

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2010-11-24

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, 2010-11-24.

Present: Commissioners Steve Bletas, Chairman; Carolyn Curiale, Vice-Chairman; Georges Benoit, Mario Di Domenico; Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik and Edward Turchyniak; Parent Commissioners Roberto Bomba 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; Stephanie Krenn, Director of Complementary Services; Livia Nassivera, Director of Financial Resources; Gerry Robillard, Director of Educational Services; Gaelle Absolonne, Assistant Director of Adult Education & Vocational Training; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Commissioners Grace Nesi and Mike Pizzola.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19:31 hours.

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

CC-101124-CA-0037

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented in document #SWLSB-2010/11/24-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CC-101124-CA-0038

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2010-10-27, 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, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Peter MacLaurin

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

4.0 REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

4.1 *Report from the Chairman:*

The Chairman welcomed Roberto Bomba as the newly elected Elementary Parent Commissioner to the table and congratulated Angelo Grasso on his re-election as Secondary Parent Commissioner.

He went on to comment on the recent Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Fall Professional Development Session noting that he and the Director General had made a presentation on Bill 88 "From Adoption to Application: An Insider's View". The PowerPoint from the session was presented.

The Chairs of the member boards of QESBA participated in an additional workshop on the Sunday where the second instalment of the "Go publique" campaign was discussed as well as Community Learning Centres and portable video conferencing units.

He also noted that interviews had been held for the position of Student Ombudsman.

The Secretary General advised the Council that the posting of the Student Ombudsman position received approximately 50 Curriculum Vitae (CVs) and that all were reviewed and a selection for interviews made. The interviews were held on 2010-11-10 jointly with the English Montreal School Board, as the school boards have agreed to share a Student Ombudsman, and 5 candidates were met. The Selection Committee was unanimous in its recommendation. The Director of Human Resources has spoken with the recommended candidate to present a remuneration proposal which was well received. It was agreed that the remuneration would be reviewed after one year to ensure that it meets the needs of the position and the school boards.

The Council entered into discussion.

The Secretary General also noted that the service agreement would include the remuneration, clauses relating to the mandate, service obligations and cancellation of the agreement.

The Chairman advised the Council that the Pink Mitten Campaign for breast cancer has gone very well within the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board with 11 631 pairs of mittens being sold and 11 631\$ being raised for the cause.

Commissioners Carolyn Curiale and Walter Fogel left the meeting. **TIME: 20:00 hours**

The Chairman advised the Council that on 2010-11-05 the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board had the pleasure of welcoming the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education, Leisure & Sports, Leo LaFrance, and his assistant, Jill Goldberg; for a tour of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board. The point of the tour was to bring awareness to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) of the reality of the situation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, being such a large and diverse school board and to our needs. The trip began and ended at the CDC Laurier-Pont-Viau with stops at Grenville Elementary School, Laurentian Regional High School, Morin Heights Elementary School and Joliette High School in between.

The activities of the day touched on the Career Exploration Centre, Vocational Education, the 4-year old Kindergarten program, the upkeep of small schools, partnerships, retention of personnel in the northern schools, and the lack of English professional services, as well as Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board initiatives. Mr. LaFrance was very receptive to our needs and amazed with the size and how rural our territory is.

Commissioners Carolyn Curiale and Walter Fogel returned to the meeting. **TIME: 20:03 hours**

The Director General, the Assistant Director General, Director of Adult Education & Vocational Training, the Director of Complementary Services, the Director of Educational Services, and the Director of Information Technology all participated in the tour and made various presentations while "on the road". It was an interesting and positive adventure for all.

The Chairman also noted that things are moving along nicely at the Arundel Nature & Science Centre (ANSC) and asked Commissioner Peter MacLaurin to comment on the last meeting of the ANSC Sub-Committee.

Commissioner MacLaurin noted that he is very impressed with the work being done by the two teachers assigned to ANSC. Reservations for the centre have increased dramatically with summer 2011 being almost fully booked, as well as most weekends. Increased use by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board schools and other school boards is also occurring.

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros left the meeting.

TIME: 20:07 hours

Commissioner MacLaurin thanked the Council, Director General, Director of Educational Services and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation for all the support given to the revitalization of ANSC, as the turnaround of the centre within the year has been amazing.

Commissioner Tom Mouhteros returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:10 hours

In closing, the Chairman noted that he and the Vice Chair had attended the 2010-11-17 Governing Board Workshop for Chairs & Vice-Chairs. He mentioned that he was quite impressed with how the meeting was run with three video conferencing locations and the interaction between the 3 locations. He also noted that he is pleased to see that this school board is providing its Governing Boards with professional development so that they can better understand their role within the school board.

The Secretary General noted that the next Governing Board Workshop will be held on 2011-02-22 and the topic will be finance.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:

5.1 *Engagement of Student Ombudsman:*

This was discussed under item 4.0.

The Secretary General noted that the recommended candidate is very well rounded with experience as a lawyer, mediator and in social work.

In response to a question from Commissioner Mario Di Domenico, the Director of Financial Resources noted that the measure monies from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) are only for the current school year and any monies remaining are not carried to the next year. Measures are subject to renewal annually.

CC-101124-HR-0039

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-100324-CA-0114, which mandated the Secretary General of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to post for the position of Student Ombudsman;

WHEREAS an agreement was reached with the English Montreal School Board to share the services of the Student Ombudsman;

WHEREAS the position was posted and interviews were subsequently held on 2010-11-10;

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Governance & Ethics Committee and the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board engage **William Hartzog**, as Student Ombudsman, effective 2010-12-01 to 2013-11-30.

AND THAT the remuneration attached to the position of Student Ombudsman be prorated, respectively, in accordance with the student population of each school board.

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 service.

Carried unanimously

5.2 Enrollment Criteria 2011-2012:

The Assistant Director General advised that consultation feedback was received from the Parents Committee and it supported the enrolment criteria as presented for 2011-2012.

CC-101124-ED-0040

WHEREAS section 239 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) states *“Each year, every school board shall enrol 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 enrolment in a school exceeds the capacity of the school, enrolment 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 *“Enrolment 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 enrolment 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 enrolment 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 enrol 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 on the criteria for the enrolment of students in schools, which exceed the capacity of the school;

WHEREAS the registration period for students for 2011-2012 is the week of 2011-02-07;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Parents Committee has been consulted and endorses the 2011-2012 enrolment criteria;

Parent Commissioner Roberto Bomba MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the School Organization Committee and Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the establishment of the criteria for enrolment of students in its schools, subject to the availability of space, for the 2011-2012 school year.

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

5.3 SWLAA Working Conditions:

The Director General provided background information on the negotiations on policy #2000-HR-01: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrator’s Association, noting that the document had been revised and amended in order for it to be more comprehensive. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators Association (SWLAA) was consulted on these amendments. She noted that there were some last minute changes and that SWLAA agreed to them in writing.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico noted that the amendments to this document should have been received in a more timely manner in order to provide the Commissioners time to review the additional negotiated changes.

CC-101124-HR-0041

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association requested a revision of policy #2000-HR-01: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrator's Association;

WHEREAS the Directorate and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association have negotiated the revisions;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners, at its 2010-10-27 meeting approved the policy in principle and sent it for consultation;

WHEREAS the consultation period concluded on 2010-11-22 and comments received were reviewed and taken into consideration;

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve the amendments to policy #2000-HR-01: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrator's Association.

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, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Walter Fogel

The Director General expressed her appreciation to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators Association (SWLAA), the Assistant Director General and the Director of Human Resources for all of the positive negotiations conducted on this policy.

6.0 DECISION ITEMS:

6.1 MATERIAL RESOURCES

6.1.1 Change Orders – McCaig ES Renovation/Enlargement Project:

The Director of Material Resources presented and reviewed the change orders on the McCaig Elementary School renovation/enlargement project.

CC-101124-MR-0042

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-091125-MR-0062, awarding 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);

WHEREAS, during the construction, change orders occurred to address specific issues, amounting to 77 794,78\$, before taxes (87 810,95\$, taxes included);

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the change orders in the amount of 77 794,78\$, before taxes (87 810,95\$, taxes included).

AND THAT the total cost of the project, including the change orders, be increased to 2 670 928,78\$, before taxes (3 014 810,95\$, taxes included).

FURTHER THAT, the Chairman, 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, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning these change orders.

Carried unanimously

6.1.2 Change Orders – St-Vincent ES Renovation Project:

The Director of Material Resources presented and reviewed the change orders on the St-Vincent Elementary School – Concorde Centre renovation project.

In response to an observation from Commissioner Carolyn Curiale, the Director of Material Resources noted that one of the change orders for this project could not have been anticipated as when the brick walls, which are the original walls, were tested in 3 places by the architect, the samples indicated that the brick walls met the specifications but once opened such was not the case.

CC-101124-MR-0043

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-100428-MR-0122, awarding the contract for the renovation of St-Vincent Elementary School - Concorde Centre to KF Construction inc. for a total cost of 1 033 001,11\$, before taxes, (1 166 000,00\$, all taxes included);

WHEREAS, during the construction, change orders occurred to address specific issues, amounting to 296 814,06\$, before taxes (335 028,87\$, taxes included);

Commissioner Nick Milas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Material Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the change orders in the amount of 296 814,06\$, before taxes (335 028,87\$, taxes included).

AND THAT the total cost of the project, including the change orders, be increased to 1 329 815,27\$, before taxes (1 501 028,87\$, taxes included), reflecting the necessary change orders.

FURTHER THAT, the Chairman, 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, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning these change orders.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik left the meeting.

TIME: 20:43 hours

Several Commissioners noted that the St-Vincent Elementary School community is very pleased with the renovations.

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:44 hours

6.1.3 Offer to Purchase Land – Ste-Agathe Academy:

The Director of Material Resources advised the Council that an offer to purchase lot 153-4, located in Ste-Agathe (Québec) adjacent to Ste-Agathe Academy, has been received noting that the bid accepted is slightly higher than the appraised value.

In response to several questions, the Director of Material Resources noted that no additional offers had been received since the 2010-11-10 Material Resources Committee meeting and that there was a time limit for submitting offers to purchase the available lots.

CC-101124-MR-0044

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution # CC-100428-MR-0125 mandating the Director of Material Resources to place part of lot 14-2 (3 168,9 m² / 3 buildable lots: 153-2, 153-3 and 153-4), located in Ste-Agathe (Québec) adjacent to Ste-Agathe Academy, up for sale;

WHEREAS Daniel Hays deposited an offer, on 2010-11-10, to purchase one lot (153-4), in the amount of 37 100\$ (taxes not included);

WHEREAS an appraisal of this land (3 168 m² / 3 buildable lots) establishes the fair market value at 35 000\$ each lot (taxes not included);

Commissioner Walter Fogel 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 accept the offer in the amount of 37 100\$ (taxes not included), made by Daniel Hays, to purchase lot 153-4, located in Ste-Agathe (Québec) adjacent to Ste-Agathe Academy.

AND THAT Daniel Hays accepts all legal and notarial fees related to the sale.

FURTHER THAT, the Chairman, 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, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this sale.

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, Steve Mitchell, Tom Mouhteros, Albina Pace, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Nick Milas, Merle Parkinson

6.2 QESBA**6.2.1 Balance of 2010-2011 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 2010-2011 membership fees now that the September 30 enrolment figures have been confirmed.

CC-101124-CA-0045

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-100623-CA-0167 authorizing the payment of the provisional Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee;

WHEREAS the QESBA has submitted an invoice for the balance of the 2010-2011 membership fee;

Commissioner George Benoit MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the balance of the 2010-2011 Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) membership fee in the amount of 29 790,28\$.

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

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 SWL Foundation:

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak advised that the invitations to the 2011-01-13 Foundation Gala have been sent out and that tickets are 225\$.

7.2 Parent Commissioners Report

The report of the Parent Commissioners commented on the election of the following:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| • Angelo Grasso | ▶ | Mother Teresa JHS | ▶ | High School Parent Commissioner |
| • Roberto Bomba | ▶ | St-Paul E.S | ▶ | Elementary Parent Commissioner |
| • Dori Raymond | ▶ | Twin Oaks E.S. | ▶ | RCP-3L Representative |
| • Guy Gagnon | ▶ | St-Jude E.S. | ▶ | 2 nd EPCA Alternate |

The report also noted the revision of the Parents Committee Internal Rules of Procedure, the 4 positions on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) that need to be filled, and a workshop for Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Governing Boards being held on 2010-11-17.

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso advised the Council that Morton Jaquays, Parent Delegate from Laval Junior High School, was elected as President of the English Parents Committee Association (EPCA).

The Chairman noted that this is an honour for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and asked that the Director General send a letter of congratulations.

7.3 Report of the QESBA:

Commissioner Carolyn Curiale presented the monthly report of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) noting the Fall Professional Development Session, the implications of Bills 103, 104 and 115, the "Rencontre des partenaires" on special needs students, the 2011 Spring Conference, the activities of the Public School Promotion Committee, and the Award of Merit recipients, Joan Rothman of the English Montreal School Board and John Killingbeck, posthumously, of the Lester B. Pearson School Board.

She recommended that Commissioners check out the following Web site on health as it is very interesting www.moovjam.com and the program is free for anyone involved in the educational field.

8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:

There were no questions

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

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

The Chairman noted that the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has established a Task Force on Internet and that Commissioner Peter MacLaurin is a member.

Commissioner MacLaurin noted that the idea of the QESBA with this Task Force is to showcase how the information highway and technology, i.e. video conferencing, can benefit school boards. The plan is to set-up a demonstration with students from all the English school boards for the Spring Conference to encourage school boards to make a commitment to enhance learning potential.

10.0 VARIA:

In response to questions from Commissioner Walter Fogel concerning the fluctuating enrolment figures of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, the Chairman noted that when students graduate from high school they are not all being replaced as there is a student population that has not yet reached the age of eligibility for schooling. It is hoped, if funding can be made available from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) or other sources, that the establishment of 4-year old Kindergarten programs in rural schools would help increase the enrollment figures.

The Secretary General advised the Council that she just received word from the English Montreal School Board that its Council of Commissioners had supported the nomination of William Hartzog for the position of Student Ombudsman.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 21:07 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2010-12-15

Marie-Claude Drouin, Secretary General

Steve Bletas, Chairman