

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2009-11-25

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, 2009-11-25:

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, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik and Edward Turchyniak; and Parent Commissioners Lisa Chartier and Angelo Grasso; and Anne-Marie Lepage, Director General.

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

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

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**CC-091125-CA-0039**

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented in document #SWLSB-2009/11/25-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**CC-091125-CA-0040**

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2009-10-28, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as presented.

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, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Steve Kmec, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola, Edward Turchyniak

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to questions from Pavel Freimann, teacher at Ste-Agathe Academy, the Chair explained that the creation of positions at the administration centre have not impacted on the school board budget. The new position of School Board Librarian is a Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) sanctioned and funded position. The creation of the position of Assistant Director of Human Resources was of no impact as a management position in the human resources department had been abolished and there are other employees within the same department on leave of absence without pay, which offsets the salary.

The Director General noted that the recovery plan has been a difficult path for all involved as the school board has grown considerably since 1998, which has meant additional expenses, i.e. staffing, building maintenance, etc. When establishing the recovery plan, all levels of the school board were looked at closely so as to reduce the impact on the schools and students as much as possible.

4.0 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR:

4.1 *Report from the Chair:*

The Chair welcomed Angelo Grasso to the table as the new Secondary Parent Commissioner.

He went on to note that in the **fall** of 2008 the Community Learning Centre (CLC) Project Development Officer, Lise Montagne, contacted a French magazine for teenage girls to inquire if it would be possible to produce a similar magazine in English. This venture was possible and the CLC Project Development Officers at other English Community Learning Centres (CLC) were invited to participate.

The results of this venture, is called “authentick – The Voice for Real Girls”. The magazine was developed and produced by girls in the 16+ programs of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (Laurentian Regional & Laval Liberty High Schools), the Littoral School Board and the Eastern Shores School Board.

The Chair extended congratulations to Mme Montagne, the other CLC Project Development Officers and the girls of the various school boards for an excellent job.

The CLC Project Development Officer noted that she is very proud of the girls and the magazine and that this project will be undertaken again during the 2009-2010 school year. She hopes to have more participation from the English school boards throughout Québec.

The Chair continued noting that recently he had received several letters from employees and stakeholders offering appreciation to the tax office, Financial Resources and Educational Services employees for going out of their way to be of assistance.

He went on to advise the Commissioners that a draft report of the Fall Focus Session has been received and reviewed by himself, the Director General, and the Assistant Director General. A few corrections have been proposed and once the report is revised a meeting will be held with the participants who were interviewed prior to the session to go over the results, and then the report will be distributed to all those who attended.

He further noted that he has been approached by the **Chair** of the Lester B. Pearson School Board to hold a joint workshop in the spring on “Effective Board Governance” with Michel Nadeau, a presenter at the 2009-10-17 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) professional development session.

He extended his appreciation to the Secretary General for her informative presentation last evening on Bill 88 and what it means to school boards.

In response to a question from Commissioner Steve Kmec, the Chair noted that the Chair of the Parents Committee was present at the Bill 88 review and that she would report back to her committee on what was discussed.

In closing the Chair noted:

- ❖ The informal meeting of Commissioners and the Parents Committee on 2009-11-26;
- ❖ The Aqua Park Project – he has been assured by the Mayor of Laval and Vincent Auclair, member of the National Assembly, that the project is still in motion;
- ❖ The premier edition of the Laurier News; and
- ❖ The upcoming H1N1 vaccination programs for the schools.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:

There was no business arising.

6.0 DECISION ITEMS:**6.1 FINANCIAL RESOURCES****6.1.1 2008-2009 Financial Statements:**

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the audited financial statements for 2008-2009. She noted that as of 2009-06-30 the deficit of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is 3 882 713\$ as compared to 5 800 000\$ on 2008-06-30.

She went on to note that under the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) new accounting reform, the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the actual deficit of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board will read 22 476 473\$.

An explanation on the new GAAP method of accounting was provided in the posted summary of the financial statements, as follows:

Effective July 1, 2008, the school board adopted the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for the public sector as established by the Council for accounting in the public sector. The accumulated surplus (deficit) for the prior period has been adjusted to conform to accounting norms adopted for the current financial year. However, prior period financial information has not been restated and is not presented in these financial statements.

Main changes that have an impact on the June 30, 2008 accumulated surplus:

- ✓ Provision for vacation and sick days
- ✓ Adjustment of capital asset values to equal original cost
- ✓ Recognition of accumulated depreciation on capital assets acquired before July 1, 2008
- ✓ Elimination of permanent capital.

The Council entered into discussion on the financial statements.

The Director General noted that the explanation will be reviewed with Financial Resources and Communications to ensure that it is comprehensive for the stakeholders. This explanation will be posted on the corporate web site and included with the 2010-2011 tax bills.

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin requested that it be noted in the explanation that this new accounting method is not just for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board but for all school boards in Québec.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale extended appreciation to the Director of Financial Resources for providing the financial statements in the old accounting format and the new GAAP format, as it provided a better understanding for the Commissioners.

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak noted that a special meeting of the Financial Resources Committee was held prior to the Council meeting with the auditor and the question was asked as to whether or not there are any financial issues that the school board should be concerned about and the auditor noted that everything is on track. He congratulated the Director of Financial Resources and her staff for their exceptional work throughout the year.

CC-091125-FR-0041

WHEREAS the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) requires that a school board **submit** annual financial statements;

WHEREAS the firm Brunet Roy Dubé, Chartered Accountants, has completed the audit of the records and statements of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the period ending 2009-06-30;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 286 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) a public notice was given on 2009-11-14 and the financial statements were published on 2009-11-18;

WHEREAS the financial statements have been prepared according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and include an adjustment to the beginning accumulated deficit in order to conform to GAAP;

WHEREAS the financial statements show revenues of 133,549,766\$, expenses of 135,385,446, a negative adjustment to the beginning accumulated deficit of 17,959,377\$, and a net accumulated deficit of 22,476,473\$, including 962,991\$ in school surpluses;

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT **2008-2009 audited Financial Statements** of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the period ending 2009-06-30 be received as submitted by the Director General to the Council of Commissioners.

Carried unanimously

6.1.2 Statement of Taxes Outstanding:

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the statement of outstanding taxes noting that is an annual requirement under the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3).

CC-091125-FR-0042

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso 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, in accordance with sections 339 and 340 of the Education Act, the statement prepared by the Director of Financial Resources for the Director General for school taxes outstanding as of 2009-11-01 in the amount of 7 053 654.38\$.

Carried unanimously

6.2 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.2.1 Election of Executive Committee:

The Secretary General provided an overview of Procedure P2000-CA-07: Executive Committee Elections Procedures.

Term of Office of the Executive Committee

The Chair advised the Council that the last term of the Executive Committee was two years and asked the Commissioners for recommendations for the coming term of the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Walter Fogel recommended, given that the potential is present for the current term of office of the Council of Commissioners to be extended beyond 2011, that a term of two years would be viable.

The Council of Commissioners entered into discussion and a term of office of two years for the Executive Committee was supported.

CC-091125-CA-0043

Commissioner Walter Fogel MOVED THAT the term of office for the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be a two (2) year mandate.

Carried unanimously

Nominations & Elections to the Executive Committee

The Chair called for nominations for a Chair of Elections and two Scrutineers.

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso nominated the Chair of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to the position of Chair of Elections and the Director General and the Assistant Director General as Scrutineers. The Chair, the Director General and the Assistant Director General accepted the nominations.

There were no further nominations.

In response to a question from Commissioner Steve Kmec, the Chair indicated that during the last elections of the Executive Committee he, as the Chair of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, was appointed as chair of elections. The Council has the right to nominate whomever they wish as the chair of elections.

The Chair called for the vote.

CC-091125-CA-0044

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso MOVED THAT Chair of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be appointed Chair of Elections; AND THAT the Director General and the Assistant Director General be appointed as Scrutineers.

Carried unanimously

The Chair of Elections provided information on the number of seats on the Executive Committee up for election noting that the 7th seat is reserved for the Chair of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

In response to a question from Commissioner Carolyn Curiale, the Chair of Elections advised that the voting process is either by a show of hands or secret ballot.

The Council entered into discussion on which voting process to implement for these elections and Commissioner Tom Mouhteros proposed a show of hands as the voting process.

CC-091125-CA-0045

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT the voting process be conducted as a show of hands.

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, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Steve Mitchell, Albina Pace, Mike Pizzola

The Chair of Elections called for nominations for seat #1 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale nominated Commissioner Edward Turchyniak. Commissioner Turchyniak accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

CC-091125-CA-0046

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

CC-091125-CA-0047

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT Commissioner Edward Turchyniak be named to Seat #1 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

The Chair of Elections called for nominations for seat #2 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros nominated Commissioner Nick Milas. Commissioner Milas accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Steve Kmec nominated Commissioner Steve Mitchell. Commissioner Mitchell accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

CC-091125-CA-0048

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman of Elections called the vote for the first nominee for seat #2.

CC-091125-CA-0049

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT Commissioner Nick Milas be named to Seat #2 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

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, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
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CC-091125-CA-0063

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT Commissioner Steve Mitchell be named to Seat #2 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

Commissioners voting YEA:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola
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The Chair of Elections advised that Commissioner Nick Milas received a majority of the votes for Seat #2 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

The Chair of Elections called for nominations for seat #3 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin nominated Commissioner Mario Di Domenico. Commissioner Di Domenico accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

CC-091125-CA-0050

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

CC-091125-CA-0051

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT Commissioner Mario Di Domenico be named to Seat #3 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

The Chair of Elections called for nominations for seat #4 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Commissioner Nazario Facchino nominated Commissioner Robert Dixon. Commissioner Dixon accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

CC-091125-CA-0052

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

CC-091125-CA-0053

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT Commissioner Robert Dixon be named to Seat #4 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

The Chair of Elections called for nominations for seat #5 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Commissioner William Pollock nominated Commissioner Nancy Rupnik. Commissioner Rupnik accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Walter Fogel nominated Commissioner Steve Kmec. Commissioner Kmec accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

CC-091125-CA-0054

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

CC-091125-CA-0055

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT Commissioner Nancy Rupnik named to Seat #5 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

<p>Commissioners voting YEA:</p>	<p>Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Carolyn Curiale, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak</p>
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CC-091125-CA-0056

Commissioner Walter Fogel MOVED THAT Commissioner Steve Kmec named to Seat #5 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

Commissioners voting YEA:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola
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The Chair of Elections advised that Commissioner Nancy Rupnik received a majority of the votes for Seat #5 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee and has been duly elected to the position.

The Chair of Elections called for nominations for seat #6 on the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

Commissioner George Benoit nominated Commissioner Merle Parkinson. Commissioner Parkinson accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Steve Kmec nominated Commissioner Walter Fogel. Commissioner Fogel declined the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

CC-091125-CA-0057

Commissioner George Benoit MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

CC-091125-CA-0058

Commissioner George Benoit MOVED THAT Commissioner Merle Parkinson be named to Seat #6 of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

CC-091125-CA-0059

Commissioner Grace Nesi MOVED THAT the following be named to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Executive Committee:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Steve Bletas | Merle Parkinson |
| Mario Di Domenico | Nancy Rupnik |
| Robert Dixon | Edward Turchyniak |
| Nick Milas | |

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, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Mike Pizzola

The Chair of Elections declared that the election process has been concluded.

The Chair extended congratulations to the new members of the Executive Committee and advised that the next meeting of the Executive Committee would be on 2009-12-15.

6.2.2 Authorization to Sign Entente with MELS:

The Secretary General advised the Council that the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has requested a specific authorization to sign for an allocation of a grant for the synthetic field at Laval Liberty High School.

CC-091125-CA-0060

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board entered into a shared cost project with the Ville de Laval and the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS);

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the Ville de Laval have finalized a Protocol of agreement for the use of the synthetic playing field located at 3200, boul. Souvenir O., Laval (Québec);

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board needs to sign an agreement for the allocation of a grant under the *Programme de soutien aux installations sportives et récréatives* for the construction of a synthetic field at Laval Liberty High School;

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize the Chair, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Vice-Chair, as well as the Director General, and in her absence or with her knowledge the Assistant Director General, to sign on its behalf an agreement with the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for the allocation of a grant under the *Programme de soutien aux installations sportives et récréatives* for the construction of a synthetic field at Laval Liberty High School.

AND THAT the terms and conditions established by the MELS for the purpose of this agreement be respected.

Carried unanimously

6.3 QESBA

6.3.1 Balance of 2009-2010 QESBA Membership Fees:

The Secretary General advised that an invoice was received from the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) for the balance of the 2009-2010 membership fees now that the September 30 enrolment figures have been confirmed.

CC-091125-CA-0061

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-090623-CA-0155 authorizing the payment of the provisional Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee;

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has submitted an invoice for the balance of the 2009-2010 membership fee;

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the balance of the 2009-2010 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee in the amount of 27 554,57\$.

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, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Walter Fogel, Mike Pizzola

6.4 MATERIAL RESOURCES

6.4.1 Engagement of Contractor – McCaig ES Renovation/Enlargement Project:

The Director of Material Resources presented and reviewed the tenders for the McCaig Elementary School renovation/enlargement project.

Commissioner Nazario Facchino left the meeting.

TIME: 20:37 hours

In response to a question from Commissioner Edward Turchyniak, the Director of Material Resources noted that the contractor selected for this project has been in business for many years and is conformable.

In response to a question from Commissioner Merle Parkinson, the Director of Material Resources noted that there were two non-conformable bidders on this project due to the non-submission of certain required documents.

Commissioner Nazario Facchino returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:42 hours

CC-091125-MR-0062

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolutions #CC-081126-MR-0062 and #CC-081126-MR-0063, authorizing the Material Resources Department to proceed with a public call to tender for the services of a contractor for the enlargement/renovation of McCaig Elementary school;

WHEREAS public tenders were called and subsequently opened on 2009-11-23;

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

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director of Material Resources and the Material Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the enlargement/renovation of McCaig Elementary School, to **Dorbec Construction Inc.** for a total cost of 2 593 134,00\$, before taxes, (2 927 000,00\$, all taxes included).

AND 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

In response to a question from Commissioner Albina Pace, the Director of Material Resources advised that the school board has been very busy with the H1N1 vaccination program for the students. A team composed of the Assistant Director General, the Director of School Organization, the Communications Coordinator, the Transportation Supervisor, support staff and himself have been working hard coordinating with ten (10) Centres de la Santé et des Services sociaux in the Laval-Laurentides-Lanaudière regions and the school board transportation contractors to ensure that the vaccination of students runs smoothly. Vaccinations for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board students should be completed by 2009-12-04.

He extended his appreciation to the Director General for her role in this vaccination program as it has been necessary for her to liaise with the Ministère de la Santé et Services sociaux on many occasions to ensure that the school board process was valid.

The Assistant Director General noted that the Principals were also very involved with the H1N1 process as a quick turn around of the delivery of information was crucial. He also extended appreciation to the transportation contractors for their flexibility in this unusual situation. The school board is keeping track of expenses and hopes that application can be made to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for reimbursement.

The Council entered into discussion and it was noted that the student turnout for the vaccination program is very low and that the government should consider sending a team to the schools to vaccinate the students as the turnout would be significantly higher.

In response to a question from Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier, the Director General advised that she would report on the number of students vaccinated per school in her report at the 2009-12-03 meeting of the Parents Committee.

The Assistant Director General noted that the school staff that accompanied the students to the vaccination centres **is** to be congratulated, as they were vigilant in surveying the students.

The Director General noted that H1N1 has placed the school board in a very delicate situation at all levels because many of the staff have personal responsibilities with family as well professional responsibilities at the school, but to date everything is functioning well due to the teamwork of the staff at all levels. She extended her appreciation to everyone for meeting the challenge during this critical time.

The Chair extended thanks to the support staff at all the schools for assisting in the coordination of this vaccination program.

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 SWL Foundation:

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak advised the Council that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation has received 42 project requests for an allotment of the 40 000\$ that the Foundation has set aside for this purpose. Four members of the Foundation have reviewed the projects and have selected 19 for funding. He noted that some of these projects are only being partially funded by the Foundation and the rest will be funded by the Director General's Strategic Plan budget. Members of the Foundation will be visiting the schools to present the cheques for the projects.

He reminded the Council that the next Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala would be on 2010-01-14.

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier noted that at the last meeting of the Parents Committee, a member of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation provided an overview of the projects that it has achieved and what it would like to achieve. The Parents Committee members appreciated this presentation as it provided them with a better understanding of the Foundation's function.

The Council entered into discussion on various aspects of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation such as the projects selected, the cost of tickets to the events, sponsorship, etc.

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak reminded the Council that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation is still a very new **foundation** and is experiencing some growing pains. The solicitation of sponsorships for a new foundation can be difficult as it is competing with other foundations.

He went on to note that after the 2010-01-14 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala it will have donated over 300 000\$ to the schools.

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier commented that for those people who do not wish to attend a Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation event, donations are gratefully received.

7.2 Parent Commissioners Report

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso presented the monthly report of the Parents Committee noting that the Director of School Organization had given a very informative presentation on the Laval and Rawdon rezoning at the 2009-11-05 meeting. He also noted that the Governing Board workshop on 2009-10-19 was very informative but it had been noted that it is a lot of information to be absorbed in one session.

He went on to note that the five parents who were invited to the Fall Focus Session enjoyed it very much and were surprised to find a similar vision among the other attendees.

Parent Commissioner Lisa Chartier expressed appreciation, on behalf of the Parents Committee, to the Commissioners who attend the monthly meeting of the committee as their presence is very positive.

7.3 Report of the QESBA:

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale advised the Council that the next meeting of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) will be on 2009-12-04. Prior to this meeting a new optional session will be introduced. This new session will be a two (2) hour, one (1) topic discussion. For the first meeting the topic will be school elections.

The Chair advised the Council that at last evening's workshop on Bill 88, Kim Hamilton of Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) was present and he extended his appreciation to her for her valuable input.

In response to a question from Commissioner Steve Kmec, the Chair advised that this would be discussed at a soon to be scheduled meeting on the division of territory for the 2011 school elections.

7.4 Career Exploration Lab – November Schedule:

The Chair drew the Council's attention to the Career Exploration Lab schedules for November, December and January noting that he appreciates that Laval Liberty High School is the most frequent user of the lab, but it **is** nice to see interest in the centre from other schools.

Commissioner Mike Pizzola left the meeting.

TIME: 21: 18 hours

8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:

In response to a question from Pavel Freimann, teacher at Ste-Agathe Academy, the Director General noted that the school board has been in deficit before and this is mainly due to continuing growth, the need for new schools and the maintenance of small schools.

Commissioner Nick Milas left the meeting.

TIME: 21:18 hours

Commissioner Mike Pizzola returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:20 hours

She went on to note that the anticipated growth of the school board did not happen as projected.

The Director of Financial Resources noted that the largest contributions to the deficit were maintenance costs and the increase in **the number of sick leaves.**

Commissioner Nick Milas returned to the meeting.

TIME: 21:22 hours

In response to an additional question from Mr. Freimann, the Director General noted that an information pamphlet on the recovery plan was distributed to all stakeholders and is available on the corporate Web site. This pamphlet included a 5-year schedule of how much of the deficit would be paid out annually with the largest amount being during the 2008-2009 school year. The recovery plan is revised annually, once the revised budget has been approved.

The Chair noted that even if the enrolment increases prior to the conclusion of the recovery plan, which will increase revenues, the recovery plan will be maintained until its conclusion date.

Jack Fitch, President of the SEPB 577 Administrative Support Staff Union, requested that the school board use its **employees'** newsletter, the E-News, to advise employees of the various events in the schools and centres, as part of the success of a school board is participation in school based activities.

In response to a request from several Commissioners, the Director of Adult & Vocational Education advised that she has taken note of the need to have some activities held at the CDC Laurier in the evening.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

The Chair drew the Council's attention to the correspondence in the meeting package noting the letter from Vincent Auclair, Member of the National Assembly, concerning the Aquatic Centre.

10.0 VARIA:

The Chair advised the Council of the following meeting additions and changes for the month of December 2009:

- ❖ 2009-12-03 ▶ Financial Resources Committee – Cancelled
- ❖ 2009-12-08 ▶ Communications & Public relations – Cancelled.
- ▶ Caucus – all Commissioners invited to a caucus meeting as the request to have additional electoral divisions for the 2011-11-05 school elections will be discussed. This request needs to be submitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) no later than 2009-12-31.
- ❖ 2009-12-09 ▶ The School Organization Committee will meet to review the responses from the Rawdon and Laval use of schools consultations. All Commissioners are invited to attend this meeting.
- ❖ 2009-12-14 ▶ Information Technology - Cancelled
- ❖ 2009-12-15 ▶ Special Executive Committee meeting
- ❖ 2009-12-16 ▶ Special Council of Commissioners meeting
- ❖ 2009-12-17 ▶ Adult & Vocational Education Committee - Cancelled

11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 21:35 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇒ SPECIAL ⇒ 2009-12-16