

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2003-12-10

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, 2003-12-10 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, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Morten Schrier, and Edward Turchyniak, Commissioners; Linda Iaconetti and Sandra Rouleau, 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; Mireille Ménard, Centre Director of Adult & Technical Vocational Education; Jean-Guy Messier, Director of Information Services; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19:40 hours.

**1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

The following additions and changes to the agenda were proposed:

**5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:**

5.1 *Response to Transportation Question*.....INFO

**6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS:**

6.3 *Code of Ethics*.....RES  
 6.4 *Proposed Policy on Role of the Chairman*.....RES  
 6.5 *Remuneration of Commissioners*.....RES  
 6.6 *Appeals Review Committee*.....RES  
 6.7 *Policy Development*.....INFO

**9.0 TRANSPORTATION:**

9.1 *STL* .....INFO

**10.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:**

10.2 *Purchase of Fibre Trunks from C.S. des Affluents*.....RES  
 10.3 *Qualified Computer Supplier*.....RES

**13.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES:**

13.3 *Approval of Accounts Payable*.....RES

**031210-CA-0088**

Nick Milas MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as amended in document #SWLSB-2003/12/10-CA-001.

**Carried unanimously**

**2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

In a verbal notice, Walter Fogel advised that in the minutes of the regular meeting held on 2003-09-24, on page 0937, item 11.2, paragraph 6 should read *"On a point of information..."* not *"On a point of order..."*.

He also noted that on page 0942, item 11.3 that the following paragraph should be inserted just before resolution #030924-CA-0029: *"The Chairman interrupted Walter Fogel and Mr. Fogel indicated that he objected to being interrupted as he had the floor."*

He continued noting that on page 0950, item 12.4 that the notation where the Chairman withdrew from the table should have the following added after the word vote *"...and the Vice-Chairman assumed the chair."*

He further commented that on page 0952 the first sentence should have the following added at the end *"...and resumed the chair."*

The Council entered into discussion on the corrections to the minutes of 2003-09-24 and several Commissioners refused to accept the correction to page 0942.

**031210-CA-0089**

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the correction to item 11.3 on page 0942 of the minutes of the meeting held on 2003-09-24 be accepted.

**THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

**031210-CA-0090**

Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2003-09-24, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as corrected.

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

In a verbal notice, Steve Kmec advised that in the minutes of the regular meeting held on 2003-11-26, on page 0968, resolution #031126-CA-0077, his vote should be recorded as *"NAY"* not *"ABST"*.

In a verbal notice, Carolyn Curiale advised that on page 0974 of the above mentioned minutes the time on the last line of the page should read *"22:49 hours"* not *"22:39 hours"*.

In a verbal notice, Walter Fogel advised that on page 0975 of the same minutes that the following should be inserted before resolution #031126-CA-0086: *"On a 'point of order', Walter Fogel advised that revisiting the issue of extending the meeting for an additional period was not permitted within the same meeting."*

**031210-CA-0091**

Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2003-11-26, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as corrected.

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

**3.0 QUESTION PERIOD**

In response to a question from David Dahan, a parent, concerning the special education services available to his child, the Chairman advised that the Council meeting is not the venue to discuss special education services for their child and that the family should arrange to meet with the Director of Educational Services.

In response to a question from David Modlin, a parent from Rosemere High School, the Chairman commented that the board is pleased that there are no problems with the school board's budget.

**4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed Sandra Rouleau, Secondary Parent Commissioner, to the table noting that she is the parent delegate for Joliette High School.

He went on to remind the Council of the ground-breaking ceremony for the new school in Repentigny that will take place at 14:30 hours on 2003-12-11.

The Chairman advised the Council that the school board has sent lawyer's letters to various candidates who participated in the 2003-11-16 elections concerning the slanderous contents of their respective election pamphlets. He advised that the comments made in these pamphlets defamed the school board and that each candidate who receives a lawyer's letter is being asked for a written apology to the school board.

The Chairman advised Walter Fogel that he would be responsible for any costs incurred by his contacting the school board's lawyer after receiving one of the above mentioned letters.

**5.0 BUSINESS ARISING****5.1 *Response to Transportation Question:***

As follow-up to a question presented at the 2003-11-26 meeting of the Council concerning the transportation "grandfather" clause for students attending Lake of two Mountains High School from Laval, the Chairman advised that this issue has been referred to the Committee on the Use of School and Other Facilities / Transportation for review and recommendation.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel concerning the lawyer's letters, the Chairman advised that it was the school board that engaged legal counsel after reviewing the defamatory pamphlets and receiving complaints about the said pamphlets during the election period and post elections.

The Council entered into discussion.

0980

**031210-CA-0092**

WHEREAS the Chairman of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board embarked on a legal course of action;

WHEREAS the Chairman of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board did not have a mandate from the Council of Commissioners to proceed with this course of action;

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the Chairman of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is in a conflict of interest in the matter of the lawyer's letter concerning election publicity materials.

**THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

**YEA:** Walter Fogel, Morten Schrier

**NAY:** Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Georges Benoit, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

**ABST:** Tony De Lauri, Robert Dixon, Steve Kmec, David McKinley

Steve Kmec advised the Council that he had abstained from the vote on this matter of the lawyer's letters as he feels that it is not a matter to be dealt with at the Council table.

Nick Milas left the meeting.

**TIME: 20:04 hours**

**6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

**6.1 2004 QESBA/AAESQ Spring Conference:**

The Deputy Director General provided an update on the planning of the 2004 Spring Conference noting that the program has been finalized, as well as the arrangements for speakers, entertainment and exhibitors. He also advised that a corporate sponsor will be sponsoring the breakfast on the Saturday morning.

The Director General left the meeting.

**TIME: 20:06 hours**

Nick Milas returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 20:07 hours**

He went on to note that the planning is ahead of schedule and that it is expected that the information will be sent out to potential participants in mid-January 2004.

The Director General returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 20:09 hours**

**6.2 Ground Breaking Ceremony – Repentigny:**

This item was discussed under 4.0.

**6.3 Code of Ethics:**

The Deputy Director General reviewed the Code of Ethics established by the Provisional Council of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in 1997 noting that it has been suggested several times over the last Council mandate that it be reviewed.

The Council entered into discussion and recommended that it be brought to the Ethics Review Committee for review and recommendations to be presented at the 2004-03-24 meeting of the Council.

**0981**

**031210-CA-0093**

WHEREAS by-law #3-1997: Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct was adopted in 1997 by Provisional Council 50-05;

WHEREAS it has been recommended that the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board review the existing by-law;

Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Ethics Review Committee to meet to review by-law #3-1997: Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct; AND THAT any recommendations for changes to this by-law be brought to the 2004-03-24 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

**ABST:** Tony De Lauri, Morten Schrier

#### **6.4 Proposed Policy on Role of the Chairman:**

The Deputy Director General commented that during the first mandate of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board it became evident that the role and responsibilities of the Chair of the school board under the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) is narrow and the responsibilities of the job far exceeds the description provided in the Act. The Directorate is recommending that a policy be developed to provide a broader description of responsibilities for the Chair of the school board.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel concerning whether or not a legal opinion has been sought in creating this policy, the Deputy Director General noted that it is not necessary as the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) governs the Council of Commissioners not the Chair. He continued noting that rules are required for the Chair to speak on behalf of the school board, appear in photos, represent the school board at various functions, etc. and that these functions are tied to the position not the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3).

Peter MacLaurin noted that the policy should also apply to the Vice-Chair.

**031210-CA-0094**

WHEREAS it has become necessary to adopt a policy on the role of the Chairperson of the School Board;

WHEREAS section 159 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) defines the role of the Chairperson as being to preside and maintain order at a meeting of the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS the role of the Chairperson far exceeds this narrow definition;

Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Ethics Review Committee to meet and develop a policy reflecting the actual role of the Chairperson of the School Board.

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

NAY:

Walter Fogel

ABST:

Morten Schrier

**0982**

### **6.5 Remuneration of Commissioners:**

The Deputy Director General reviewed the proposed remuneration for the Council of Commissioners noting that the Gouvernement du Québec adopts a decree annually on the annual maximum remuneration of the Commissioners and that it is up to the Council of Commissioners on how this remuneration is divided.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Chairman noted that the remuneration would be the same whether a Commissioner sat on two or all of the standing committees.

#### **031210-CA-0095**

WHEREAS the Gouvernement du Québec adopted Decree number 836-2000 concerning the maximum annual amounts that are to be provided to school board commissioners;

WHEREAS for school year 2003-2004, the maximum allowable amount has been set at 145 124 \$;

WHEREAS this decree provides for annual increments based on the annual average consumer price index as established by Statistics Canada as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year;

WHEREAS Section 175 of the Education Act provides for the Council of Commissioners to determine the manner in which the maximum allowable amount is to be distributed to members of the Council;

WHEREAS as of November 21<sup>st</sup>, the new mandate of the members of the Council of Commissioners commenced;

Grace Nesi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish the annual remuneration for its Commissioners for services rendered to the school board as follows:

The base amount for each commissioner:

•	2 836 \$ x 21 commissioners	=	59 556 \$
•	3 810 \$ x 9 commissioners (Executive Committee)	=	34 290 \$
•	12 000 \$ x 1 Chair of the Council of Commissioners	=	12 000 \$
•	5 000 \$ x 1 Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners	=	5 000 \$
•	5 000 \$ x 1 Chair of Executive Committee	=	5 000 \$
•	2 500 \$ x 1 Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee	=	2 500 \$
•	1 000 \$ x 6 Chairs of the Standing Committees (Education, Human Resources, Financial Resources, Material Resources, Information Technology, Transportation and Use of Schools & other Facilities)	=	<u>6 000 \$</u>
	Sub Total		124 346 \$
	Balance:		<u>20 778 \$</u>

AND THAT the balance amount will be divided equally among all members of the Council of Commissioners who are members of a minimum of two (2) standing committees and who attend a majority of these committee meetings excluding the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee. A maximum of 17 commissioners at 1 222,24 \$ would be admissible.

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

NAY:

Walter Fogel

ABST:

Morten Schrier

**0983**

### **6.6 Appeals Review Committee:**

The Deputy Director General advised the Council that two requests have been received from parents wishing to be heard concerning a decision affecting their child.

Walter Fogel withdrew from the table.

**TIME: 20:30 hours**

### **031210-CA-0096**

WHEREAS the Secretary General of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has received two requests for a reconsideration of a decision affecting a student, in conformity with sections 9 through 12 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3);

WHEREAS the parents of both students have attempted to resolve the problem with the Principal, without success, in conformity with school board policy;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board established the Appeals Review Committee to review requests for the reconsideration of a decision affecting a student, as per school board policy;

Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board request that the Appeals Review Committee convene and meet with the interested parties to hear their respective positions;

AND THAT the Appeals Review Committee report back to the Council of Commissioners at its 2004-01-28 regular meeting.

#### **THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Georges Benoit, 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, Edward Turchyniak

ABST:

Morten Schrier

Walter Fogel returned to the table.

**TIME: 20:31 hours**

### **6.7 Policy Development:**

The Deputy Director General reviewed the Policy Development Process noting that it will be posted on the school board web site tomorrow.

## **7.0 USE OF SCHOOLS**

### **7.1 Update on 2003-2004 Enrollment:**

The Director General provided the Council with an update on the 2003-09-30 enrollment figures noting that registration increased by 370 students, 70 over the projected 300 and that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has seen an increase in its kindergarten enrollment whereas in the rest of the province enrollment at the kindergarten level is decreasing.

He went onto note that overcrowding will continue to be a problem in certain areas and reminded the Council that the school board has six project requests submitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation for additional space.

**0984**

**7.2 2004-2005 Enrollment Criteria:**

The Director General advised the Council that the proposed enrollment criteria for 2004-2005 has been distributed to the Parents Committee and other bodies of the consultation process. He noted that this had been done prior to the Council's approval in principle as the elections had suspended the usual process and that there was a need to have opinions received in a timely manner in order that the 2004-2005 registration proceed on time.

He reviewed the proposed enrollment criteria noting that it had been developed by himself and four Principals.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to a question from Steve Kmec, the Director General advised that each case of a student needing to attend school out of zone due to overcrowding would be handled on an individual basis.

In response to a comment from Walter Fogel, the Director General indicated that siblings would have first choice of attending a school over a student that may live next door to the school if a decision were required when the school is over-capacity.

**031210-ED-0097**

WHEREAS section 239 of the Education Act 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 (R.S.Q., chapter I-13.3) 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 during the school election period the Council of Commissioners was temporarily suspended, therefore, the Director General deposited the proposal for the 2004-2005 enrollment criteria for consultation to the Parents' Committee, as per section 193 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3);

WHEREAS the registration period for students for 2004 - 2005 is the week of February 16, 2004;

Robert Dixon MOVED THAT 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 2004 - 2005 school year as per document #SWLSB-2003/12/10-ED-001

**0985**

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

**YEA:** Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Georges Benoit, 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, Morten Schrier

The Deputy Director General advised the Council of Commissioners that Edward Turchyniak had been elected as the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and that Nancy Rupnik had been elected as Vice-Chair.

## **8.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

### **8.1 Parents' Committee Report:**

Linda Iaconetti advised the Council that a sub-committee to study student fees had been established and that the Parents Committee had appointed parents delegates from Hillcrest Academy, Genesis and Terry Fox Elementary Schools to this committee. She also advised that Parents Committee had completed its complement to the FCPPQ and that three more members had been named to the Advisory Committee on Special Education.

### **8.2 Budget for Advisory Committee on Special Education:**

The Deputy Director General advised the Council that the board had received a resolution from the Parents Committee requesting that the Council of Commissioners establish a budget for the Advisory Committee on Special Education.

He went on to note that the request has been discussed by the Executive Committee and that it has requested the following:

- that the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Special Education be invited to submit a budget proposal; and
- that other school boards would be contacted to see how their respective Advisory Committees on Special Education function and if it is at all funded by the Parents Committee.

The Executive Committee will revisit the request when further information has been received.

## **9.0 TRANSPORTATION**

### **9.1 STL:**

The Deputy Director General advised the council that the Société de transport de la Ville de Laval (STL) will increase the cost of a monthly bus pass on 2004-01-01

In response to a question from David McKinley, the Deputy Director General noted that an additional 2,00\$ per pass will be required from parents.

Linda Iaconetti left the meeting.

**TIME: 20:53 hours**

## **10.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

### **10.1 Villages Branchés:**

The Deputy Director General provided background information on the Fibre Optic Network agreement with commission scolaire de la Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles noting that the project was included in the capital budget for 2003-2004.

Natalie Auclair left the meeting.

**TIME: 21:00 hours**

The Council entered into discussion.

**0986**

Linda Iaconetti returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 21:00 hours**

Natalie Auclair returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 21:04 hours**

#### **031210-IT-0098**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has mandated the Director General to explore Fibre Optic Network partnerships with all French school boards within the territory of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as per resolution #990922-IT-0034 and #990922-IT-0035;

WHEREAS, in a perspective of equity for all schools, it is in the interest of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to link to its Fibre Network all its schools that are not yet linked;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation in collaboration with the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and the Ministère des Affaires Municipales et de la Métropole has developed the program "Villages branchés du Québec" to promote partnerships between school boards and municipal bodies for the construction of broadband telecommunication networks;

WHEREAS in order to be eligible for an allocation equivalent to 66 2/3 % of the construction cost and the networking equipment, a request for an allocation under the program «Villages branches du Québec» had to be and was presented before November 30, 2003;

WHEREAS the total planned admissible cost before taxes to complete the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Fibre Optic Network presented in the request for allocation is established at 444 075,00\$, subject to an allocation of 296 050,00\$, the balance of 148 025,00\$ being assumed by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as per document #SWLSB-2003/12/10-IT-001;

WHEREAS the Commission scolaire de la Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles has authorized a partnership with Telus and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the construction of a fibre section including the Athanase-David bridge, and has agreed that its request for allocation be presented to «Villages branchés» by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the request to the «Villages branchés» program in the amount of 444 075,00\$ before taxes, in order to complete the construction of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Fibre Network

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 request for allocation.

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

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

**NAY:** Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Morten Schrier

## **10.2 Purchase of Fibre Trunks from C.S. des Affluents:**

The Deputy Director General commented on the purchase of fibre trunks noting that the trunks are part of an already operational link that the board rents from Commission scolaire des Affluents.

**0987**

He went on to note that the board now wishes to purchase these fibres to link Lewis King, Holy Rosary Elementary Schools, as well as additional links to service the new school in Repentigny. Furthermore, the school board wishes to purchase the fibres as far as the last school in the Commission scolaire des Affluents that would allow for a connection of the Fibre Optic Network with Commission scolaire des Samares.

The Council entered into discussion.

Nazario Facchino left the meeting.

**TIME: 21:11 hours**

### **031210-IT-0099**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has mandated the Director General to explore Fibre Optic Network partnerships with all French school boards within the territory of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as per resolution #990922-IT-0034 and #990922-IT-0035;

WHEREAS, in a perspective of equity for all schools, it is in the interest of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to link to its Fibre Network all its schools that are not yet linked;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation in collaboration with the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and the Ministère des Affaires Municipales et de la Métropole has developed the program "Villages branchés du Québec" to promote partnerships between school boards and municipal bodies for the construction of broadband telecommunication networks;

WHEREAS in order to be eligible for an allocation equivalent to 66 2/3 % of the construction cost and the networking equipment, a request for an allocation under the program «Villages branches du Québec» had to be and was presented before November 30, 2003;

WHEREAS the Commission scolaire des Affluents has agreed to sell for a firm price of 190 000\$, taxes excluded, the existing fibre trunks required to service Holy Rosary Elementary School and Lewis King Elementary School, to construct fibre trunks required to service the new school in Repentigny and to create the necessary fibre link to reach the commission scolaire des Samares;

WHEREAS this purchase project has been included in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's request to «Villages branchés» which represents an amount of 190 000\$, taxes excluded, and subject to an allocation of 126 666.67\$, the balance of 63 333.33\$ being assumed by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as per document #SWLSB-2003/12/10-IT-001;

Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the purchase of fibre trunks required from the Commission scolaire des Affluents to service Holy Rosary Elementary School and Lewis King Elementary School, to construct fibre trunks required to service the new school in Repentigny and to create the necessary fibre link to reach the commission scolaire des Samares, for an amount of 190 000,00\$, taxes excluded.

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 purchase.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Morten Schrier

**0988**

### **10.3 Qualified Computer Supplier:**

The Deputy Director General reviewed the background on engaging a qualified computer supplier noting that there is a section in the tender that allows for the contract of a qualified computer supplier to be extended.

#### **031210-IT-0100**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Schools Board has designated Hypertec Systèmes Inc. / CIARA Technologie Inc. as qualified desktop computer supplier per resolution #020522-IT-0143 for a period ending 2003-12-31;

WHEREAS under section 5 of document #SWLSB-2002/04/24-IT-001, provision exists for an extension of an additional one-year period;

WHEREAS there are no measures foreseen to enable the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to undertake a large scale regeneration of its computer assets;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is currently satisfied with the products, services and prices offered by the present supplier;

Tony De Lauri MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve that section 5 of document #SWLSB-2002/04/24-IT-001 be put into effect to designate Hypertec Systèmes Inc. / CIARA Technologie Inc. as the qualified desktop computer supplier for a period ending 2004-06-30.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Walter Fogel

ABST: Morten Schrier

Nazario Facchino returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 21:15 hours**

#### **11.0 QESBA**

##### **11.1 Report of the QESBA :**

The Chairman advised the Council that the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) is working on a new newsletter and would like its member boards to participate.

He also commented on the retirement of the Director General of the Western Quebec School Board and the 2004-02-07 QESBA workshop for Commissioners.

##### **11.2 QESBA Directors:**

#### **031210-CA-0101**

WHEREAS resolution #030226-CA-0106 named Steve Bletas and Carolyn Curiale to the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) for the 2003-2004 school year;

WHEREAS school elections were held on 2003-11-6 whereby Mr. Bletas and Mrs Curiale were elected by due process;

**0989**

Sandra Rouleau MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board reaffirm resolution #030226-CA-0106 naming Steve Bletas and Carolyn Curiale to the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Board of Directors

**THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:**

**YEA:** Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Georges Benoit, 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

## **12.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES**

### **12.1 Update on Projects:**

The Director of Material Resources advised the Council that the exterior foundation of the new school in Repentigny is 90% complete, the interior footings have been started and that it is expected that the exterior walls will start to go up next week.

He went on to note that the tender for the renovation/construction project at Joliette High School will be opened on 2003-12-15.

### **12.2 Tender – Joliette H.S. Project:**

The Director General advised the Council that the timing on the opening of the tender for the renovation/construction project is problematic due to the coming holiday period, therefore, the Council is being asked to mandate the Selection Committee to engage a contractor for this project so that the project can begin immediately in the new year. The Council will be asked to ratify the selection of the contractor at the 2004-01-28 meeting of the Council.

## **031210-MR-0102**

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has resolved to undertake a renovation/construction project at Joliette High School;

WHEREAS it is necessary to ensure that this project commences as soon as possible in order that the school be ready for the 2004-2005 school year;

WHEREAS tenders for this project will be opened on 2003-12-15;

Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director General, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish a Selection Committee;

AND THAT it be comprised of 2 Commissioners (Carolyn Curiale & Merle Parkinson), the Director General, the Deputy Director General, the Director of Material Resources and the Director of Special Projects.

AND THAT the Selection Committee be mandated to accept the tender with the lowest conformable bidder.

FURTHER THAT the tender be ratified by the Council of Commissioners at its 2004-01-28 meeting.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

YEA: Natalie Auclair, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Georges Benoit, 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

**0990**

### 13.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

#### 13.1 *Update on Financial Turnaround Plan:*

The Director of Financial Resources commented on the Financial Turnaround Plan and reviewed the reconciliation of the accumulated surplus.

Nick Milas noted that the auditors had praised everyone on the improvements made since the last audit and that these improvements helped to reduce the cost of the audit.

Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

**TIME: 21:25 hours**

Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 21:29 hours**

#### 031210-FR-0103

William Pollock MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board extended its appreciation to the Director of Financial Resources, the Administration and the staff of the Financial Resources department for all of their hard work on the turnaround plan to reduce the school board's deficit.

**Carried unanimously**

#### 13.2 *2002-2003 Financial Statement:*

The Director of Financial Resources reviewed and commented on the 2002-2003 Financial Statement.

The Council entered into discussion.

#### 031210-FR-0104

Natalie Auclair MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director General, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board accept the **2002-2003 Financial Statement** for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the period ending 2003-06-30, as audited by the firm Gagnon, Roy, Brunet, Chartered Accountants, subject to final approval by the Ministère de l'Éducation.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:

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

NAY: Steve Kmec

The Director of Financial Resources reviewed the auditor's observation letter noting the improvement in the process and the need to review the Goods and Services Policy.

In response to a question from the Chairman, the Director of Financial Resources noted that the timeline for the completion of the turnaround plan would not be available until the completion of the revised budget.

### 13.3 Approval of Accounts Payable:

William Pollock advised the Council that he had reviewed the cheques prior to the meeting and found everything to be in order.

**0991**

#### 031210-CA-0105

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the power delegated to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, by the Council of Commissioners, concerning accounts payable be withdrawn for the following resolutions.

**Carried unanimously**

#### 031210-FR-0106

William Pollock MOVED THAT on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the cash disbursements listed in the List of Cheques dated 2003-09-26 to 2003-10-30 as follows:

OPERATING CHEQUES	#111275 to 112317	3,037,581.18 \$
SCHOOL CHEQUES	#47882 to 47955	22,421.90 \$
PLUS: Cancelled cheques for prior months	#109761,110611,110723,110908, 110959, 111032,111074,111091, 111092,111101, 111153	3,617.30 \$
PLUS: Deductions at Source	OCTOBER 2003	1,772,716.87 \$
FOR A TOTAL OF:		4,836,337.25 \$

**Carried unanimously**

#### 031210-FR-0107

William Pollock MOVED THAT on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the cash disbursements listed in the List of Cheques dated 2003-11-01 to 2003-12-01 as follows:

OPERATING CHEQUES	#112318 to 113313	15,707,693.14 \$
SCHOOL CHEQUES	#47956 to 48014	25,300.22 \$
PLUS: Cancelled cheques for prior months	#104647,110454,110484, 111452,112013,113138,112313	1,673.96 \$
PLUS: Deductions at Source	NOVEMBER 2003	2,643,269.50 \$
FOR A TOTAL OF:		18,377,936.82 \$

**Carried unanimously**

#### 031210-CA-0108

Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the power delegated to the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, by the Council of Commissioners, concerning accounts payable be reinstated.

**Carried unanimously**

## 14.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

### 14.1 Administrative Staffing:

The Director General advised the Council that Bruce Scott, Principal of Joliette Elementary School, would be retiring at the end of January and that the process has begun to find a replacement.

#### **15.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

There was no business to be discussed.

**0992**

#### **16.0 QUESTION PERIOD**

In response to a question from Susan Bourque, a parent from Lake of Two Mountains High School, the Chairman advised that the “grandfathering” of students to Rosemere High School could also be addressed with the question concerning the “grandfathering” of students at LTMHS.

#### **17.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

In response to a question from Carolyn Curiale, the Deputy Director General advised that the SAN back-up unit for Information Technology has been purchased.

In response to an additional question from Mrs. Curiale, the Director of Information Technology noted that computer breakdowns are frustrating to both the students and the teachers and it is hoped that some upgrades will be available in the near future.

In response to a question from Carolyn Curiale concerning the collection of student fees, the Director General advised that if it is the wish of the Governing Board to have the school board engage a collection agency to collect overdue student fees there is a process in place.

The Council entered into discussion and mandated the Director General to seek a legal opinion on the collection of student fees in this manner and report back to the Council.

Walter Fogel commented that the “Status Report” format was very informative and easy to read.

In response to a question from Walter Fogel, the Director General noted that the Material Resources Committee requested that the department personnel proceed with a review of the Emergency Preparedness Policy with Administrators. After consulting with the Administrators, Material Resources put together an Emergency Preparedness binder with the required information for each school and those binders are now in place in the schools. The Principal also has one in his/her possession at all times and there are copies in Material Resources.

#### **18.0 VARIA**

In response to a question from William Pollock concerning QESBA lobbying the Ministère de l'Éducation on Measure 50590, the Chairman advised that he would take this issue to the next QESBA Board of Directors meeting.

In response to a question from Nancy Rupnik, the Director of Human Resources advised that there may be some disruption from the maintenance union on 2003-12-11 with a picket line at the Administration Centre, but the union President has assured the board that the line will not disrupt the business day.

He went on to note that there is a possibility that there might be some disruption from bus drivers and that the Principals have been asked to monitor the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up carefully.

#### **19.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

David McKinley MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

**Carried unanimously**

**TIME: 22:22 hours**

**NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2004-01-28**

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**Robert Vallerand, Secretary General**

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**Steve Bletas, Chairman**