

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2008-06-25

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, 2008-06-25 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Commissioners Steve Bletas, Chair; Carolyn Curiale, Vice-Chair; Georges Benoit, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, and Nancy Rupnik; Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier; and Anne-Marie Lepage, Director General.

Also present were: Alain Guay, Assistant Director General, Marie-Claude Drouin, Secretary General; François Badin, Director of Human Resources; Line Desgroseilliers, Director of Information Technology; Heather Halman, Director of Educational & Complimentary Services; Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; George Paquette, Director of School Organization; Johanne Brabant, Interim Director of Adult & Vocational Education; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: **Commissioners** Albina Pace and Edward Turchyniak; and Parent Commissioner Luc Samson.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 19:30 hours.

The Chair advised the Council that he had invited three students from the Adult Education graduating class to present speeches they made at the graduation ceremony as they were very moving and thought provoking. He welcomed the students and their teachers.

The Assistant Director of Adult & Vocational Education, Gaëlle Absolonne, introduced the students: Melissa Cartman, Matthew Deschâtelets, Lilianne Desnoyers, and the teachers.

Commissioner Steve Mitchell entered the meeting. **TIME: 19:33 hours**

Commissioner Steve Kmec entered the meeting. **TIME: 19:36 hours**

After the speeches, the Chair thanked the students for taking the time to come and share their stories of success and courage with the Council and wished them future success.

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following additions and modifications to the agenda were proposed:

12.0 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS:

- 12.3 *Anti-Bullying* RES
- 12.4 *Textbooks* RES

CC-080625-CA-0220

Commissioner Mike Pizzola MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted as amended in document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Walter Fogel entered the meeting. **TIME: 19:50 hours**

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CC-080625-CA-0221

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2008-05-21, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel, Steve Mitchell

CC-080625-CA-0222

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the minutes of the SPECIAL meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2008-05-27, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Merle Parkinson, Nancy Rupnik

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

4.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

4.1 *Chair's Report:*

The Chair advised that he had received a thank you from Michael Wiener, Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board retiree and outgoing President of the Laurier Teachers Union (LTU), for all of the kind words from the school board upon his retirement.

4.2 *Evaluation of Director General & Assistant Director General:*

The Chair advised that the evaluation of the Director General was formulated via a caucus of the Council, held on 2008-06-09, using the evaluation policy, the work of the Directors and the goals for the 2007-2008 school year set by the Director General. The evaluation is very positive and reflects the positive relationship between the Directorate and the Council.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council, as well as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, met with the Director General, on 2008-06-14, to present the feedback from the caucus meeting. The Director General then met with the departments to review the overall objectives with the feedback.

The evaluation was based on four goals: ensure clear and timely communication to Council and the schools; improve our yearly planning skills to facilitate the decision making process; develop mentoring programs and offer support to schools; and stimulate the development of partnerships with other organizations.

He went on to present the evaluation noting that it was a challenging year due to the school elections and commended the Director General for her inclusive leadership style, team approach, determination to achieve the goals set out in the Strategic Plan, her positive approach with administrators, associations and groups as part of the process and her support of the Council by frequent communication, workshops and protocols.

He extended appreciation to the Assistant Director General, all the Directors and their departments for carrying out their respective mandates with the utmost professionalism.

On behalf of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council, as well as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee expressed support for the Director General for her leadership, communication skills, work ethic, her rapport with the Commissioners and her commitment to the school board and recommended that she be granted the maximum performance bonus allowable.

CC-080625-HR-0223

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners has conducted its annual evaluation of the Director General in accordance with policy #2000-HR-03: Annual Evaluation of the Director General;

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Chair, the Council of Commissioners grant the Director General a performance bonus for 2007-2008 in accordance with the Regulation respecting certain conditions of employment of senior staff of school boards and of the Comité de gestion de la taxe de l'île de Montréal in an amount equal to 6% of her salary on June 30, 2008.

Carried unanimously

The Director General thanked the Chair and the Council for their vote of confidence noting it is an honour and a privilege to work with such a dedicated group. She went on to note that credit must also be given to the Assistant Director General, the Directors and employees because without this team the goals of 2007-2008 could not have been achieved.

The Director General presented the evaluation of the Assistant Director General noting that she is very pleased with the lines of communication established over the past year and for his efforts and contributions with the Administrative team. Her recommendation is for the Assistant Director General to receive the maximum performance bonus allowable.

CC-080625-HR-0224

WHEREAS the Director General has conducted her annual evaluation of the Assistant Director General in accordance with policy #2000-HR-03: Annual Evaluation of the Director General;

Commissioner Nick Milas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director General, the Council of Commissioners grant the Assistant Director General a performance bonus for 2007-2008 in accordance with the Regulation respecting certain conditions of employment of senior staff of school boards and of the Comité de gestion de la taxe de l'île de Montréal in an amount equal to 6% of his salary on June 30, 2008.

Carried unanimously

The Chair congratulated the Director General, the Assistant Director General and the Directorate and wished them a successful 2008-2009 school year.

4.3 Commissioners Contribution to the 2008-2009 Recovery Plan:

The Chair presented the Commissioners contribution to the recovery plan for 2008-2009 noting that all areas of the school board must do their part to assist in erasing the debt and balancing the budget.

The Council entered into discussion.

CC-080625-CA-0225

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is very conscious of the current financial situation;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners have examined various strategies in order to reduce its expenses;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners has reviewed its expenses and budget, as well as examining reductions in areas such as travel, the Focus Session and professional improvement;

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board proceed to reduce its portion of the 2008-2009 budget expenditures by 23%, in order to contribute to the school board's recovery plan, as per document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-CA-001.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel

5.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCES**5.1 Report of the **Chair** – Financial Resources Committee:**

Commissioner Merle Parkinson, Chair of the Financial Resources Committee, noted that the last meeting revolved around the 2008-2009 budget. The Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has provided a written notice that permits the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to adopt a deficit budget. A recovery plan and a revised budget must be submitted to the MELS.

The Chair of the Council highlighted the various factors that have resulted in a deficit situation, such as the extensive removal of snow from the rooftops of the school board buildings, the taxation claw back by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) over the past three years, the significant increase in the number of employees on maternity leave, and school elections. He also noted some strategic investment opportunities that could not be overlooked, such as synthetic field projects at 3200 boul. Souvenir in Laval and 448 Argenteuil in Lachute, the energy project, special education needs and the Safety & Security project.

5.2 2008-2009 Budget:

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the 2008-2009 budget noting that the deficit will be in the neighbourhood of 2 000 000\$. The implementation of the a recovery plan will balance the budget in June 2009 unless there are some unforeseen expenses.

The Assistant Director General left the meeting.

TIME: 20:38 hours

The Council entered into discussion on the 2008-2009 budget and several concerns were expressed with respect to the decrease in the Material Resources budget.

In response to a question from Commissioner Walter Fogel, the Director of Material Resources acknowledged the position of the Material Resources Committee to have a sufficient budget to conduct preventative maintenance and to meet the legal requirements set out by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) noting that all projects to be covered by this budget would be treated on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

TIME: 20:39 hours

The Assistant Director General returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:43 hours

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20: 44 hours

In response to an additional question from Commissioner Fogel, the Director of School Organization noted that some of the savings in transportation comes from the elimination of a bus in Laval due to the conclusion of the seven-year grandfathering agreement.

In response to several concerns expressed by Commissioner Steve Kmec with respect to safety and security, caretaking and various projects, the Chair noted that the Council and the Administration treats these issues seriously and always has the best interests of the students and staff in mind when making decisions that effect the bottom line.

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin extended appreciation, on behalf of the Council, to the Director of Financial Resources and her team for all of the work on the budget planning.

Commissioner Nazario Facchino left the meeting.

TIME: 20:53 hours

CC-080625-FR-0226

WHEREAS in accordance with the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.1), the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board must adopt and submit to the Minister its operating, investment and debt service budget for the 2008-2009 school year;

WHEREAS the 2008-2009 Ministère de l'Éducation budget parameters were presented on 2008-03-27 for consultation which ended on 2008-04-11;

WHEREAS the Directorate has made a preliminary review of the Ministère de l'Éducation budget parameters and prepared an opinion to the Ministre de l'Éducation;

WHEREAS the Minister has authorized the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School to adopt a budget which provides for expenditures that exceed the revenues of the school board;

WHEREAS the deficit for the preceding year is included as an expenditure in its budget;

WHEREAS the standardized assessment included in the real estate tax base which was used to prepare the budget is established in the amount of 6 390 671 013\$ in conformity with the law and the 2008-2009 budgetary rules;

WHEREAS the budget establishes the tax rate for the 2008-2009 school year at 0,35\$ per 100\$ of assessment;

WHEREAS this rate respects the limits permitted by law;

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Financial Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners adopt the operating, investment and debt service budget for the 2008-2009 school year;

AND THAT it be submitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation for approval under the terms and conditions determined by the Minister;

AND THAT the tax rate be established at 0,35\$ per 100\$ of assessment.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel

5.3 2008-2009 Employee Computer Purchase Program:

The Director of Financial Resources advised that the Employee Computer Purchase Program would be offered in 2008-2009 and that the interest rate recommended by the Financial Resources Committee is 5%. She also indicated that approximately 40 employees made use of the program in 2007-2008.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale left the meeting. **TIME: 20:55 hours**

Commissioner Nazario Facchino returned to the meeting. **TIME: 20:57 hours**

CC-080625-FR-0227

WHEREAS the Directorate and the Financial Resources Committee recommend that a Computer Purchase Program for Full-Time Employees be renewed for the 2008-2009 school year;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board will advance to any employee a designated sum upon the signing of a contract for repayment, as per document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-FR-001;

WHEREAS the employee agrees to reimburse the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board the advance sum plus interest calculated at **5%** on the declining balance;

Commissioner Robert Dixon MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Financial Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve the renewal of the Computer Purchase Program for Full-Time Employees as per the conditions set out in document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-FR-001.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel, Peter MacLaurin

6.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

6.1 Report of the Chair – Human Resources Committee:

Commissioner George Benoit, Chair of the Human Resources Committee, noted that at its last meeting split classes, the calendar of pay periods, retirements and a CLSC pilot program were discussed.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale returned to the meeting. **TIME: 20:58 hours**

6.2 2008-2009 Administrative Organizational Chart:

The Director General presented and reviewed the 2008-2009 administrative organizational chart.

Commissioner Walter Fogel left the meeting. **TIME: 20: 59 hours**

CC-080625-HR-0228

WHEREAS the Directorate has reviewed the Administrative Organizational Chart of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2008-2009 school year;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators Association (SWLAA) and the Association des cadres scolaires du Québec (ACSQ) – SWL Chapter have been consulted and support the proposal;

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve the 2008-2009 Administrative Organizational Chart, as per document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-HR-001.

Carried unanimously

6.3 Modifications to Resolutions:

The Director of Human Resources advised that upon review of the enrolment figures at the end of May it became apparent that certain positions abolished on 2008-05-23 would be required in the 2008-2009 school year.

CC-080625-HR-0229

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution CC-080521-CA-0200 approving the creation of administrative support staff positions; Commissioner Tom Mouhteros 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 modify resolution #CC-080521-HR-0200 by removing the following schools:

Classification	Place of Work	% of work
Secretary	Laurentian Elementary School	29%
Secretary	St-Paul Elementary School	71%

Carried unanimously

CC-080625-HR-0230

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution CC-080521-CA-0199 approving the abolition of administrative support staff positions;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has analyzed the most recent enrolment figures and determined certain positions should not be abolished in order to decrease the working hours;

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros 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 modify resolution #CC-080521-HR-0199 by re-establishing the following allocations:

Classification	Place of Work	% of work
Secretary	Laurentian Elementary School	50%
Secretary	St-Paul Elementary School	100%

Carried unanimously

7.0 BUSINESS ARISING

7.1 Deeds of Establishment & Three-Year Plan:

The Director of School Organization presented the results of the consultation on the deeds of establishment and the three-year plan noting where the various modifications were made.

Commissioner Walter Fogel returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:04 hours

The Council entered into discussion on the changes to the deeds and three-year plan.

CC-080625-CA-0231

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-080326-CA-0139 approving in principle policy #2008-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment and Three Year Plan for Allocation and Destination of Immovables;

WHEREAS the consultation period expired on 2008-05-27;

Commissioner William Pollock 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 policy #2008-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment and Three Year Plan for Allocation and Destination of Immovables of all schools, centres and other buildings.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Steve Mitchell

7.2 By-Law #BL2008-CA-15: Date, Time & Place of Executive Meetings:

The Secretary General advised that a public notice was published and that the Parents Committee had been consulted and supported the by-law as written.

In response to a question from Commissioner Merle Parkinson, the Secretary General noted that a by-law is in force until a change is requested or required.

CC-080625-CA-0232

WHEREAS it is necessary to establish a by-law for the date, time & place of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee, as per sections 162 and 182 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3);

WHEREAS the consultation process for by-laws, as per section 392 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3), was adhered to and a public notice published in the 2008-03-02 edition of the Journal Le Courrier (Laval);

WHEREAS the Parents Committee supports the by-law as presented;

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Communications & Public Relations Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve by-law #BL2008-CA-15: Date Time & Place of Meetings of the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, as per the attached document.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel

7.3 Amendments to Policy #2000-CA-04: Rules of Order & Procedure for Council:

The Secretary General reviewed the recommendations received concerning the policy on the rules of order for Council meetings noting changes such as the agenda format for meetings.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale proposed that in section 3.5 the point “closure of meeting” be changed to “adjournment of meeting” because nowhere in Robert’s Rules of Order does it state that “closure” is the proper term to end a meeting. Commissioner Mario Di Domenico accepted the change.

In response to several points made by Commissioner Walter Fogel concerning the policy, the Chair indicated that the Executive Committee follows Robert’s Rules.

Commissioner Walter Fogel proposed an amendment to change “adjournment” back to “closure”.

Further discussion ensued over the proper wording on how to end a meeting.

CC-080625-CA-0233

Commissioner Walter Fogel MOVED THAT section 4.5 of the policy #2000-CA-04: Rules of Order and Procedure for the Meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be amended by changing the words “Adjournment of Meeting” to “Closure of Meeting”.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec
Commissioners voting NAY:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Steve Mitchell, Merle Parkinson

CC-080625-CA-0234

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-080521-CA-0186 approving in principle amendments to policy #2000-CA-04: Rules of Order & Procedure for the Meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

WHEREAS the results of the consultation of the Commissioners and the Management Committee have been reviewed by the Communication & Public Relations Committee;

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Communication & Public Relations Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve amended policy #2000-CA-04: Rules of Order & Procedure for Meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Merle Parkinson

8.0 MATERIAL RESOURCES

8.1 Report of Chair – Material Resources Committee:

Commissioner William Pollock, Chair of the Material Resources Committee, noted that at its last meeting the committee reviewed the capital budget for 2008-2009 and discussed various projects. The committee is very concerned about the reduction in the Material Resources Budget for 2008-2009.

8.2 Capital Projects 2008-2009:

CC-080625-MR-0235

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to satisfy priority needs in its schools;

WHEREAS the schools have expressed their needs;

WHEREAS the Directorate has reviewed the requests and classified these requests in order of board-wide priorities;

WHEREAS the Material Resources Committee supports these capital priorities;

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the 2008-2009 capital priorities for its schools and centres for a total amount of 1 984 466\$, as per document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-MR-001.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel

8.3 Policy #2008-MR-03: Healthy Eating & Active Living:

The Director of Material Resources presented and reviewed the Healthy Eating and Active Living policy noting that it was a collaborative project with Educational Services.

CC-080625-MR-0236

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) requires that school boards establish a policy on "Healthy Eating & Active Living" in order to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle for students;

WHEREAS the policy has been developed by Educational Services and Material Resources;

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Educational Services Committee, the Material Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle policy #2008-MR-03: Healthy Eating and Active Living Policy.

AND THAT the consultation on this policy take place from 2008-09-15 to 2008-11-14.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel

8.4 Authorization to Ville de Rosemère to Install Lights at RHS Field:

The Director of Material Resources advised the Council that the Ville de Rosemère is seeking authorization from the school board to install lighting on the Rosemere High School playing field and that this would be done at no cost to the school board. Maintenance of the lighting would also be undertaken by the Ville de Rosemère.

In response to a question from Commissioner Walter Fogel, the Director of Material Resources noted that the addition of the lights to the Rosemere High School playing field would have no effect on the school board's insurance policy.

CC-080625-MR-0237

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is the owner of a playing field at Rosemere High School;

WHEREAS the Ville de Rosemère has made an offer to install lighting on the playing field at no cost to the school board;

WHEREAS the Ville de Rosemère requires permission from the school board before it can proceed with this project

Commissioner George Benoit 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 grant permission to the Ville de Rosemère to install lighting for the Rosemere High school playing field.

AND THAT all costs for the preparation and installation of the lighting be assumed by the Ville de Rosemère.

FURTHER THAT all costs for maintenance, including electricity, be assumed by the Ville de Rosemère.

Carried unanimously

8.5 Snow Removal Contracts 2008-2011:

The Director of Material Resources presented the results of the tender for the 3-year snow removal contracts noting that the entire cost would be approximately 250 000\$ annually.

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros left the meeting.

TIME: 21:28 hours

CC-080625-MR-0238

WHEREAS the snow removal contracts of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's schools and centres expires on 2008-06-30;

WHEREAS tenders were called and subsequently opened on 2008-04-30;

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the engagement of the contractors listed in Document #SWLSB-2008/06/25-MR-002 for snow removal services for the 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years.

Carried unanimously

The Chair called for an 8 minute break.

TIME: 21:29 hours

The meeting resumed.

TIME: 21:40 hours

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:40 hours

9.0 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

9.1 Report of the Chair – Educational Services Committee:

Commissioner Nazario Facchino, Chair of the Educational Services Committee, noted that at its last meeting the committee reviewed the results of the consultation on the evaluation of learning policy and reviewed the proposed changes to the programs of studies for elementary and secondary.

9.2 Amendments to Policy #2006-ED-07: School Field Trips:

Commissioner Nazario Facchino reviewed the proposed changes to the school field trip policy noting that the current process of obtaining approval from the Executive Committee will be replaced with the Director General being advised by the Director of Educational Services of all field trips. A field trip grid will also be included in the monthly report of the Director of Educational Services.

In response to a concern expressed by Commissioner Walter Fogel, the Director of Educational Services noted that several schools have funds set aside for students who cannot afford to go on a field trip related to the curriculum.

Commissioner George Benoit returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:46 hours

The Chair asked that the Director of Educational Services encourage Principals to set aside a small budget for this purpose.

CC-080625-ED-0239

WHEREAS it has become necessary to amend policy #2006-ED-07: Field Trip Policy – Co-Curricular & Extra Curricular Programs, in order to align it with the authority given to Governing Boards by the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3);

WHEREAS these amendments will help to streamline the field trip process

Commissioner Nick Milas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the **Educational Services Committee** and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the amendments to policy #2006-ED-07: Field Trip Policy – Co-Curricular & Extra Curricular Programs.

Carried unanimously

9.3 Amendments to Policy #1999-ED-03: Program of Studies – Elementary:

Commissioner Nazario Facchino presented and reviewed the programs of studies for the elementary and secondary sectors noting that the amendments being proposed are mainly to bring the policies in line with the Régime pédagogique (Basic School Regulation).

The Council entered into discussion and it was noted that if any Commissioner had any amendments for these policies that they should be addressed to the Educational Services Committee as the elementary and secondary programs of studies are to be sent out for consultation in September.

In response to an objection from Commissioner Walter Fogel, the Chair indicated that he is correct in stating that he has a right to discuss his recommendations in a public forum but that these recommendations must also be presented to the Educational Services Committee.

In response to a point made by Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier concerning the use of photocopied materials replacing texts, the Director of Educational Services noted that in the absence of a textbook or workbook, teachers use other sources to meet the core requirements of a course. She also noted that the Governing Board approves the school consumable fees annually, which include funds to cover copies.

CC-080625-ED-0240

WHEREAS policy #1999-ED-03: Program of Studies for the Elementary School has been in place since 1999;

WHEREAS it has become necessary to align this policy with the changes to the Régime pédagogique (Basic School Regulation), the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Evaluation Policy;

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Educational Services Strategic Development Team, the Educational Policies Committee, the Management Committee, the Educational Services Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle the amended policy #1999-ED-03: Program of Studies for the Elementary School.

AND THAT the consultation on this policy take place from 2008-09-15 to 2008-11-14.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec

9.4 Amendments to Policy #1999-ED-04: Program of Studies – Secondary:

CC-080625-ED-0241

WHEREAS policy #1999-ED-04: Program of Studies for the Secondary School has been in place since 1999;

WHEREAS it has become necessary to align this policy with the changes to the Régime pédagogique (Basic School Regulation), the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Evaluation Policy;

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Educational Services Strategic Development Team, the Educational Policies Committee, the Management Committee, the Educational Services Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve in principle the amended policy #1999-ED-04: Program of Studies for the Secondary School.

AND THAT the consultation on this policy take place from 2008-09-15 to 2008-11-14.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec

10.0 SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

10.1 Report of Chair – School Organization Committee:

In the absence of the Chair, the Director of School Organization noted that the annual Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) audit of student files recently took place and 300 files from 13 schools were examined and there were no errors.

10.2 School Hours 2008-2009:

The Director of School Organization presented and reviewed the school hours for 2008-2009 noting that the only changes made were to Jules Verne Elementary School and Laval Junior, Laval Liberty and Mother Teresa Junior High Schools.

CC-080625-TS-0242

Commissioner Grace Nesi 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 school hours for 2008-2009 as indicated below.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	CLASS BEGINS	CLASS ENDS
151 - ARUNDEL	8:15	14:39
152 - CRESTVIEW	9:13	15:40
153 - GRENVILLE	8:25	14:45
154 - HILLCREST	9:00	15:33
155 - PINEWOOD - Annex A	8:00	14:30
155 - PINEWOOD - Annex B	7:50	14:20
156 - JF KENNEDY	7:50	14:27
157 - JOLIETTE	9:15	15:45
158 - LAURENTIA	8:48	15:06
159 - LAURENTIAN	8:30	15:04
161 - McCAIG	8:55	15:35
162 - MORIN HEIGHTS	8:30	15:00
163 - MOUNTAINVIEW	8:55	15:26
164 - OUR LADY OF PEACE	8:10	14:34
165 - RAWDON	8:00	14:38
166 - SOUVENIR	8:10	14:43
168 - ST-JUDE	9:10	15:42
169 - ST-PAUL	9:10	15:45
170 - GENESIS	9:15	15:44
171 - STE-ADELE	8:25	15:00
172 - STE-AGATHE ACADEMY	9:15	15:55
173 - TERRY FOX	8:00	14:30
174 - TWIN OAKS	9:07	15:43
175 - ST-VINCENT	9:10	15:50
177 - P.E. TRUDEAU	8:45	15:23
178 - JULES-VERNE	9:04	15:35
179 - FRANKLIN HILL	9:15	15:40

SECONDARY SCHOOLS	WARNING BELL	2nd BELL (students in class)	CLASS ENDS
181 - JOLIETTE HS		9:04	15:44
182 - LAVAL JUNIOR HS	7:30	7:35	13:52
183 - LTMHS	7:48	7:52	14:10
184 - LRHS		8:50	15:20
185 - LAURIER SENIOR HS	8:16	8:30	15:00
186 - PHOENIX		8:30	15:20
180 - RAWDON MIDDLE		8:00	14:38
187 - ROSEMERE HS	7:40	7:45	14:15
188 - MOTHER TERESA HS	7:40	7:45	14:02
189 - STE-AGATHE HS		9:20	15:55
190 - LAVAL LIBERTY HS	8:45	8:50	15:16

Carried unanimously

11.0 QESBA**11.1 Report of the QESBA:**

There was no report.

The Chair noted that debate on Bill 88 was suspended in the Assemblée nationale until October 2008 due to the summer recess.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale noted that the section of the Court Challenges Act concerning minority language challenges was passed.

11.2 QESBA 2008-2009 Budget Consultation:

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale, in response to a question raised at the recent Executive Committee meeting, advised that the salary line and the professional line of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) budget for 2008-2009 has increased due to the cost of living calculations and the addition of a part-time position.

CC-080625-CA-0243

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has sent its 2008-2009 budget out for consultation to its member school boards;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board delegates to the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) will be required to vote on the budget and need to know the position of the Council of Commissioners on the proposed 2008-2009 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) budget;

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board recommend the approval of the proposed 2008-2009 budget of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) as presented.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Robert Dixon, Walter Fogel

12.0 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS**12.1 Report of the Chair – Communications & Public Relations:**

There was no report.

12.2 SWL Foundation:

The Chair expressed his appreciation to all of those who participated in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation event "Delicacy of the Sea" on 2008-06-12. The event raised approximately 47 000\$ which has been earmarked for the safety and security project. He extended special thanks to the schools for being present and for encouraging school representation at the event.

In response to a question from Commissioner Mike Pizzola, the Chair advised that anyone who wishes to obtain a copy of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation financial report should contact the Coordinator of Communications.

The next event will be held on 2009-01-08.

12.3 Anti- Bullying:

Commissioner Steve Mitchell presented a resolution asking the Council to reaffirm the school board's position on bullying and its intention to promote respect for people and property within the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

The Council entered into discussion and it was noted that the "Town Halls" planned for the fall will allow the school board to gain knowledge as to whether or not bullying is an epidemic or if it is just isolated incidents. It was also noted that the school board needs to ensure that the message is given to its stakeholders that there is a genuine concern for this issue and that steps are being taken to implement a plan of action as quickly as possible.

The Assistant Director General advised the Council that the Administration is developing a computerized program to track incidents in the schools. The program will be ready for the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year and the schools will be advised as to the information required for tracking purposes.

TIME: 22:30 hours

CC-080625-CA-0244

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the meeting be extended until the completion of the agenda.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel

CC-080625-CA-0245

WHEREAS this Council has expressed that it believes that all students, parents, teachers and staff have the right to be safe, and feel safe, in their school community;

WHEREAS this Council has mandated that Town Hall meetings be held in the fall of 2008;

WHEREAS this Council believes that it is urgent that we immediately set the underlying tone for the upcoming school year as pertains to respect & responsibility;

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT this Council express its continued support for the basic tenet of respect for people and for property within our school board.

AND THAT this Council ask for the support of all the stakeholders.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Walter Fogel, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock
Commissioners voting NAY:	Peter MacLaurin, Nancy Rupnik

12.4 Textbooks:

Commissioner Steve Mitchell presented a resolution concerning the lack of textbooks in English noting that he had e-mailed a copy to all Commissioners prior to this meeting for their consideration.

WHEREAS our students have a fundamental right to the best education that we can offer;

WHEREAS the Education Act states in Chapter 1, Division 1, Article 7: Students other than those enrolled in adult education have a right to the free use of textbooks and other instructional material required for the teaching of programs of studies until the last day of the school calendar of the school year in which they reach 18 years of age, or 21 years of age in the case of handicapped persons within the meaning of the Act to secure handicapped persons in the exercise of their rights with a view to achieving social, school and workplace integration (chapter E-20.1). Each student shall have the personal use of the textbook chosen pursuant to section 96.15 for each compulsory and elective subject in which the student receives instruction;

*WHEREAS the Education Act states in Chapter 1, Division 1, Article 96.15: 96.15. The principal is responsible for approving, on the proposal of the teachers or, in the case of matters referred to in subparagraph 5, of the members of the staff concerned, 3) in accordance with this Act and in keeping with the school budget, the textbooks and instructional material required for the teaching of programs of studies; **** (items 1, 2, 4 & 5 of this article are not pertinent to this resolution);*

WHEREAS the Education Act states in Chapter 1, Division 1, Article 230: Every school board shall ensure that only the textbooks, instructional material or class of instructional material approved by the Minister are used by schools for the teaching of any program of studies established by the Minister;

WHEREAS the Education Act states in Chapter 1, Division 9, Article 462. The Minister may draw up a list of textbooks, instructional material or classes of instructional material approved by him which may be selected for the teaching of the programs of studies established by him;

WHEREAS the Minister has failed to provide access for all of our students to approved textbooks in English;

WHEREAS our students are suffering academically because of this lack of available, "approved" textbooks;

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate our Directorate to choose and purchase the best available textbooks for our children to succeed academically and within the scope of Quebec's educational reform, regardless of the province, state or country that these books may be found in.

AND THAT every effort be made to have these textbooks and supporting materials in place for the 2008/2009 school year.

The Council entered into discussion and several Commissioners noted that they had not received the e-mail. A motion was put forth to table this proposed resolution until the 2008-08-27 meeting of the Council.

CC-080625-CA-0246

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the proposed resolution concerning textbooks be tabled until the 2008-08-27 meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola

13.0 ADULT & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION:**13.1 Report of Chair – Adult & Vocational Education Committee:**

Commissioner Nazario Facchino, Chair of the Adult & Vocational Education Committee, advised that at its last meeting the committee discussed the new admission guide, viewed a PowerPoint presentation on the exploration labs, and school fees.

14.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**14.1 Report of the Chair – Information Technology Committee:**

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin, Chair of the Information Technology Committee, noted that at its last meeting the committee discussed the new Web site, virtual office and the possibility of being able to speak with an astronaut in the space station, who is a former student, sometime in the Fall.

15.0 PARENT COMMISSIONERS REPORT**15.1 Parents' Committee Report:**

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier commented on the last meeting of the Parents Committee noting that the Director General had reviewed Bill 88 and the amendments it proposes for the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3), provided an update on the translation of secondary textbooks for math, history and science, and presented the 2008-2009 Administrative staffing.

The Assistant Director of Educational Services (Complementary Services) and the Director of Material Resources presented the proposed policy on Healthy Eating & Active Living, which will be sent for consultation in September 2008.

The Parents Committee supported the policy on Acceptable Use of Computers with the following amendment: "the students cannot use the computers until the form is signed and handed in."

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

17.0 CORRESPONDENCE

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

18.0 VARIA

There was no varia.

19.0 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:41 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2008-08-27

Marie-Claude Drouin, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chair