

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2011-01-26**

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, 2011-01-26.

Present: Commissioners Steve Bletas, Chairman; Robert Dixon, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, and Nancy Rupnik; 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; Gaëlle Absolonne, Director of School Organization; 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; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Commissioners Carolyn Curiale, Vice-Chairman; Georges Benoit, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Walter Fogel, Peter MacLaurin, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola, and Edward Turchyniak.

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

**1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

**CC-110126-CA-0050**

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented in document #SWLSB-2011/01/26-CA-001.

**Carried unanimously**

**2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**CC-110126-CA-0051**

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2010-12-15, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as presented.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Steve Bletas, Robert Dixon, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas, Tom Mouhteros, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Albina Pace

**3.0 QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

#### 4.0 REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

##### 4.1 *Report from the Chairman:*

The Chairman advised the Council that on 2011-01-24 the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) launched Phase II of its "Go publique" campaign. The campaign is based around an original song, "Shoot for the Stars", and a video. The song and video were written and performed by a former student of Souvenir Elementary School and Chomedey High School Andrew Farrar, professional name "Annakin Slayd". The video was viewed and it was noted that as of today it has received 2700 hits.

He went on to note the following upcoming meetings that he and/or the Director General will be attending:

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|------------|-------------|--|
| 2011-02-14 | ▶ 8:30 a.m. | ▶ Michelle Courchesne, Députée de Fabre – to discuss various dossiers.   |
|            | ▶ 10:30a.m. | ▶ Gilles Vaillancourt, maire de Laval, and Louise Lortie, Chair of Commission scolaire de Laval - La Persévérance scolaire.  |
|            | ▶ 1:00 p.m. | ▶ English Chairs Meeting with Line Beauchamp, Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) – to discuss démocratie scolaire, special needs, vocational education, timely receipt of the budget parameters, school taxes, etc. |

He continued commenting on the QESBA Community Engagement Initiative which has been launched to raise awareness of English public education among the stakeholders of its member boards. The QESBA has developed a toolkit to assist its member boards with the organization of their respective "Town Hall" meetings.

He further noted a partnership with LEARN, Giant Steps and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board on autism for the expansion of services for this group of special needs students.

The Director General noted that this partnership will be very beneficial for the school board as it will introduce new and creative ways to educate these students.

Parent Commissioner Angelo Grasso entered the meeting.

**TIME: 20:03 hours**

In concluding his report, the Chairman noted that on 2011-02-08 he will be holding an open discussion with the Governing Board Chairs and that on 2011-02-02 he will be attending the Soirée Énergie where the winners of the Concours Énergie 2010 will be announced. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is a contender in this concours as it has submitted an energy project.

In response to a request from the Chairman, the Secretary General advised the Council that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Student Ombudsman, William Hartzog, can now be reached at 1-866 or 1-450-621-5600, extension 1440, or [studentombudsman@swlauriersb.qc.ca](mailto:studentombudsman@swlauriersb.qc.ca). The coordinates of the Student Ombudsman are currently on the corporate Web site and will be advertised in the next edition of the Laurier News.

The Chairman advised the Council that there has been some positive activity on the Laval Aqua Park dossier and that more information will be available shortly.

The Director of Financial Resources entered the meeting.

**TIME: 20:12 hours**

#### 5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:

There was no business arising.

**6.0 DECISION ITEMS:****6.1 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS****6.1.1 Prolongation of 2007-2011 Strategic Plan:**

The Secretary General presented the recommendation to prolong the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan until 2012-02-29 noting that it would allow for the reception and analysis of the key results necessary for the development of a new plan.

The Assistant Director General left the meeting.

**TIME: 20:14 hours**

**CC-110126-CA-0052**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution # CC-100623-CA-0145, modifying the 2007-2011 Strategic Plan for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in order to align it with the 5 goals of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) Strategic Plan;

WHEREAS the academic performance results are only available from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport in the autumn of each year;

WHEREAS the Partnership Agreement of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the Annual Report must be modified and adapted in light of these results and new targets established for the duration of the Strategic Plan;

WHEREAS the current Strategic Plan of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board expires on July 1, 2011 prior to the availability of key performance indicators;

WHEREAS the extension of the current Strategic Plan would allow for a full and transparent consultation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's stakeholders;

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the extension of the current 2007-2011 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Strategic Plan until 2012-02-29 in order to allow for the reception and analysis of key results necessary for the development of the new Strategic Plan.

AND THAT a focus session of all stakeholders take place in May of 2011 and that a 60-day consultation period take place in the Fall of 2011.

**Carried unanimously**

The Assistant Director General returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 20:15 hours**

**6.1.2 Community Engagement:**

This was discussed under item 4.0

**CC-110126-CA-0053**

WHEREAS the Minister of Education is planning a reflection exercise with the various partners of school boards on the future of School Board Democracy;

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) as a primary partner in this consultative exercise has encouraged school boards to reach out to their respective communities to mobilize the public opinion on issues of interest related to this topic;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to hear from its community in the broad sense and to reach out to its partners in Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière in order to present a complete perspective on its elements of pride and issues of concern;

WHEREAS this would take place in the form of Town Hall meetings which would be held with the use of video-conferencing facilities simultaneously in the three regions;

WHEREAS many partners would be invited to these Town Hall Meetings such as parents, unions, associations, members of the National Assembly, municipal level collaborators, representatives of our neighbouring French Boards, etc.;

Parent Commissioner Roberto Bomba MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board hold a Town Hall meeting on 2011-03-29.

AND THAT the Director General be mandated to plan and prepare these Town Hall Meetings in collaboration with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Council of Commissioners in order to maximize visibility and participation so as to make the voice of the English Community heard in this provincial reflection exercise on School Board Democracy.

**Carried unanimously**

## **6.2 ADULT EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

### **6.2.1 SWL & Vanier College Bridge for Secretarial Studies:**

The Director of Adult Education & Vocational Training provided background information on the bridge for Secretarial Studies noting that 450 hours from the school board program will be credited to students who continue on at Vanier College.

#### **CC-110126-AE-0054**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-080827-AE-0012, entering into a Collaboration Plan between Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and Vanier College for a Consolidated Vocational and Technical Training Offer for the Laval, Laurentides, Lanaudière region (Building Educational Bridges);

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) has approved this Collaboration Plan (Building Educational Bridges);

WHEREAS Bridge 3 of the Collaboration Plan, Secretarial Studies ↔ Micropublishing & Hypermedia Technology, has been completed;

Commissioner Robert Dixon MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve Bridge 3 of the Consolidated Vocational and Technical Training Offer for the Laval, Laurentides, Lanaudière region (Building Educational Bridges), for Secretarial Studies ↔ Micropublishing & Hypermedia Technology.

**Carried unanimously**

## **6.3 FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

### **6.3.1 2010-2011 Revised Budget:**

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the 2010-2011 revised budget. She reviewed the variances, the adjustments required once the September 30 enrolment figures were confirmed and the adjustment of revenues and expenses, where required.

In response to a question from Commissioner Steve Kmec, the Director of Financial Resources noted that because of the recovery plan no funding has been set aside for emergency purposes.

The Director General noted that if there was an emergency situation that required funding the school board would do what was necessary then make the necessary adjustment to the recovery plan, as some things are beyond our control.

#### **CC-110126-FR-0055**

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Financial Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the **revised budget for 2010-2011**.

**Carried unanimously**

#### **7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

##### **7.1 SWL Foundation:**

The Chairman advised the Council that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala, held on 2011-01-13, was a success with 444 persons in attendance and approximately 100 000\$ raised. He extended his appreciation to everyone who participated in the event. The Foundation will use the funds raised to support projects submitted by the school board.

##### **7.2 Parent Commissioners Report**

There was no report.

##### **7.3 Report of the QESBA:**

There was no report.

#### **8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:**

There were no questions

#### **9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Chairman drew attention to the correspondence in the meeting package.

#### **10.0 VARIA:**

There was no varia.

#### **11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:**

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

**Carried unanimously**

**TIME: 20:34 hours**

**NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2011-02-23**