

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2001-06-21

A Special 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 Tuesday, 2001-06-21 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Steve Bletas, Chairman; William Pollock, Vice-Chairman; Natalie Auclair; Carolyn Curiale, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Grace Nesi, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, and Edward Turchyniak, Commissioners; Ghislaine Tanner, Parent Commissioner; and Dominic Martini, Director General.

Also present were: Robert Vallerand, Deputy Director General, and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Recording Secretary. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Nazario Facchino, Nick Milas and Mary Sotelis, Commissioners; and Linda Iaconetti, Parent Commissioner.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19:35 hours.

1.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:**1.1 Expulsions:**

The Chairman MOVED THAT the Council go into committee.

TIME: 19:37 hours

Pierre Garofano left the meeting

TIME: 19:37 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 20:29 hours

010621-CA-0217

WHEREAS in accordance with section 242 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., F13.3), the Principal of the school in which Student "X" is enrolled, has recommended that Student "X" be expelled;

WHEREAS the parents of Student "X" have been informed of the meeting of the Council of Commissioners and of their right to be heard;

William Pollock MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, after serious deliberation and for just and serious cause, expel Student "X" from the schools of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board; AND THAT the Director of Youth Protection be informed.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Linda Gagnon, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel, Morten Schrier

ABST: Steve Kmec

The Chairman advised the parents of Student "X" that the Secretary General would assist the family in finding a suitable school within another school board for their child to attend.

He further advised that after one year the family could ask the Council to reconsider its decision of expulsion.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General advised that the Secretary General would also assist the family if they wish to appeal the decision of the Council.

The Chairman MOVED THAT the Council go into committee. **TIME: 20:33 hours**

The meeting resumed. **TIME: 20:39 hours**

010621-CA-0218

WHEREAS in accordance with section 242 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., F13.3), the Principal of the school in which Student "Y" is enrolled, has recommended that Student "Y" be expelled;

WHEREAS the parents of Student "Y" have been informed of the meeting of the Council of Commissioners and of their right to be heard;

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, after serious deliberation and for just and serious cause, expel Student "Y" from the schools of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board; AND THAT the Director of Youth Protection be informed.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman advised Council that the Secretary General would assist the family of Student "Y" in finding a suitable school within another school board for their child to attend.

He further advised that after one year the family could ask the Council to reconsider its decision of expulsion.

He also noted that the Secretary General would also assist the family if they wish to appeal the decision of the Council.

The Chairman MOVED THAT the Council go into committee. **TIME: 20:43 hours**

The meeting resumed. **TIME: 20:50 hours**

010621-CA-0219

WHEREAS in accordance with section 242 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., F13.3), the Principal of the school in which Student "Z" is enrolled, has recommended that Student "Z" be expelled;

WHEREAS the parents of Student "Z" have been informed of the meeting of the Council of Commissioners and of their right to be heard;

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, after serious deliberation and for just and serious cause, expel Student "Z" from the schools of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board; AND THAT the Director of Youth Protection be informed.

Carried unanimously

Pierre Garofano returned to the meeting. **TIME: 20:51 hours**

Carolyn Curiale and Peter MacLaurin left the meeting.

TIME: 20:52 hours

2.0 HUMAN RESOURCES:

2.1 Engagement – School Principals:

The Director General presented the following recommendations for the positions of Principal.

Peter MacLaurin returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:54 hours

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General noted that a member of the Governing Board participated on the Selection Committee.

In response to a question from Nancy Rupnik, the Director General indicated that the position of Consultant would have to be filled upon the departure of the current Consultant.

Carolyn Curiale returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:56 hours

010621-HR-0220

Glen Haines MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board promote temporarily **Ann Cohen** to the position of Principal, effective 2001-07-01, in accordance with Article 511.00 of the Collective Agreement for Non-Teaching Professionals (FPPE), the Regulation Respecting the Conditions of Employment of Management Staff of School Boards and the Management Policy of the Board; AND THAT she be assigned to **Rawdon Elementary & Middle School**.

Carried unanimously

010621-HR-0221

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board promote **Heather Halman** to the position of Principal, effective 2001-07-01, in accordance with the Regulation Respecting the Conditions of Employment of Management Staff of School Boards and the Management Policy of the Board; AND THAT she be assigned to **St-Jude Elementary School**.

Carried unanimously

In response to a question from James McDougall, the Director General advised that the position of Vice-Principal at Crestview Elementary School would be reviewed.

2.2 Engagement – Coordinator of Financial Resources:

Tabled to the next regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners to be held on 2001-06-27.

3.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES:

3.1 Call to Tender – Construction of Centre Concorde:

The Director General advised the Council that the Ministère de l'Éducation did not support the board's request for additional funding for the Centre Concorde renovation project.

The new tenders for this project will be opened on 2001-07-13.

In response to a concern expressed by Steve Kmec, the Director General noted that the Ministère de l'Éducation is aware of the high cost of construction and that if the new tenders are again above the allocated budget the Ministère will again review the Centre Concorde project.

The Chairman advised the Council that he and the Director General will be meeting with Henri-Paul Chaput, sous-ministre, on 2001-06-29 to discuss the various requests of the board for additional student places and construction projects.

010621-MR-0222

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has authorized the renovation and enlargement of Centre Concorde to accommodate a new elementary school in Duvernay Laval;

WHEREAS public tenders have been called and the bids received were in excess of the budget allocated for the renovation and enlargement;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation has examined the tenders received and refused the request of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for additional funding to offset the difference between the lowest conformable bid and the allocated budget for the project;

WHEREAS the forty-five day waiting period as prescribed by law has expired allowing the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to re-tender for the renovation and enlargement of the Centre Concorde;

Morten Schrier MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board call for public tenders for the services of a contractor for the renovation and enlargement of Centre Concorde to accommodate a new elementary school in Duvernay, Laval.

Carried unanimously

James McDougall left the meeting.

TIME: 20:59 hours

4.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS:

4.1 *Ethics Review Committee:*

Peter MacLaurin, Chairman of the Ethics Review Committee, commented on the case before the committee.

James McDougall returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:00hours

The Council entered into discussion.

010621-CA-0223

WHEREAS an elected school board commissioner represents the constituents including parents, students, and ratepayers, it is incumbent that a commissioner's conduct be exemplary and be in conformity with Section 177.1 of the Education Act;

WHEREAS a commissioner of a school board is expected to lead by example and to act in a professional and positive fashion in order to instill confidence in staff, students and fellow commissioners, again in conformity with Section 177.1 of the Education Act;

WHEREAS a commissioner of a school board is accountable to his electorate, parents and students which he is sworn to serve in their best interests and that this public has a right to expect that the meetings being conducted be held in an orderly and professional environment and that inappropriate outbursts do not contribute to such a setting;

WHEREAS the comments and physical gestures made by Commissioner Walter Fogel during an adjourned meeting of the Council of Commissioners held May 23, 2001 are unacceptable, inappropriate and generally distasteful to fellow-commissioners, board employees, the general public as well as students who were present at the time and for whom the school board is expected to provide leadership and educational services;

WHEREAS Commissioner Fogel in his letter of May 24, 2001 addressed to the commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board recognizes the seriousness of his inappropriate actions and his loss of composure;

WHEREAS members of the Council of Commissioners consider that Commissioner Fogel's actions are an abuse of power of an elected school commissioner;

WHEREAS Commissioner Fogel's remarks call into question the good faith, dedication, and expertise of fellow-commissioners and members of the Directorate in carrying out their responsibilities and, furthermore, that Commissioner Fogel has no mandate or reason to call into question their work;

WHEREAS all these inappropriate comments and gestures reflect badly on the good standing of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and only serve to undermine the public confidence in the Council of Commissioners and its employees;

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners find Commissioner Walter Fogel's remarks to be totally inappropriate and unacceptable;

AND THAT the Council of Commissioners severely censure said commissioner for his distasteful actions;

AND THAT the Council of Commissioners disassociate itself totally from these utterances and gestures;

AND THAT the Council of Commissioners cannot tolerate such actions during its regular meetings;

AND THAT the Council of Commissioners, in the strongest terms possible, request from Commissioner Fogel that he apologize publicly at the first regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners at which he is present and withdraw his ill-advised remarks towards the chairman of the Council of Commissioners, fellow commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and members of the Directorate.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Edward Turchyniak

NAY: Walter Fogel, Morten Schrier

ABST: Nancy Rupnik

In closing, the Chairman reminded the Council of the official opening of the Administration Centre on Wednesday, 2001-06-27 at 16:00 hours.

In response to a request from Steve Kmec, the Director General reminded him that the issue of violence has already been referred to the Educational Services Committee.

Edward Turchyniak MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 21:15 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇒ REGULAR ⇒ 2001-06-27