval Liberty / Laval Junior	Toiture	1260	1048	4
885022	Crestview	Fenêtres	284	261	5
885027	Phoenix	Toiture	École alternative	91	6
885002	St-Paul	Fenêtres	510	630	7

13.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

13.1 *Report of Committee Chairman:*

The Chairman congratulated Nazario Facchino on his re-election as Chairman of the Human Resources Committee.

Nazario Facchino commented on the last meeting of the committee noting that provincial negotiations, strike dates, teacher staffing, full-time teaching positions at Adult & Vocational Education, the preliminary work on the 2006-2007 school calendar, the lack of an inclement weather policy, a policy for student supervision, a school fees policy and equal access to employment were discussed.

The Director General advised that there may be some problems with the spring break as many of the French school boards are looking at the first full week of March. The Council will be kept up to date on the calendar negotiations.

He went on to note that the school fees policy will be developed by Financial Resources Committee with input from other committees / departments.

13.2 *Engagement - Coordinator of Information Technology:*

The Director of Human Resources advised the Council that the selection process had been followed and that four candidates had been interviewed for the position of Coordinator of Information Technology.

050928-HR-0036

WHEREAS the position of Coordinator of Information Technology was created as part of the Administrative Organizational Chart;

WHEREAS this position is governed by the "Conditions of Employment of Management Staff of School Boards;

WHEREAS this position was posted and a Selection Committee was convened, as per the "Working Conditions of Management Staff represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section Association des cadres scolaires du Québec";

Robert Dixon MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board engage **Christina Flynn** for the position of Coordinator of Information Technology, effective 2005-10-17, in accordance with the Regulation Respecting the Conditions of Employment of Management Staff of School Boards and the Management Policy of the Board.

Carried unanimously

14.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

14.1 *Report of Committee Chairperson:*

The Chairman congratulated Nancy Rupnik on her election as Chair of the Information Technology Committee.

Nancy Rupnik commented on the last meeting of the committee noting that the theme of the Fall Focus Session was reviewed, the priorities for the 2005-2006 school year, the annual review of the

existing Information Technology policy, the slow installation of IP telephone system, mobile computer labs, and the need to complete the Fibre Optics Network for the Joliette and Rawdon areas, were discussed.

The Chairman informed the Council that he had received a letter from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) advising the school board that our request for funding for the Mobile Computer Lab Project is under examination to see how it can be funded.

14.2 Purchase of Mobile Computer Lab - Laurentia E.S.:

In response to a question from Merle Parkinson, the Director of Information Technology advised that the library at Laurentia Elementary School can no longer support the computers as it is being renovated under the library project and the space is needed for this project.

050928-IT-0037

WHEREAS Laurentia Elementary School requires an additional space in the library for the 2005-2006 school year;

WHEREAS the implementation of a mobile lab will allow the school to have the extra classroom and maintain adequate computer access for its students;

WHEREAS Laurentia Elementary School has agreed to pay its \$25 000 share of the project;

WHEREAS SPM Micro (Stéphane Lortie Informatique Inc.) has been retained as the qualified portable computer supplier for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the purchase of 33 laptop computers and 2 charging carts from SPM Micro (Stéphane Lortie Informatique Inc.) at a cost of 57 641,56\$, all taxes included.

Carried unanimously

14.3 Purchase of Mobile Computer Lab - Rosemere H.S.:

The Director General noted that Rosemere High School requires a mobile lab as it is growing and needs all available classroom space.

050928-IT-0038

WHEREAS Rosemere High School requires an additional classroom for the 2005-2006 school year;

WHEREAS the implementation of a mobile lab will allow the school to have the extra classroom and maintain adequate computer access for its students;

WHEREAS Rosemere High School has agreed to pay its \$25 000 share of the project;

WHEREAS SPM Micro (Stéphane Lortie Informatique Inc.) has been retained as the qualified portable computer supplier for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

Grace Nesi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the purchase of 33 laptop computers and 2 charging carts from SPM Micro (Stéphane Lortie Informatique Inc.) at a cost of 57 641,56\$, all taxes included.

Carried unanimously

Denis Marcoux thanked the Council of Commissioners and the Administration for all of their support during his tenure as Director of Information Technology and wished everyone well.

15.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the correspondence contained in the meeting package.

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions

17.0 VARIA

The Chairman thanked Robin Bennett and Nicolas Singcaster for providing technical support for the first laptop meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

18.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Merle Parkinson MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 23:29 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2005-10-26

Robert Vallerand, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman