

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2003-05-28

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, 2003-05-28 at 18:00 hours, at which were present:

Steve Bletas, Chairman; William Pollock, Vice-Chairman; Natalie Auclair, Mary Austin, Carolyn Curiale, Walter Fogel, Linda Gagnon, Pierre Garofano, Glen Haines, Peter Haldimand, Steve Kmec, Grace Nesi, Morten Schrier, and Edward Turchyniak, Commissioners; Mike Possian, Parent Commissioner; and, Giordano Rosa-del-Vecchio, Director General.

Also present were: Robert Vallerand, Deputy Director General; François Badin, Director of Human Resources; Jean-Guy Messier, Director of Information Services; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; Raymond Thivierge, Director of Material Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, James McDougall, Nick Milas, Nancy Rupnik, Commissioners; and Linda Iaconetti, Parent Commissioner.

Guest: Ève Mailhot, Accountant, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 18:15 hours.

1.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS

1.1 *Financial Turnaround Plan:*

The Chairman welcomed Ève Mailhot of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton to the meeting and invited her to present the Financial Turnaround Plan.

Ms. Mailhot presented the Financial Turnaround Plan, as contained in document #SWLSB-2003/05/28-FR-001, prepared with the assistance and input of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Administration and various employees.

She went on to comment on all areas of the plan, as follows:

- A description of the assignment.
- Steps:
 - Mobilization and communication of information;
 - Information analysis.
- Situation Analysis:
 - General context;
 - Budget management observations.
- Financial Situation:
 - Financial recovery efforts initiated by the school board's management team;
 - Revised budget for 2002-2003 and anticipated deficit and the end of the year;
 - Adequacy of revenues vs. expenses in the final version of the revised budget for 2002-2003;
 - Under-funded areas, i.e. "Villages branchés" investments, Adult Education, school transportation, elections.
- Organizational Observations:
 - Recommendations;

- Organizational approach incorporated into the recovery plan.
- Financial Recovery Plan.
- Implementation and Follow-Up of the Financial Recovery Plan
 - Implementation;
 - Follow-up and accountability mechanisms;
 - Follow-up tools;
 - Annual timetable review.
- Conclusion

The Council entered into discussion.

Mike Possian entered the meeting.

TIME: 18:18 hours

Mary Austin entered the meeting.

TIME: 18:19 hours

The Chairman turned the chair over to Pierre Garofano, in the absence of the Vice-Chairman, and left the meeting.

TIME: 18:30 hours

William Pollock entered the meeting and assumed the chair.

TIME: 18:40 hours

Pierre Garofano left the meeting.

TIME: 18:41 hours

In response to a question from Edward Turchyniak, Ms. Mailhot indicated that her firm had completed a financial recovery plan for another school board in a similar situation with a three-year recovery plan and that this board was able to achieve its goal in a one-and-a-half-year period.

The Chairman returned to the meeting and resumed the chair.

TIME: 18:48 hours

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, Ms. Mailhot noted that there are two ways of using the GST and QST credits to reduce expenses.

Mike Possian left the meeting.

TIME: 18:49 hours

Carolyn Curiale left the meeting.

TIME: 18:50 hours

Pierre Garofano returned to the meeting

TIME: 18:51 hours

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Chairman advised that the under funding of transportation has been an ongoing issue and that the deficit in that area has remained constant.

Carolyn Curiale returned to the meeting.

TIME: 18:53 hours

Mary Austin left the meeting.

TIME: 18:54 hours

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director of Financial Resources noted that the day care costs indicated in the revised 2002-2003 budget are administration costs.

Mary Austin returned to the meeting.

TIME: 18: 56 hours

William Pollock MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 18:58 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2003-06-18

Robert Vallerand, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman