

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2005-11-23

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, 2005-11-23 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; Line Desgroseilliers, Director of Information Technology; Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources; Effie Maniatis, Director of Educational Services; 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 advised the Commissioners that as of January 2006 the Council meetings will be completely paperless and the only Commissioner to receive a hard copy of the meeting package will be Walter Fogel.

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following addition to the agenda was proposed:

10.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:

10.4 Purchase of Sessions Program.....RES

William Pollock advised that he will continue to need a hard copy of the meeting package as he cannot download the meeting package at home as it takes too much time and if he has to go to Ste-Agathe Academy to do the download it will cost the school board kilometres.

051123-CA-0053

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as amended in document #SWLSB-2005/11/23-CA-001.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

ABST: Albina Pace

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

In a verbal notice Carolyn Curiale advised that in the minutes of the meeting held on 2005-10-26 the following corrections were required:

- Page 1359, 1st paragraph, 3rd line - the word "contact" is to be replaced with the word "contacted".

- Page 1374, resolution #051026-MR-0051, 5th paragraph, 1st line - the words "*Material Resources Committee*" are to be added after the word "*Directorate*".

In a written notice Merle Parkinson advised that in the same minutes the following needs to be corrected:

- Page 1357, paragraph 7 - the first word in the 1st sentence is to be replaced with the word "She".
- Page 1358, item 5.1, 1st paragraph, 1st line - the first "*that*" is to be replaced with the word "the".
- Page 1360, item 6.1, 3rd paragraph, 1st line - an "s" is to be added at the end of the word "*congratulation*".
- Page 1372, item 10.1, 1st paragraph, 4th line - the word "*be*" is to be deleted.

051123-CA-0054

Tony De Lauri MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2005-10-26, 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, 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,**

ABST: **Steve Bletas, Walter Fogel, Peter MacLaurin, Edward Turchyniak**

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a request from Franca Celli-Lipari, Governing Board Chair of Hillcrest Academy, the Chairman advised that he would make an exception for this evening and allow her to ask her questions under item 5.3.

4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

4.1 *Report of the Chairman:*

The Chairman presented the report of the most recent Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) "Town Hall" meeting hosted by the English Montreal School Board.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 *Update on Tel-jeunes:*

Natalie Auclair advised the Council that she, the Chairman, and the Information Officer had visited the "Kids Help Line" to research what services it has to offer in comparison to "Tel-jeunes". A report of the two services will be made in early 2006.

In response to a suggestion by the Vice-Chair, the Council of Commissioners agreed that the presentation of the two help lines should be made at 19:00 hours on the night of a Council meeting.

5.2 *Update on Provincial Negotiations:*

The Director General advised the Council that on 2005-11-25 the CSN and the Non-Teaching Professionals (NTPs) would be holding a strike. The CSN will be on an all day strike and the NTPs will be on a half day strike in the morning.

He went on to note that the members of the Laurier Teachers Union have voted to hold three strike days and the members of the SEPB Local 57 have voted for two strike days. These strikes will take place on different days and the school board has been advised that the teachers will only be striking for half days, which will stretch their strike mandate from three full days to six half days.

He continued noting that there are some hopeful signs in the negotiations but that for the time being school boards throughout the province will have to deal with numerous strike days. The Commission scolaire de Laval will be closed for three days in a row starting on 2005-11-23.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General advised that if the teachers strike for half a day rather than a full day the schools can be opened in the early afternoon which will be of benefit for those students who take public transportation for those who's parents can take them to school, bus transportation will be provided for the return home. This format would not cost the school board anything more than a regular day of school.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General advised that all of the strike days to date have been declared as pedagogical days. After the holiday break a meeting will be held with the Principals to review the strike situation as the days set aside for inclement weather have all been used and some decisions have to be made in the case of school closures during the winter months and for unforeseen circumstances.

Walter Fogel recommended that the Council of Commissioners consider a motion that would call for all employees to cross picket lines or not receive their days pay with the exception of those who are on a legal strike day.

The Council of Commissioners entered into discussion.

051123-CA-0055

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT any employee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board that does not report to work and fulfill his/her function on the day that he/she is required to be at his/her work place will not be paid.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

5.3 *Update on Hillcrest Academy Daycare:*

The Director General advised the Council that on 2005-11-25 he will be meeting with Noël Burke, Associate Deputy Minister of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), to discuss the Hillcrest Academy daycare dossier. Mr. Burke has been mandated by Cabinet to review the results of its findings on this issue.

Nazario Facchino left the meeting.

TIME:19:56 hours

In response to comments made by Walter Fogel, the Director General noted that the judgement made on the legal case involving parents from Hillcrest Academy and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board stated that the school board could not assess a fee for the rental of space by a private daycare but that it could charge for the costs incurred for the daily operation of the daycare in the space provided.

He went onto note that the dispute with the school is that it feels that the costs being invoiced by the school board for the space used are not legitimate, that is why it petitioned the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) to review the dossier. The meeting with Mr. Burke on 2005-11-25 is to discuss the petition and results of the Cabinet evaluation of the file. A report on this issue will be made at the December meeting of the Council.

Nazario Facchino returned to the meeting.

TIME: 19:57 hours

5.4 Update on Consultation on the Use of Genesis E.S. for 2006-2007:

The Director General advised that two meetings have been held with the Governing Board of Genesis Elementary School and a general assembly of parents will be held on 2005-11-30 to advise them of what options are available to the school community to resolve the overcrowding problem. A brief has been sent to them on what has been done to date to assist in resolving the problem.

He went on to advise that the school board has received an unofficial confirmation from the Commission scolaire de Laval that it would be willing to discuss the sale of École Notre-Dame to this school board.

He further noted that it is the intent of the school board to create as little disruption as possible for the Genesis school community and it is hoped that a consensus can be reached on the need to split the current school boundaries.

5.5 Update on the Task Force on the Use of Laval H.S.:

The Director General advised that the next meeting of the Task Force on the Use of Laval High Schools will be on 2005-12-15 and it is hoped that there will be some feedback from the school communities. The Administration of Laval Junior High School is currently promoting the school to Grade 6 classes in order to assist in the balancing of enrollment between the two junior high schools.

5.6 Update on the Request to MELS for Mobile Computer Lab Project:

The Director General advised that a letter has been sent to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) to follow-up on where the request of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board currently stands in the funding process. It is anticipated that the decision for funding for this project will not be taken until the provincial negotiations are resolved.

Edward Turchyniak left the meeting.

TIME: 20:04 hours

5.7 QESBA & Eligibility Cases:

In response to a question from Steve Kmec at the 2005-10-26 meeting, the Director General advised that approximately thirty students were refused eligibility by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) and that the families have launched appeals which are being supported by the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA). He further noted that the majority of these appeals are for students at English Montreal and Lester B. Pearson School Boards.

Edward Turchyniak returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:05 hours

5.8 Amendments to Policy #1999-FR-01: Travel Policy:

The Director of Financial Resources reviewed results of the consultation and the changes made to the amendments to policy #1999-FR-01: Travel Policy. The final version of the amendments have been reviewed by the Financial Resources Committee and the Executive Committee.

The Director General left the meeting.

TIME: 20:07 hours

Walter Fogel stated that he has a problem with the policy in that it allows for spending without prior authorization.

The Director General returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:09 hours

Mr. Fogel continued suggesting that the policy be again amended by inserting a statement that would indicate that no travel or other expenses incurred without prior authorization will be honoured.

The Director General pointed out that the policy specifies what are considered to be legitimate expenses and that, in effect, is prior authorization.

The Council entered into discussion and there were some changes made to certain words in order to make the policy language consistent.

051123-CA-0056

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the proposed amendments to policy #1999-FR-01: Travel Policy be again amended by removing the dollar values from the body of the policy and that they be listed only in the annex.

Carried unanimously

Discussion continued on the issue of claiming expenses for the purchase of alcohol for purposes of representation and school board functions.

051123-CA-0057

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the proposed amendments to policy #1999-FR-01: Travel Policy be again amended by removing sub-section 3.2.2 which covers the reimbursement of alcoholic beverages for purposes of representation and school board functions.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

051123-FR-0058

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;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators Association, the Association des cadres scolaires du Québec - Sir Wilfrid Laurier Chapter, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Non-Teaching Professionals and the Laurier Teachers Union have been consulted;

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 approve 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.

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, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak
NAY:	Walter Fogel

On a point of business arising on page 1357 of the minutes of the meeting held on 2005-10-26, Walter Fogel inquired what the school board was considering to improve the teacher contract signing ceremony and the school board maps.

The Deputy Director General noted that for the contract signing ceremony the Human Resources department is looking at ways to simplify the process and where it would be best placed on the agenda of the board-wide pedagogical day.

The Chairman advised Mr. Fogel that the school board map is being republished as there were some omissions on the last version and that the new schools in the board need to be inserted.

In response to several questions from Mr. Fogel on a point of business arising from the same minutes on page 1371, the Deputy Director General noted that the Information Technology department does have an amount reserved in its budget for the purchase of computers through qualified suppliers.

The Director General reminded Mr. Fogel that the purchase of computers is almost always brought to either the Executive Committee or the Council of Commissioners for approval.

In response to several questions from Mr. Fogel on a point of business arising from the same minutes on page 1374, the Director of Material Resources advised that the heating costs are based on the square footage used by Laurentian Regional High School.

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the pamphlet that all had received from the National School Boards Association (NSBA) for its annual conference noting that any Commissioner interested in attending should submit the normal paperwork as soon as possible in order to obtain the early registration rates which end on 2006-01-06.

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.1 Report of Communications Sub-Committee Chairperson:

Natalie Auclair, Chair of the Communications & Public Relations Committee commented on the last meeting of the committee noting that a presentation had been made by a representative of Virtuo.Ca CMS Technologies as to how the school board can improve its various Web sites; and the Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator of Adult & Vocational Education made a presentation on its services and how visibility of the service can be improved. The committee requested that the Coordinator of Adult & Vocational Education submit a business plan that can be worked around the department's budget.

Other items discussed were the next edition of The Laurier Express, the new edition of the school board map, and the preparation of an annual report.

Carolyn Curiale left the meeting.

TIME: 20:38 hours

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

Tom Mouhteros, Chairman of the Adult & Vocational Education Sub-Committee, commented on the issues discussed at the last meeting of the committee noting that the department has been present at several events to promote its services, and the hosting the PROCEED Conference in 2006 at Manoir St-Sauveur. He asked that if any Commissioner wished to assist the department in the conference preparations to please advise the Deputy Director General.

Carolyn Curiale returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:41 hours

Mr. Mouhteros also noted that the issue of FormaClé was also discussed and that a decision of the school board's participation on this committee will have to be made in the New Year.

6.3 ASCD Conference Reports:

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the reports submitted by Natalie Auclair and Carolyn Curiale from their attendance at the ASCD Conference in San Francisco

The Director General left the meeting.

TIME: 20:44 hours

6.4 Report on Snow Walkers Rendez-Vous:

William Pollock commented on his report of his attendance at the Snow Walkers Rendez-Vous noting that it provided some good ideas for the Arundel Nature Centre (ANC) which will be brought to the next meeting of the ANC Management Sub-Committee.

The Director General returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:46 hours

6.5 Request to MELS to Increase ETPs in Adult Education:

The Deputy Director General advised that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Adult Education department does not have enough "élèves temps plein (ETPs)" places for the number of requests for services that it receives due to the closed financing envelope. This will not be the first time the school board has had to make this request.

051123-CA-0059

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) financing of Adult Education students in the sector known as "formation générale" is a closed envelope;

WHEREAS the budgetary rules stipulates that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board allocation for 2005-2006 is 276.41 "élèves temps plein (ETPs)";

WHEREAS this sector of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has over the last three years exceeded the ceiling imposed by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS);

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requested and received additional funding from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) in recognition of the extended services provided to its adult population;

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board endorse and prioritize this request for additional funding in order to maintain continuity of services for the English language adult population of Laval-Laurentides-Lanaudière.

AND THAT the Deputy Director General be mandated to make the necessary application for supplementary funding for the excess Adult Education services provided by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Carried unanimously

6.6 Composition of Executive Committee:

The Chairman advised the Council that the mandate of the current Executive Committee has expired and the time has come to elect a new slate of members.

The Council entered into discussion on the composition of the Executive Committee and its term of office.

051123-CA-0060

WHEREAS section 179 of the Education Act requires that the Council of Commissioners establish an Executive Committee of from five (5) to seven (7) of its members entitled to vote, including the Chairperson of the Council of Commissioners and any Commissioner representing the Parents' Committee;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners determines the term of office of the members of the committee;

Natalie Auclair MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish an Executive Committee composed of seven (7) of its members entitled to vote, in including the Chairperson of the Council of Commissioners, and the Parent Commissioners.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Steve Kmec

6.7 Term of Office:

051123-CA-0061

David McKinley MOVED THAT the term of office for the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be a two (2) year mandate.

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, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

6.8 Reaffirmation of Executive Committee Election Process:

Steve Kmec indicated that he would support a secret ballot as the method of voting for the Executive Committee.

The Chairman advised Mr. Kmec that the issue of the vote would be addressed by the Returning Officer of elections.

051123-CA-0062

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the vote for members of the Executive Committee take place by secret ballot.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Tony De Lauri, Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Morten Schrier

NAY: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

051123-CA-0063

Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT section 3.1 of procedure #P2000-CA-07: Executive Committee Elections Procedures be modified by changing *"This will take place at the first meeting of the Executive Committee in July."* to read *"This will take place at the first meeting following the election of the Executive Committee."*

Carried unanimously

051123-CA-0064

Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board reaffirm resolution #000620-CA-0289 adopting procedure #P2000-CA-07: Executive Committee Elections Procedures.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

ABST: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Merle Parkinson

6.9 Election of Executive Committee:

Walter Fogel nominated the Deputy Director General as Returning Officer of Elections. The Deputy Director General accepted the nomination.

051123-CA-0065

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT Robert Vallerand be appointed Returning Officer of Elections.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman turned the chair over to the Returning Officer of Elections.

The Returning Officer of Elections asked the Director General and the Director of Financial Resources if they would act as Scrutineers. The Director General and the Director of Financial Resources accepted.

051123-CA-0066

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the Giordano Rosa-del-Vecchio and Livia Nassivera be appointed as Scrutineers.

Carried unanimously

The Returning Officer of Elections asked the Council of Commissioners if they wish to proceed with the vote by a show of hands or by a secret ballot.

051123-CA-0067

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the vote for the election to the Executive Committee be conducted by secret ballot.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Tony De Lauri, Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Morten Schrier

NAY: Natalie Auclair, Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Robert

The Returning Officer of Elections noted that as there are only two voting options that the vote would be by a show of hands.

Robert Vallerand called for nominations for seat #1 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

David McKinley nominated Edward Turchyniak. Mr. Turchyniak accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

051123-CA-0068

David McKinley MOVED THAT Edward Turchyniak be named to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

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, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

ABST: Walter Fogel, Albina Pace

Robert Vallerand called for nominations for seat #2 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Carolyn Curiale nominated Nancy Rupnik. Mrs. Rupnik accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

051123-CA-0069

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT Nancy Rupnik be named to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Steve Kmec

ABST: Walter Fogel, Morten Schrier

Robert Vallerand called for nominations for seat #3 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Nazario Facchino nominated Nick Milas. Mr. Milas accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

051123-CA-0070

Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT Nick Milas be named to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Walter Fogel

ABST: Steve Kmec, Merle Parkinson

Robert Vallerand called for nominations for seat #4 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

George Benoit nominated Natalie Auclair. Mrs. Auclair accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

051123-CA-0071

George Benoit MOVED THAT Natalie Auclair be named to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Steve Kmec

ABST: Walter Fogel, Merle Parkinson, Morten Schrier

Robert Vallerand called for nominations for seat #5 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Tom Mouhteros nominated Grace Nesi. Mrs. Nesi accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

051123-CA-0072

Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT Grace Nesi be named to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

ABST: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Merle Parkinson, Morten Schrier

Robert Vallerand called for nominations for seat #6 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

William Pollock nominated Robert Dixon. Mr. Dixon accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

051123-CA-0073

William Pollock MOVED THAT Robert Dixon be named to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Steve Kmec

ABST: Walter Fogel, Merle Parkinson, Morten Schrier

The Returning Officer of Elections reminded the Council that the Chairman fills the 7th seat on the Executive Committee.

051123-CA-0074

William Pollock MOVED THAT the following be named to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee:

Natalie Auclair	Grace Nesi
Robert Dixon	Nancy Rupnik
Nick Milas	Edward Turchyniak

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Steve Kmec

ABST: Walter Fogel, Albina Pace, Morten Schrier

6.10 Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière:

The Deputy Director General advised the Council that he had received a letter from the Vice-Principal of Laurentian Regional High School concerning the refusal of the Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière to accept the application of the school's hockey team, albeit past the due date because of the ban on extra curricular activities (ECAs), to be on the 2005-2006 roster. The school is asking for the assistance of the school board to have this decision overturned.

He went on to note that he had spoken with the Directeur général of the Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière and that he had received the same response as the school. The directeur général was advised that this matter would be brought to the attention of the Council of Commissioners as the refusal of the application for registration was prejudicial.

Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

TIME: 21:13 hours

The Chairman welcomed Scott Traylen, Principal of Laurentian Regional High School.

Mr. Traylen advised the Council that in the past Sport scolaire has made exceptions to accommodate various scenarios and that he feels that an exception could have been made for the Laurentian Regional High School hockey team as the season had not yet started.

Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:15 hours

The Council entered into discussion.

Morten Schrier left the meeting.

TIME: 21:19 hours

The Deputy Director General noted that the resolution would be sent to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), the Members of the Assemblée Nationale for the Laurentian-Lanaudière region and to the Chairs of the school boards within the Laurentian-Lanaudière area.

Morten Schrier returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:23 hours

In response to a question from Edward Turchyniak, the Deputy Director General noted that the letters can be sent by e-mail in order to expedite the distribution of the school board's position.

051123-CA-0075

WHEREAS the Laurier Teachers' Union (LTU), as a partner with the Québec Provincial Association of Teachers (QPAT) advised the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board of its intention to participate in the boycott of extra curricular activities (ECAs) as a way of drawing attention to the difficulties with the Gouvernement du Québec in arriving at a negotiated collective agreement;

WHEREAS this boycott by the Laurier Teachers' Union (LTU) and the Québec Provincial Association of teachers (QPAT) has resulted in school administration not being assured of coaching staff for its sports programs;

WHEREAS Laurentian Regional High School filed its application to participate in the 2005-2006 hockey program with Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière after the Laurier Teachers' Union (LTU) decided to reinstate teacher participation in extra curricular activities (ECAs) as of 2005-11-01;

WHEREAS the Director General of Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière has advised both Laurentian Regional High School and the Deputy Director General of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board that it will not entertain any late applications for the 2005-2006 hockey program;

WHEREAS this decision is prejudicial and causes undo hardship on students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board have unanimously adopted a "Strategic Plan for School Success 2004-2007" that prioritizes student participation in their own learning, as well as presenting diverse learning opportunities to students;

WHEREAS the Gouvernement du Québec and the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) have adopted programs such as « École en forme et en santé / Wellness-Oriented School », which prioritizes physical activity for the overall benefit of students;

WHEREAS extra curricular activities (ECAs) are deemed to be highly beneficial in developing a sense of belonging within a school;

George Benoit MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Administration of Laurentian Regional High School, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board request the Board of Directors of Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière to reconsider the exclusion of Laurentian Regional High School from the 2005-2006 hockey program.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS); member school boards of Sport scolaire Laurentides-Lanaudière, and Members of the National Assembly for the Laurentides-Lanaudière territory.

Carried unanimously

6.11 Change of Executive Committee Meeting Date:

The Deputy Director General advised the Council that due to a scheduling conflict with two of the standing committees the Executive Committee has voted in favour of moving its meeting scheduled for 2006-01-17 to 2006-01-18.

6.12 2005-2006 QESBA Membership Fees - Balance:

The Chairman advised that this resolution will pay out the balance of the 2005-2006 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fees.

051123-CA-0076

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #050712-CA-0005 authorizing the payment of the provisional Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board ratified the decision taken by the Executive Committee by adopting resolution #050824-CA-0004;

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has submitted an invoice for the balance of the 2005-2006 membership fee;

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the balance of the 2005-2006 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee in the amount of 26 056,13\$.

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, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

The Chairman called for a 10 minute break.

TIME: 21:30 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 21:41 hours

7.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

7.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Merle Parkinson, Chair of the Financial Resources Committee, reported on the last meeting of the committee noting that school surpluses/deficits, daycare debt, the consultation results for the Travel Policy, the new GRICS tax program and the revised budget were discussed.

7.2 School Surpluses:

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the school surpluses.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to a question from the Chairman, the Director of Financial Resources noted that the Principals are supposed to present their respective Governing Board with any surplus/deficit information.

She went on to note that 94% of the school fees for 2005-2006 have been collected by the schools.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General noted that schools are encouraged to look at how its surplus can be used effectively. Certain schools have used their surplus to invest in mobile computer labs and playground equipment.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General advised that a school is not allowed to accumulate a surplus as the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) will decrease a school board's budget if its schools have large surpluses and the school board in turn will decrease the budget of a school with a large surplus. This scenario has occurred with Hillcrest Academy and Souvenir Elementary School.

In response to a question from Peter MacLaurin, Linda Iaconetti noted that reports from members of the Parents Committee indicate that the Principal does not keep his/her Governing Board up to date on any aspect of the school's budget and many feel as though the Principal is withholding information.

Discussion continued.

In response to a request from Edward Turchyniak, the Director General indicated that he would have to have a mandate from the Council of Commissioners to investigate how the Principals present financial information to their Governing Boards.

Peter MacLaurin suggested that the issue of how Principals present financial information to Governing Boards be discussed by the Financial Resources Committee before the Director General is given a mandate.

7.3 Statement of Taxes in Arrears:

The Director of Financial Resources presented the annual statement of taxes in arrears.

051123-FR-0077

Albina Pace 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 accept, in accordance with section 339 of the Education Act, the statement prepared by the Director of Financial Resources for the director general for school taxes remaining in arrears as at 2005-11-04 in the amount of 2 558 435,74\$.

Carried unanimously

8.0 QESBA

8.1 Report of the QESBA :

Carolyn Curiale advised that the next meeting of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) would be held on 2005-11-25.

9.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES

9.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

David McKinley, Chairman of the Material Resources Committee, commented on the last meeting noting that the renovation/enlargement project at Ste-Agathe Academy, the future of Joliette Elementary School, the need for additional school yard space at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School, preliminary sketches for the enlargement/renovation of the Arundel Nature Centre and the library projects were discussed.

David McKinley advised the Council that Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School would be holding a craft sale on 2005-11-26.

9.2 Update on Capital Projects:

The Director of Material Resources provided an update on the school board's capital projects.

In response to a question from Edward Turchyniak, the Director of Material Resources noted that many capital projects have been completed and that this will be taken into account in the revised budget.

9.3 Cost Analysis of Mobile Computer Labs vs. Rental of Portables:

The Director of Material Resources advised that the cost analysis was prepared in response to a question and noted that in some cases it is difficult to compare which is more cost effective the investment in a mobile computer lab or the rental of portables.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to several questions concerning how a school's investment in a mobile computer lab is approved, the Director General noted that the process of how school projects are approved will be discussed at the Financial Resources Committee.

He further noted that the Director of Information Technology is collecting information on the entire mobile computer lab project as part of a project evaluation and many questions will be answered when the data has been collected.

The Council entered into discussion as to whether or not Governing Boards have passed resolutions supporting the investment in a mobile computer lab and the Parent Commissioners were asked to bring this question to the next meeting of the Parents Committee.

The Director General provided step-by-step background information on the entire mobile computer lab project noting that for some schools it is not an issue of being able to fund a mobile computer lab but that has not reached the point where such a project is required. If a large amount of funding were available all of the schools in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board could be equipped with a mobile computer lab by the end of the school year.

Discussion continued.

In response to a question from Tony De Lauri, the Director General noted that if the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) authorizes the funding for the 15 original labs by the time the school board gets the money it will be time to discuss the next phase of the project.

9.4 Increase in Energy Costs:

The Director of Material Resources advised that school boards are requesting that the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) follow the ongoing rise in the cost of energy and compensate school boards accordingly.

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has been proactive in upgrading its heating equipment in order to offset the energy cost increase;

WHEREAS despite the school board's initiative, energy expenses are expected to increase dramatically;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) must analyze the energy expenses incurred by all school boards in the Province of Québec over one or two years;

WHEREAS for the 2005-2006 school year the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board will need to draw from its own budget the amounts required to cover this additional expense, thus reducing the amounts available for educational activities;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is obliged, by law, to present a balanced budget at the end of every fiscal year;

Nick Milas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board request that the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) immediately address the rising cost of energy so that school boards will not be required to finance this additional expense with funds that should be used to provide quality education and teaching materials to their students.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), the Members of the National Assembly of Québec on the territory of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, the Quebec English School Boards Association, all English school boards, and all other school boards on the territory.

Carried unanimously

9.5 Servitude for Hydro-Québec & Bell Canada:

The Director of Material Resources advised the Council that a servitude is being requested in order for both Hydro-Québec and Bell Canada to install services for a new housing development behind Franklin Hill Elementary School.

051123-MR-0079

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has received a joint request from Hydro-Québec and Bell Canada for a servitude on the property of Franklin Hill Elementary School;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec and Bell Canada require a 1.5 meter wide tract of land at the rear of the property line at Franklin Hill Elementary School in order to install utility poles for a new development;

WHEREAS this 1.5 meter tract of land located in the Parish of L'Assomption in the Ville de Repentigny identified as part of lot #3 297 054, is not required by the school or the school board;

Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the servitude for a 1.5 meters wide tract of part of lot #3 297 054 in the Parish of L'Assomption in the Ville de Repentigny, in favour of Bell Canada and Hydro-Québec.

AND THAT the Chairman, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Vice-Chairman, as well as the Director General, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Deputy Director General, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this servitude.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:30 hours

051123-CA-0080

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the meeting be extended until the agenda is completed.

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, Peter MacLaurin, David McKinley, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel

10.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

10.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Peter MacLaurin, Chairman of the Education Committee, noted that at the last meeting of the committee CAT3 testing results, the June 2005 exam results, drop out rates, intensive intervention, and "The Laurier Challenge" were discussed. He extended an invitation to all Commissioners to attend the next meeting of the committee.

Walter Fogel and Morten Schrier excused themselves for the evening. **TIME: 22:31 hours**

10.2 Purchase Order - Summit School:

The Director of Educational Services advised that there are twenty-six students from the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board attending the Summit School.

051123-ED-0081

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board uses the services of the Summit School for the education of some of its students;

WHEREAS the Summit School invoices the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for these services;

Edward Turchyniak 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 payment of the invoice received from the Summit School for educational services provided to students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2005-2006 school year, in the amount of 423 882,00\$.

Carried unanimously

10.3 2005 Fraser Report:

The Director of Educational Services presented the results of the 2005 Fraser Report noting that the high schools of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board have done well and that some of them have improved considerably. Two schools have made significant gains, Phoenix Alternative and the former Western Laval High School, over the last five years.

In response to a question from Nick Milas, the Deputy Director General advised that the data collected to rank schools is tied to the school number, therefore, Laval Junior High School will only appear in the rankings when the data is collected for the 2005-2006 school year.

Peter MacLaurin excused himself for the evening.

TIME: 22:37 hours

10.4 Purchase of Sessions Program:

051123-ED-0082

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board conducts an Intensive Intervention Program designed by Groupe Sessions;

Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director General and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the purchase of the materials designed by Groupe Sessions for the Intensive Intervention Program at a cost of 69 015,00\$ all taxes included.

Carried unanimously

11.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

11.1 Report of Committee Chairman:

Nazario Facchino, Chairman of the Human Resources Committee, reported on the last meeting of the committee noting that labour negotiations, strikes, the contract signing ceremony on 2005-10-07 and the search for legally qualified teachers were topics of discussion.

12.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

12.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Nancy Rupnik, Chair of the Information Technology Committee, commented on the last meeting of the committee noting that the criteria for mobile computer labs, the need to update the Web site, a partnership in learning agreement with the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS), GRICS and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, and the need for more computers at Phoenix Alternative School were discussed.

13.0 SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

13.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

George Benoit, Chairman of the School Organization Committee, reported on the last meeting of the committee noting that the several scenarios and their cost with respect to the implementation of the additional 90 minutes at the elementary level, department goals, goals achieved to date in respect to the Strategic Plan, bus driver training and daycare workshops were discussed.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director of School Organization noted that bussing would have to be reorganized for some areas of the school board with the implementation of the additional 90 minutes at the elementary level.

14.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT**14.1 Parents' Committee Report:**

Linda Iaconetti advised the Council that the Parents Committee has requested that the school board organize training for members of Governing Boards who are new to their position or who feel they need a refresher course on the operation of a Governing Board.

She went on to note that the committee supported the 2006-2007 Enrollment Criteria as presented and the Communications Policy with some recommended changes. There was also some concern expressed over the implementation of the additional 90 minutes at the elementary level in 2006-2007.

Tom Mouhteros noted that the Parents Committee action plan for 2005-2006 includes a sub-committee on the establishment of a student fees policy, drug prevention and updating of the Parents Committee Web site.

15.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

16.0 CORRESPONDENCE

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

17.0 VARIA

There was no varia.

18.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Grace Nesi MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:51 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2005-12-14

Robert Vallerand, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman