

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2006-12-13**

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, 2006-12-13 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; Lisa Chartier and Tom Mouhteros, Parent Commissioners; and Effie Maniatis, Director General.

Also present were: Anne-Marie Lepage, Assistant Director General; Josephine Battista, Secretary General; François Badin, Director of Human Resources; Alain Guay, Director of Adult & Vocational Education; Heather Halman, Director of Educational Services; Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources; George Paquette, Director of School Organization & Transportation; Donna Abel, Assistant 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 19:35 hours.

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following additions and changes to the agenda were proposed:

8.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:

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| 8.6 | Community Learning Centre (CLC) - Laval Liberty H.S..... | RES |
| 8.7 | Update on Tel-jeunes..... | INFO |

10.0 QESBA:

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| 10.4 | QESBA Constitution..... | RES |
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13.0 ADULT & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION:

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| 13.2 | Professional Exploration Centre of Expertise..... | RES |
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CC-061213-CA-0068

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as corrected in document #SWLSB-2006/12/13-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**CC-061213-CA-0069**

Commissioner Morten Schrier MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2006-11-23, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

Carried unanimously

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from Victor Marques, a parent from Hillcrest Academy, the Chairman advised that the changes being proposed for the Hillcrest Academy attendance zone are in the best interest of the students. Recommendations were received from the Governing Boards of Hillcrest Academy and Souvenir Elementary School, as well as a group of concerned parents, and the proposal being brought forward this evening for consideration is based directly on the information received from these groups during the consultation.

In response to an additional question from Mr. Marques, the Director General noted that everything will be done to ensure a smooth transition for those students who will be transferred with respect to pedagogical and social issues.

In response to a final question from Mr. Marques, the Director of School Organization noted that he would provide Mr. Marques with the scenarios proposed to the school board during the consultation on the school attendance zone for Hillcrest Academy.

In response to a question from Jim Parthimos, a parent, the Chairman noted that the continuation of grandfathering could be permitted for Hillcrest Academy but it would do nothing to alleviate the problem of overcrowding.

4.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

4.1 *Chairman's Report:*

The Chairman advised the Council that earlier this school year, Québec students in grades 2 - 6 were invited by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) to enter an essay writing contest on why they like winter and, if a student's essay was selected, they would be invited to read it on the radio. The following students from the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board were selected as winners of this essay contest and their stories will be broadcast on December 13 & 22, 2006, on CBC's "Homerun" radio show:

John F. Kennedy E.S.	▶	Stavros Kondeas, Tiye Paris Leacock
Jules Verne E.S.	▶	Valerie Courion, Anisa Scego
Our Lady of Peace E.S.	▶	Claudia Boucher, Assimina Efthimiapoulos, Maryam Ghazi
St-Vincent E.S.	▶	Kristina Martinez, Kasandra Leticia Samayoa

The Chairman extended congratulation on behalf of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to all of the students selected to broadcast their stories.

4.2 *Meeting of School Board Chairs:*

The Chairman advised the Council that he had recently attended a meeting of the Chairs of the English school boards, where the main topic of discussion was the promotion of public education through advertising. The project would be funded by the English school boards and the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) would also contribute.

Another issue discussed at length was the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) claw backs and the fact the school boards on the island of Montréal are not subjected to them. A tentative meeting is scheduled with Jean-Marc Fournier, ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport, in January 2007 to discuss these claw backs, the future of school boards and other issues. A meeting with the education critics from all the provincial parties has also been scheduled.

In response to a request from Commissioner Steve Kmec, the Chairman noted that all of the students whose essays were selected by the CBC would receive a letter of congratulations.

In response to a question from Commissioner Carolyn Curiale, the Chairman noted that the Coordinator of Communications & Public Relations would be attending the meetings of the group formed to organize the promotion of English education through advertising and would advise the Directorate if the direction being considered is in the best interest of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

The Council entered into discussion and it supported a general consensus to promote a campaign for English education through advertising.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 Safety & Security:

The Director General drew the Council's attention to a summary of the current work being conducted by the Safety & Security Committee noting that three meetings have been held and that a protocol is being developed for presentation to the Management Committee at the end of January, 2007.

Priorities of the Committee are a Crisis Intervention Protocol, access controls, and the training of employees.

Recommendations received concerning the security of the secondary schools are costly and not feasible in the 2006-2007 revised budget. The committee is also looking at the safety and security project from a shared cost project perspective between the school board, schools and, perhaps, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation.

The Council entered into discussion and it was noted that the school board does have safety and security measures in place but that it needs to enhance what already exists, as the safety and security of students and staff is of the utmost importance.

Parent Commissioner Tom Mouhteros noted that the Parents' Committee is very interested in participating on this committee, as safety and security is one of the goals of its action plan for the 2006-2007 school year.

5.2 2007-2008 Enrollment Criteria:

The Director of School Organization advised the Council that the Parents' Committee was consulted on the 2007-2008 enrollment criteria and that it supported the contents of the consultation document.

CC-061213-TS-0070

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS the registration period for students for 2007-2008 is the week of February 5, 2007;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Parents' Committee has been consulted and endorses the 2007-2008 enrollment criteria;

Commissioner Georges Benoit MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the establishment of the criteria for enrollment of students in its schools, subject to the availability of space, for the 2007-2008 school year.

Carried unanimously

5.3 Use of Hillcrest Academy for 2007-2008:

The Director of School Organization presented the proposal for the use of Hillcrest Academy for the 2007-2008 school year noting that the consultation had concluded on 2006-12-04 and that the recommendations received from the Hillcrest Academy and the Souvenir Elementary School Governing Boards, and a separate group of concerned parents, had been reviewed by the School Organization Committee.

He went on to review many aspects of the recommendations received and retained from the consultation.

In response to a concern expressed by Commissioner Kmec over the need for a school in the western area of Laval, the Director of School Organization advised that this area is zoned as agricultural and is not open for building.

Commissioner Walter Fogel entered the meeting.

TIME: 20:20 hours

CC-061213-TS-0071

WHEREAS student overcrowding at Hillcrest Academy resulted in the transfer of 22 kindergarten students to Souvenir Elementary School for the 2006-2007 school year;

WHEREAS Hillcrest Academy exceeds its functional capacity annually and enrollment simulations based on the current enrollment trends suggest that overcrowding will continue beyond 2010;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners approved resolution #CC-060927-TS-0035 authorizing a 60-day consultation period to review the use of Hillcrest Academy, which ended on 2006-12-04;

WHEREAS the Governing Boards of Hillcrest Academy and Souvenir Elementary School have recommended that the area located within the following boundaries be considered for rezoning from Hillcrest Academy to Souvenir Elementary School:

- *The area is comprised of a part of the City of Laval bounded by: Chomedey Autoroute (13), Notre Dame Boulevard, Samson Boulevard, Hotel de Ville Boulevard, and Principale Street;*

WHEREAS the area recommended for rezoning by the Governing Boards has a student population of 99, twelve of which will graduate in June 2007, leaving 87 students that could potentially be affected by the rezoning;

WHEREAS from the 87 students recommended for rezoning there are 12 students who are grandfathered as a result of the 2002-2003 rezoning of all Laval elementary schools and would be permitted to stay at Hillcrest Academy;

WHEREAS within the area selected for rezoning there are 10 of the 22 kindergarten students whose parents volunteered to send their children to Souvenir Elementary School for the 2006-2007 school year;

WHEREAS the remaining 12 kindergarten students who live outside the area selected for rezoning to Souvenir Elementary School and whose parents volunteered to send their children to Souvenir Elementary School for the 2006-2007 school year should be permitted to continue their education at this school should they choose to do so;

WHEREAS the number of students in the area recommended for rezoning along with the forecasted enrollment supplied by Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) suggests that the recommended rezoning would satisfy the overcrowding problem at Hillcrest Academy;

WHEREAS all recommendations received from the consultation have been reviewed by the School Organization Committee and the Executive Committee;

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Standing Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School board approve:

- that the area comprised of a part of the City of Laval bounded by Chomedey Autoroute (13), Notre Dame Boulevard, Samson Boulevard, Hotel de Ville Boulevard, and Principale Street

be rezoned from the Hillcrest Academy attendance zone to the Souvenir Elementary School attendance zone beginning in the 2007-2008 school year.

AND THAT the students that were grandfathered at Hillcrest Academy in 2002-2003 and residing in that zone be permitted to stay at Hillcrest Academy to complete their elementary education.

AND THAT the 12 remaining kindergarten students whose parents volunteered to send their children to Souvenir Elementary School for the 2006-2007 school year and who live outside the area selected for rezoning to Souvenir Elementary School be permitted to continue their education at this school should they choose to do so.

FURTHER THAT the privilege being extended to those 12 kindergarten students does not extend to any siblings.

Carried unanimously

5.4 Proposed Policy #2006-HR-07: Inclement Weather:

The Director of Human Resources reviewed the feedback received on the proposed policy on inclement weather noting that the majority of the feedback was received from the unions.

CC-061213-HR-0072

WHEREAS resolution #060222-HR-0147 approved proposed policy #2006-HR-07: Inclement Weather and authorized a 60-day consultation;

WHEREAS the consultation period ended on 2006-05-04;

Commissioner Walter Fogel MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve proposed policy #2006-HR-07: Inclement Weather.

Carried unanimously

5.5 Modifications to Policy #2006-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment & 3-Year Plan:

The Director of School Organization noted that a deed of establishment is required by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) in order to process student results and when policy #2006-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment & Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables was adopted in June, 2006, an agreement for the Competency Development Centre (CDC) Repentigny had not been finalized. A lease of space has now been finalized; therefore, a deed can now be established.

In response to a question from Commissioner Merle Parkinson, the Director of School Organization advised that the Adult Education Centre in Charlemange has been closed and its students transferred to the Competency Development Centre (CDC) Repentigny.

CC-061213-CA-0073

WHEREAS Adult & Vocational Education services requires a centre in the Charlemagne, Repentigny, Le Gardeur area;

WHEREAS the centre located in Charlemagne no longer suited the needs of Adult & Vocational Education services;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution # CC-060927-MR-0027, entering into a lease agreement for space located at 454, rue Saint-Paul, Legardeur (Québec), for the Competency Development Centre (CDC) Repentigny;

Commissioner Natalie Auclair MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the modification of the deed of establishment for the Competency Development Centre (CDC) Repentigny located at 454, rue Saint-Paul, Le Gardeur (Québec) by changing the name on the certificate to Competency Development Centre (CDC) Repentigny and updating the notes.

AND THAT this modification be included in policy #2006-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment & Three Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables.

Carried unanimously

6.0 CORPORATE AFFAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS**6.1 Report of Communications Committee Chairperson:**

Commissioner Natalie Auclair, Chair of the Communications & Public Relations Committee, circulated the pamphlets to be distributed within the Grenville and Ste-Adèle Elementary Schools and Ste-Agathe Academy communities, as a part of the campaign to increase enrollment in these schools.

6.2 SWL Foundation:

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak noted that 344 tickets have been sold to date for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala to be held on 2007-01-11. He encouraged everyone to attend.

The Chairman called for a ten minute break.

TIME: 20:26 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 20:46 hours

Chris Eustace, a taxpayer, complimented the school board on its efforts to promote services available to the youth through its corporate Web site.

7.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES**7.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:**

Commissioner Merle Parkinson, Chair of the Financial Resources Committee, advised that at its last meeting the focus was on the review of the 2006-2007 revised budget.

7.2 2006-2007 Revised Budget:

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the 2006-2007 revised budget noting that all departments have made an effort to reduce expenses for the balance of the 2006-2007 school year.

Commissioner David McKinley entered the meeting.

TIME: 20:28 hours

The Chairman advised that he has a verbal confirmation that the funding for the mobile computer lab project has been approved and will be received shortly.

The Council entered into discussion noting consultant contracts, payroll contributions, special education allocations, claw backs and various other aspects of the revised budget.

CC-061213-FR-0074

Commissioner Merle Parkinson 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 **revised budget for 2006-2007**.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting 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
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel

The Chairman extended his appreciation to the Director of Financial Resources, the Assistant Director of Financial Resources and the staff of Financial Resources for their good work on the 2006-2007 revised budget.

8.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

8.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin, Chairman of the Education Committee, commented on the last meeting of the committee noting that the following was discussed: international programs, the request received from the Advisory Committee on services for handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning disabilities (SEAC) to redefine its mandate, the strategic plan of Educational Services, and an update on the Mother Teresa Junior High School music program.

8.2 Purchase Order - Montreal Oral School for the Deaf:

The Director of Educational Services reviewed the resolution concerning the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf.

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin excused himself from the table.

WHEREAS the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf invoices the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for these services;

WHEREAS the services provided for the 2006-2007 school for integrated students amounts to 57 150,00\$;

*Commissioner David McKinley 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 Montreal Oral School for the Deaf for educational services provided to **integrated students** of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2006-2007 school year, in the amount of 57 150,00\$, all taxes included.*

Commissioner Walter Fogel suggested that the resolution be amended by changing in the first "WHEREAS", the words, "these services", to read "the education of some of its students". Commissioner David McKinley accepted the amendment.

The Council of Commissioners entered into discussion and it was noted that the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) has not seen the invoices received for services provided by specialized schools and that perhaps in the future these invoices should be reviewed by this committee.

Commissioner Walter Fogel proposed that the resolution again be modified by adding at the end the words, "*contingent on the approval of the SEAC committee.*" Commissioner David McKinley accepted the amendment.

CC-061213-ED-0075

WHEREAS the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf invoices the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the education of some of its students;

WHEREAS the services provided for the 2006-2007 school for integrated students amounts to 57 150,00\$;

Commissioner David McKinley 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 **Montreal Oral School for the Deaf** for educational services provided to integrated students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2006-2007 school year, in the amount of 57 150,00\$, all taxes included, contingent on the approval of the SEAC committee.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin returned to the table.

8.3 Purchase Order - Summit School:

The Director of Educational Services reviewed the services provided by the Summit School noting that these services are for 24 autistic students.

CC-061213-ED-0076

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;

Commissioner 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 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 2006-2007 school year, in the amount of 425 682,00\$, all taxes included, contingent upon the approval of the SEAC Committee.

Carried unanimously

8.4 Purchase Order - Peter Hall School:

The Director of Educational Services reviewed the services provided by the Peter Hall School noting that these services are for 9 elementary and 17 high school students who are intellectually handicapped.

CC-061213-ED-0077

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

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

Parent Commissioner Tom Mouhteros 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 **Peter Hall School** for educational services provided to students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2006-2007 school year, in the amount of 481 928,00\$, all taxes included.

Carried unanimously

8.5 Mandate of Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC):

The Director of Educational Services advised that the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) has requested a change to its mandate so that its membership term will be staggered in order for the committee to have more continuity on an annual basis.

CC-061213-ED-0078

WHEREAS Section 185 of the Education Act requires a school board to establish an Advisory Committee on services for handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning disabilities (SEAC);

WHEREAS the composition of the said Advisory Committee is determined by Section 185 of the Education Act.

WHEREAS the representatives of the parents of handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning disabilities must constitute the majority of the members of the said Advisory Committee;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners shall determine the number of representatives from each group;

WHEREAS the SEAC Committee passed a resolution to request a mandate of members for a two-year term to be staggered over two years to take effect in 2007-2008;

WHEREAS the Education Committee made a recommendation to support the change in mandate for the term of office to be staggered over two years to take effect in 2007-2008;

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Education Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve that the mandate for the Advisory Committee on services for handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning disabilities (SEAC) be modified and become a two-year term to be staggered over two years effective for the 2007-2008 school year.

Carried unanimously

8.6 Community Learning Centre (CLC) - Laval Liberty H.S.:

The Director of Educational Services advised that fifteen Community Learning Centres have been awarded by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) to English school boards throughout the province and that Laval Liberty High School has been selected to be one of these centres. The funding provided for the Community Learning Centre is 150 000\$ over the next three years and the school board must also fund an equivalent amount, also for three years, either financially or in kind (e.g. renovations, human resources, etc.).

She went on to note that part of the funding from the MELS is for the tele-conferencing centre of the Community Learning Centre, and its associated expenses. The centre will also be open during specified hours to the students of the school and the public.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to several questions, the Assistant Director General noted that Laval Liberty High School has identified a number of potential partners for this centre, in order to draw community interest, but the project is in its early stages of development and only requires the support of the school board at this time.

She further noted that all of the departments involved in the Community Learning Centre are aware of the financial and in kind arrangements and have been asked to keep detailed records of any services provided to the centre, as the school board will have to report its contributions to the MELS.

CC-061213-ED-0079

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has introduced the concept of Community Learning Centres (CLC) as a means to support the English speaking community in Québec;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board supports the initiative of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) in establishing Community Learning Centres (CLC) in public schools to assist these schools in becoming centres for community-based activity and complementary services;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has approved the establishment and funding, in the amount of 150 000\$, of a Community Learning Centre (CLC) for Laval Liberty High School as one of the fifteen across the English school system in Québec ;

WHEREAS the 150 000\$ of funding to be received from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) includes approximately 30 000,00\$ of video-conferencing equipment, which can be accommodated by Laval Liberty High School;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board commits to providing financial support in investment or in kind, the full implementation of the program, ensuring access to the Community Learning Centre (CLC) outside of regular school hours, and the engagement of a coordinator for the Community Learning Centre (CLC), and that the development of the school success plan at Laval Liberty High School will be formulated in collaboration with its community partners;

Commissioner Grace Nesi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the Community Learning Centre (CLC) project for Laval Liberty High School.

AND THAT the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board agree to support the Community Learning Centre (CLC) project for Laval Liberty High School in the manner established by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS).

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

Carried unanimously

8.7 Update on Tel-Jeunes:

The Director of Educational Services advised that things are going well and several schools are showing an interest in the site and the programs it offers. It is hoped that some of the programs concerning peer mentoring and tutoring can be translated into English.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale and Parent Commissioner Tom Mouhteros left the meeting.

TIME:21:41 hours

The Chairman thanked Commissioner David McKinley for bringing the services of Tel-jeunes to the attention of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

9.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES

9.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Commissioner David McKinley, Chairman of the Material Resources Committee advised that at its last meeting the committee looked at the capital budget for the department, the progress of the project for the Competency Development Centre (CDC) Laurier, the Ste-Agathe Academy enlargement/renovation project and the synthetic playing field project.

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier left the meeting.

TIME: 21:43 hours

9.2 Tripartite Committee - LRHS Pool 2006-2007:

The Director of Material Resources advised that Laurentian Regional High School uses the swimming pool 77 days or 53% of the time available annually. The proposed resolution represents the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's costs for the use of the swimming pool for the 2006-2007 school year.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale and Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:45 hours

In response to a question from Commissioner Walter Fogel, the Director of Material Resources noted that the tripartite agreement includes paying the school board's portion of the annual costs in this manner. At the end of each school year, the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord, which coordinates the invoicing for the swimming pool, does a reconciliation, and if the costs are under budget, the balance is applied to the following school year and if the costs are over budget, the excess costs are divided accordingly.

Parent Commissioner Tom Mouhteros returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:46 hours

CC-061213-MR-0080

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board participates in a Tripartite Agreement with the Ville de Lachute and the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord;

WHEREAS the swimming pool is managed and operated through this Tripartite Agreement whereby the Ville de Lachute contributes 40%, Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord contributes 30% and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board contributes 30% of the related costs;

WHEREAS Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord is responsible for invoicing the Tripartite members;

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik 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 authorize the payment of 80 244,85\$, all taxes included, to the Commission scolaire de la Rivière-du-Nord for its share of the operation of the swimming pool for the 2006-2007 school year, as per the Tripartite Agreement.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting 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
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel

9.3 Synthetic Playing Field - LJHS & LLHS:

The Director of Material Resources provided background information on the synthetic playing field project at 3200 boul. Souvenir noting that the original tenders for the project were over budget and could not be supported by the partners. Additional funding has been sought and the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has a new funding program for such projects. This project will be a shared cost partnership.

He noted that a resolution is required in order to request funding from the MELS and that once the funding is approved, the normal process for calling tenders and engaging contractors will be followed.

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

TIME: 21:55 hours

The Assistant Director General noted that this project is not included in the 2006-2007 revised budget, therefore, the school board will have to find a way to finance this project. The Ville de Laval will be approached to see if it would be able to assist the school board in its financing of this project as the school board is not in a position to support this project at this time.

She went on to note that if the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) retains the school board's participation in the synthetic playing field project under its new program to promote a healthy school environment, a resolution will be brought forward to finalize the synthetic field project.

The Council entered into discussion and the Director of Material Resources confirmed that this project will not move forward without being brought back to this table for final approval.

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:58 hours

In response to a question from Commissioner Robert Dixon, the Director of Material Resources noted that the fees for the study on this project are included in the total cost of the project.

CC-061213-MR-0081

WHEREAS the sports field situated behind the building at 3200 boul. Souvenir is being used every day of the week for a physical education program by four school teams of soccer and football, and by various associations recognized by the City of Laval;

WHEREAS this field is in very poor condition, causing injury to several users;

WHEREAS the current lighting for the field is in good condition;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the City of Laval have met and are in agreement that repairs must be undertaken for this facility;

WHEREAS given the sports held on this field and the extent of its use, both parties have concluded that the installation of a synthetic playing field would be a sustainable solution;

WHEREAS the total cost of this project has been estimated at \$1,181,512, all taxes included;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the City of Laval have agreed to share a portion of the project costs;

WHEREAS THE Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has created a program to reshape, construct, and improve sports equipment;

WHEREAS the costs of the project could be shared as per the following distribution:

Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board	➔	275 230,00\$
City of Laval	➔	275 230,00\$
Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS)	➔	550 000,00\$
Tax rebate	➔	(81 052,00\$)

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier 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) consider this project to be viable and support it financially, as per the above-mentioned distribution.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting 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
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel

9.4 *Open Purchase Order - LRHS Cafeteria:*

CC-061213-MR-0082

WHEREAS Laurentian Regional High School operates its own cafeteria;

WHEREAS an open purchase order is required to purchase the required food items from Dubord & Rainville Inc.;

Commissioner Robert Dixon 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 an open purchase order for the Laurentian Regional High School cafeteria with **Dubord & Rainville inc.** in the amount of 90 000,00\$, all taxes included.

Carried unanimously

9.5 *Engagement of Contractor - Installation of Air Conditioning at MTJHS & LSHS:*

The Director of Material Resources noted that the following resolution is to engage the contractor to install the air conditioning unit at 2323, boul. Daniel-Johnson:

CC-061213-MR-0083

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners approved to proceed with a public call to tender for a general contractor for the replacement of the air-conditioning unit at Mother Teresa Junior High School / Laurier Senior High School;

WHEREAS tenders were received and opened on 2006-11-20;

WHEREAS the Material Resources Committee recommends that the contract be awarded to the lowest conformable bidder;

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin 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 award the contract for the replacement of the air-conditioning unit at Mother Teresa Junior High School / Laurier Senior High School to **Neveu & Neveu Ltée** for a total cost of 305 699,36\$, all taxes included.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Nick Milas left the meeting.

TIME: 22:01 hours

10.0 QESBA

10.1 *Report of the QESBA:*

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale noted that at its last meeting, the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Board of Directors received an informative presentation from Leading Education and Resource Network (LEARN). LEARN has offered to present at the 2007 QESBA Spring Conference if the organizing committee is interested in its product.

Commissioner Nick Milas returned to the meeting.

TIME: 22:04 hours

10.2 QESBA Committees 2006-2007:

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale advised that the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) is looking for one Commissioner from each school board to sit on each of its standing committees. The meetings are held mostly via tele-conferencing.

10.3 QESBA Critical Path for 2007 School Elections:

It was noted that the date of the next school election is 2007-11-04.

10.4 QESBA Constitution:

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale advised that at the last meeting of the Council of Commissioners, a sub-committee was established to answer the questions posed concerning the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Constitution. The sub-committee consisted of six Commissioners who prepared the following resolution:

CC-061213-CA-0084

WHEREAS inequality exists in any organization where a minority of members can decide on any and all matters, over the opposition of the majority;

WHEREAS inequality in representation has created dissatisfaction among member boards of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA);

WHEREAS such inequality will eventually cause an erosion of the ability of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) to equitably represent all member boards;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has expressed dissatisfaction with the existing organizational structure of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA);

WHEREAS the inequality exists not only among the general membership but also at the Board of Directors level of the organization;

WHEREAS in order to rectify such inequality, constitutional change of the organization is required;

Commissioner Tony De Lauri MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board recommends that the constitution of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) be modified so that each of its nine member boards be granted equal voting powers, at one vote per member board.

AND THAT the membership at the Board of Directors of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) consist of one Director and one alternate per school board, with voting privileges in the absence of the designated Director.

AND THAT the election of the positions of the President and Vice-President for the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Board of Directors also be constitutionally amended to ensure equality among member boards.

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be distributed to the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA), and all its member boards.

Carried unanimously

11.0 SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

11.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Commissioner Georges Benoit, Chairman of the School Organization Committee, commented on the last meeting of the committee noting that the majority of the meeting was spent reviewing the recommendations received from the consultation on the use of Hillcrest Academy for the 2007-2008 school year and deciding which recommendations would best suit the needs of the school community. The committee also discussed bus behaviour tickets and registration for the 2007-2008 school year.

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier thanked the School Organization Committee for all of its diligent work on the use of Hillcrest Academy for the 2007-2008 school year noting that although some will not be pleased with the decision taken but that it was made in the best interest of the students.

12.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

12.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik, Chair of the Information Technology Committee, advised that no meeting was held in the month of December and that the next meeting is scheduled for 2007-01-15. She noted that a training session for Commissioners has been planned for 2007-01-20. Please reserve with the Director of Information Technology if you wish to attend the training session.

13.0 ADULT & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION:

13.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Commissioner Nazario Facchino, Chairman of the Adult & Vocational Education Committee, advised that there was no meeting in December and that the next meeting will take place on 2007-01-22.

13.2 Professional Exploration Centre of Expertise:

The Assistant Director General advised the Council of Commissioners that an application will be submitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) requesting that a Career Exploration Lab to be housed in the school board's new vocational education centre in Pont-Viau, Laval. This project was created in response to an invitation from the Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) to look into forming partnerships for Vocational Education within the French sector. Preliminary exploration has indicated that the Commission scolaire de la Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles, the Cosmodôme and Institute national de la recherche scientifique (INRS) would be interested in participating in a partnership. The request to the MELS is for start-up funding of approximately 350 000\$ to establish the Career Exploration Lab. The Ville de Laval will also be approached as a potential partner.

Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin already has established such a lab. The Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin may also be interested in creating a network so that information can be shared between itself, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, and the Commission scolaire de la Seigneurie-des-Milles-Îles.

The Council of Commissioners entered into discussion.

CC-061213-AE-0085

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is conducting a needs assessment in the area of Vocational Education;

WHEREAS the preliminary findings of that assessment indicate that there is little awareness in the English community for Vocational and Technical employment needs in our territory;

WHEREAS on 2006-10-13, the Chairman, the Director General and the Assistant Director General met with the Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) and were invited to explore a potential project to be developed jointly with some partners of the French boards and institutions in order to expand the offer of service to the English speaking community;

WHEREAS since then, the Directorate has explored a variety of venues that could be answers to the invitation from the Ministre;

WHEREAS some French boards have developed an expertise in creating Career Exploration Laboratories for students in the youth sector to develop their awareness of skills required in jobs of a vocational, technical and practical nature;

WHEREAS no such expertise currently exists in the English language school boards;

WHEREAS Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has approached several partners to contribute to the development of a Career Exploration Laboratory to be located in the future CDC Laurier, centrally located in Laval, and close to a future metro station;

WHEREAS the Laval region has a formal commitment to develop a scientific culture amongst students of the schools and centres of the region, particularly because of the presence on the territory of the Institut National de Recherche scientifique (INRS) and the Cosmodôme;

WHEREAS some partners have already indicated a strong interest in helping the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board develop a bio-technology and aerospace Exploration Lab (Commission scolaire de la Seigneurie des Mille-Iles, INRS, Cosmodôme and Canadian Space Agency) and others will follow:

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's strategic plan stresses the importance of involving students in their own learning and the need to have a wide variety of opportunities for learning;

WHEREAS such a Lab facilitates career exploration for students at the last cycle of the elementary level as well as at Cycle one and two of the secondary level and would be a promotional asset to the new Competency Development Centre (CDC) Laurier;

WHEREAS such a center of expertise could eventually be made available to all English boards for staff and students to use;

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Directorate to seek partnerships to help develop a Career Exploration Laboratory;

AND THAT the Directorate and the Chairman submit this project to the Ministère of l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) to be given special consideration and funding to initiate the project.

Carried unanimously

14.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT

14.1 Parents' Committee Report:

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier noted that at its last meeting, the Director of School Organization gave an informative session on demographics for future enrollment of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and how this will effect the schools. A motion on the teaching of Christian faith in the schools was also brought forward but was not supported for a vote.

The Assistant Director General left the meeting.

TIME: 22:27 hours

Parent Commissioner Tom Mouhteros advised that an invitation will be extended to the Director of Adult & Vocational Education in the New Year to make a presentation on what services are available in that sector.

The Chairman noted that an invitation has been received from the Chairman of the Parents Committee inviting the Council of Commissioners to attend meetings along with a request for a Commissioner to make a presentation on the role of a Commissioner.

TIME: 22:28

CC-061213-CA-0086

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT the meeting be extended until the completion of the agenda.

Carried unanimously

The Assistant Director General returned to the meeting.

TIME: 22:29 hours

15.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

15.1 Report of Committee Chairperson:

Commissioner Grace Nesi, Chair of the Human Resources Committee, advised that there was no meeting in December and that the next one is scheduled for 2007-01-09.

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from Pina Del Sonno, Chair of the Hillcrest Academy Governing Board, the Director of School Organization advised that at one of the first meetings on the consultation for the use of Hillcrest Academy, the proposed enrollment criteria for the 2007-2008 school year was discussed and it was noted that there were no changes from the 2006-2007 criteria. He also noted that, in accordance with the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3), only the Parents' Committee is consulted on the enrollment criteria. Hillcrest Academy was advised at the end of November of the number of students that would be affected by the change to the attendance zone.

In response to an additional question from Ms. Del Sonno, the Director of School Organization reminded everyone that the students who transferred to Souvenir Elementary School for the 2006-2007 school year did so on a voluntary basis, therefore, these students were given the choice as to which school they wished to attend for the 2007-2008 school year.

The Chairman indicated that her other questions would be answered in writing.

In response to a question from Elio Lattanzio, a parent from Hillcrest Academy, the Director of School Organization advised that all the recommendations received were taken into consideration and the resolution presented this evening was formulated based on the recommendations received.

In response to a question from Vincent Marques, the Director of School Organization noted that with the transfer of 97 students to Souvenir Elementary School, Hillcrest Academy will be able to enlarge its library, as well as create a resource room.

In response to a question from Franca Celli, a concerned parent, the Chairman indicated that she should speak with the Director of School Organization in order to find out how much space is being gained by Hillcrest Academy with the transfer of the students to Souvenir Elementary School.

17.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the monthly reports, the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Monday Messages and a resolution received from the Western Quebec School Board.

18.0 VARIA

Commissioner Walter Fogel noted that it still appears as though the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) is, again, trying to limit access to English education and went on to propose the following resolution:

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.0 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's Enrollment Criteria for the 2007-2008 school year;

Commissioner Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve that any student applicant to schools of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board who meets all other criteria for enrollement save that of holding certificate of eligibility for English language education and has applied for same but final dispensation of said application and/or appeal from same has not been finally decided, shall be temporarily enrolled until such final decision is rendered.

The Director of School Organization noted that in accordance with the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3), an English school board cannot allow a child to attend an English school without an eligibility certificate as there are severe implications for the Principal, such as being subject to a fine or possible imprisonment.

CC-061213-CA-0087

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT the issue of holding an eligibility certificate and being temporarily enrolled in school be tabled to the School Organization Committee for further discussion; AND THAT a report be made on these discussions at the next meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman extended best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday.

19.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:51 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇔ REGULAR ⇔ 2006-01-24

Josephine Battista, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman