

7PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2013-10-30

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, 2013-10-30.

Present: Commissioners Nick Milas, Chairman; Nazario Facchino, Vice-Chairman; Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin (via Skype), Emilio Migliozi, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, and Edward Turchyniak; Parent Commissioners Roberto Bomba and Angela Martorana; and Stephanie Vucko, Director General.

Also present were: Eileen Kelly, Assistant Director General; Johanne Brabant, Secretary General; Gaëlle Absolonne, Director of School Organization; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; France D'Aoust, Director of Financial Resources; Frédéric Greschner, Director of Complementary Services; Richard Greschner, Director of Human Resources; Heather Halman, Director of Adult Education & Vocational Training; Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources; Tina Korb, Director of Educational Services; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Guests: Alexandre Joly and Francis Pesant, Auditors.

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

TIME: 19:36 hours

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following addition to the agenda was proposed:

5.0 Business Arising:

5.1 *Enrolment Criteria* INFO

CC-131030-CA-0029

Commissioner Mike Pizzola MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as amended in document #SWLSB-2013/10/30-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CC-131030-CA-0030

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2013-09-25 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, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Albina Pace

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from Chiara Parisi, a parent from Terry Fox Elementary School, the Director General noted that the school board is currently looking at the functional capacity of the school and the enrolment projections for the 2014-2015 school year.

The enrolment criteria is currently in consultation with the Parents Committee and any recommendations provided will be taken into consideration.

In response to questions from Maria Tortorici, a parent, the Director General advised that the school board is obligated to ensure that its buildings are used efficiently while respecting the smaller class sizes implemented by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS). The process for Mother Teresa Junior High School for the 2014-2015 school year will be that a student must be accepted into the school before selecting a program such as the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP). If this program is selected an exam will be given in the spring of 2014 for the final selection of students for the program.

She further noted that the school board will be going to consultation during this school year on a model to resolve the high school situation in Laval once the Laval High Schools Ad Hoc Committee presents its findings to the Directorate. If the parents wish to see what is being discussed by the Laval High Schools Ad Hoc Committee this information can be viewed on the school board's Web site.

In response to a question from Daniela Amato, a parent, the Chairman indicated that 77 students took part in the 2013-2014 lottery and families of 6 of those students took the school board to court for wrongful transfer of students. The judge ruled in favour of the school board but noted that the school board needs to rethink some of its procedures.

The Director General explained that the school board is obligated by the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) to establish an enrolment criteria, which it only applies as a last resort at both the elementary and high school levels. The school board has had various versions of the enrolment criteria applied over the years at the high schools in Laval, none of which have been successful as there is always someone who feels that the process is unfair, but the current lottery system is providing the fairest method of selection that has been put in place to date. She encouraged parents of grade 5 and 6 students to attend the open houses at the two junior schools prior to making a choice as both have very similar programs.

The Vice-Chairman left the meeting.

TIME: 19:52 hours

She further noted that the first priority of placement, at the elementary level, is given to those who live within the zone so it would be prudent on the part of parents to register their children within the designated school zone because out-of-zone may not be an available option.

Once a model for the Laval high schools is selected by the Council a public consultation will take place where feedback will be received and considered.

4.0 REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

4.1 *Chairman's Report:*

The Chairman advised the Council that this evening marks the last meeting of Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources. He extended appreciation, on behalf of the Council, to Mr. Hogue for his ten years of loyalty to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and wished him well in his new position at the English Montreal School Board.

The Director General extended thanks, on behalf of herself and the Directorate team, for his contributions that have gone above and beyond what is required in a leadership position.

There was a presentation of appreciation and photos.

The Director of Material Resources thanked everyone for the gift and kind words noting that it has been an honour to have worked for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and feels that he is leaving a solid team to continue after his departure.

The Chairman gave his monthly report noting:

- Recent graduation ceremonies;
- The Focus Session held on October 19 at the Arundel Nature & Science Centre was well received by those in attendance. There will be a follow-up in February 2014;
- Commissioners received an e-mail seeking input on the Annual Report; and
- The recent Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Fall Professional Development Session and Annual General Meeting.

The Vice-Chairman gave a brief summary of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Fall Professional Development Session and Annual General Meeting noting that there were sessions on people driving leadership and how to increase enrolment in the English sector.

In response to a request from Commissioner Steve Bletas, the Chairman asked those who attended the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Fall Professional Development Session and Annual General Meeting to provide a written report to the Council.

Commissioner Mike Pizzola left the meeting.

TIME: 20:14 hours

4.2 Director General's Report:

The Director General presented her monthly report commenting on:

- The first Zen Live session with Principals had gone well. This technology allows for people to participate in meetings without having to travel by using video phones;
- The pre-consultation results have been gathered for the Laval high schools and are being collated;
- The positive meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee for Sector 1 of the Laval Elementary Schools which encompasses Souvenir Elementary School and Hillcrest Academy;
- The urgent matter of addressing certain needs in Information Technology and a plan of action needs to be developed, as per the information viewed in the Power Point presentation;
- Use of e-mail to communicate with parents;
- On-line tutoring via LEARN continues to be available to Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board students free of charge. LEARN will be making a presentation of this service to the Parents Committee at its next meeting;
- Schools are being asked to report on successes as well as pedagogical improvements as part of their Success Plans;

Commissioner Mike Pizzola returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:17 hours

- Grenville Elementary School recently participated in a session at the Redpath Museum in Montreal via video-conference with McGill University. McGill does these types of presentations to other sectors but this was the first time for an elementary school. Grenville Elementary School is a school that looks for alternative learning for its students as it is located in a more rural area;
- Franklin Hill Elementary School is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and pictures of this celebration can be seen on the school's Web site;
- The week of September 30 to October 4, 2013 was observed as a violence and bullying free week;
- A recent fundraiser for breast cancer took place at the Administration Centre which raised approximately 1 500\$. Those present this evening were invited to remember loved ones by adding a memory card to those already posted on the wall of the boardroom;

- Data Team work at Joliette Elementary School. This is a Principal lead project whereby teachers are released one afternoon a month to work on activities related to the School Success Plan such as observing student learning, how to improve success and developing new teaching strategies. During this release time the students will participate in activities related to school success. Joliette Elementary School is to be commended for being innovative;
- Ste-Adele Elementary School is doing a cross-Canada bike trip using a spinning bike and all students take turns riding and all the kilometres are tracked. This school is also having its interactive whiteboards installed; and
- The Principal of Mountainview Elementary School has established a support group called ARCH for gay, lesbian and cross-gender parents. The next meeting is December 2, 2013 and everyone is welcome to attend. The group would also like an opportunity to make a presentation to the Council.

In response to several questions concerning the services of LEARN, the Director General noted that, at the request of the Parents Committee, LEARN is currently looking into what services it can provide for Adult Education. She will also inquire about services for home schooled students and report back on this at the next Pedagogical Committee.

4.3 Assistant Director General's Report:

The report of the Assistant Director General focused on school visits, attendance at Governing Board meetings, graduations, case conferences with Complementary Services and attendance at the PROCEDE Conference.

6.1.1 2012-2013 Financial Statement:

The Auditor presented and reviewed the 2012-2013 Financial Statement and also provided a brief explanation of the auditing process. The financial position of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is good. The overall audit was positive with three errors, two financial and one administrative, all in daycare but it must be noted that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board internal controls for the day care services are excellent and should be used as an example for other school boards.

The Council entered into a question and answer session with the Auditors concerning certain areas of the financial statement and auditing practices.

The Chairman thanked the Auditors for being present this evening.

CC-131030-FR-0031

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

WHEREAS the firm Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton s.e.n.c.r.l., has completed the audit of the records and statements of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the period ending 2013-06-30;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 286 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) a public notice was given on 2013-08-25 and the financial statements will be published on 2013-10-31;

WHEREAS the 2012-2013 Financial Statements, prepared according to the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards, show the following:

Beginning Accumulated Surplus	6 601 774 \$
<u>Current Year:</u>	
Revenues	150 967 823 \$
Expenses	<u>150 152 912 \$</u>
Total Current Year Surplus	814 911 \$
Ending Accumulated Surplus	7 416 685 \$

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT the **2012-2013 audited Financial Statements** of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the period ending 2013-06-30 be received by the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board as submitted by the Director General.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Albina Pace left the meeting.

TIME: 20:47 hours

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:

5.1 Enrolment Criteria:

Commissioner Steve Bletas brought forth the following motion:

Commissioner Steve Bletas MOVED THAT the siblings of students currently attending Terry Fox Elementary School that are entering kindergarten be grandfathered for the next two years.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to several questions, the Director General acknowledged the proposal and opinions expressed and that they would be taken into consideration but that, at this time, the enrolment criteria is in consultation so the process must be respected.

Commissioner Albina Pace returned to the meeting.

TIME: 20:49 hours

Discussion continued and it was suggested that this motion be tabled until the consultation process has concluded.

On a "point of privilege", Commissioner Guy Gagnon asked that a clear motion be drafted prior to voting and that the solid numbers be presented to back up the request.

Commissioner Steve Bletas lifted his motion from the table.

In response to several questions, the Director General, with the assistance of the Directors, responded that:

- The funding for the Multi Service Centre, while not yet received, has been committed by the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS);
- The additional cost of the decontamination at Crestview Elementary School will be submitted to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for reimbursement, as it was an unforeseen cost; and
- The rumours about Franklin Hill Elementary School being turned over to a French school board are false. The Commission scolaire des Affluents is looking for additional space. The school is currently at 90% capacity.

6.0 DECISION ITEMS:

6.1 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

6.1.2 *Statement of Unpaid Taxes:*

The Director of Financial Resources advised the Council that this statement of unpaid taxes is an annual requirement under the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3).

CC-131030-FR-0032

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve, in accordance with sections 339 et 340 of the Education Act, the statement prepared by the Director of Financial Resources for the Director General for school taxes outstanding as of November 1st, 2013 in the amount of 3 181 982 \$.

Carried unanimously

6.2 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.2.1 *Election of Executive Committee:*

The Chairman provided a recap of the decisions taken at the September 25, 2013 meeting of the Council concerning the election of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will be elected this evening rather than in November and the vote will be by a show of hands. In conversation with his peers, the Chairman noted that he was advised that when there is more than one (1) candidate the vote is usually conducted by a secret ballot. This information is being given to ensure that the newer Commissioners are aware of the process.

The Council entered into discussion on the pros and cons of voting by show of hands and by ballot. The following was noted:

- The ballot process is more democratic;
- It is important for the Commissioners not to feel accountable for their choice;
- When one votes for a Mayor or Premier it is not by a show of hands;
- The elections of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Corporate and Pedagogical Committees were done by a show of hands without any problem;
- A motion was passed and should stand;
- The school board is a public body and the public needs to see how everyone votes;

On a "point of privilege", Commissioner Mario Di Domenico noted that the procedure clearly states that the method of voting is decided upon and he proposed a show of hands and a vote was taken and the motion passed. The process was adhered to.

- When individuals are discussed at a Council meeting the group goes "in camera" should the same not be true for a vote;
- Prior to the vote at the September 25, 2013 Council meeting deliberations took place and those Commissioners present were able to present their respective points of view and the vote was still in favour of a show of hands;
- If people are uncomfortable with the September decision a motion should be presented to rescind; and
- A 2/3 majority is required to rescind the motion on a show of hands.

CC-131030-CA-0033

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED THAT resolutions CC-130925-CA-0025 and CC-130925-CA-0026, voting by show of hands, be rescinded.

THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik
Commissioners voting NAY:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Emilio Migliozi, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola, Edward Turchyniak

Composition of the Executive Committee

The Secretary General reviewed the composition of the Executive Committee and the Council agreed that procedure #P2000-CA-07: Executive Committee Elections Procedures, whereby the three (3) non-voting delegates to the Executive Committee have been removed, be presented for final approval.

CC-131030-CA-0034

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #CC-071114-CA-0049, establishing the composition of its Executive Committee in accordance with section 179 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3);

WHEREAS the Executive Committee is currently comprised of 7 voting members, two (2) Parent Commissioners as non-voting members, and three (3) non-voting delegates;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners has approved resolution #CC-130925-CA-0026, amending procedure #P2000-CA-07: Executive Committee Elections Procedures, whereby the three (3) non-voting delegates to the Executive Committee have been removed;

Commissioner Guy Gagnon MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish the composition of its Executive Committee as seven (7) voting members, including the Chairman of the Council of Commissioners and two (2) Parent Commissioners as non-voting members.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Nazario Facchino

Term of Office of the Executive Committee

The Secretary General advised the Council that the current term of the Executive Committee is 2 years.

The Council entered into discussion and concluded that the term of the new Executive Committee should be set at 2 years.

CC-131030-CA-0035

Commissioner Emilio Migliozi MOVED THAT the term of office for the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be a 2-year mandate.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec

On a "point of order", Commissioner Peter MacLaurin inquired about the vote and the Chairman repeated how the vote was split.

Nominations & Elections to the Executive Committee

The Chairman asked Parent Commissioner Roberto Bomba if he would act as Chair of Elections for the Executive Committee. Parent Commissioner Bomba accepted.

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

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak nominated Commissioner Steve Mitchell. Commissioner Mitchell accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Grace Nesi nominated Commissioner Merle Parkinson. Commissioner Parkinson accepted the nomination.

Commissioner William Pollock nominated Commissioner Robert Dixon. Commissioner Dixon declined the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Commissioner Steve Mitchell addressed his nomination noting that he feels that as Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee for the past 2 years that he has contributed positively and feels that he would continue to do a good job as a member.

Commissioner Merle Parkinson spoke to her nomination noting that as a member of the Executive Committee for the past 2 years she has been proactive, asked many significant questions and has worked towards keeping the school board on the right track.

The Chair of Elections called for the vote for seat #1 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Steve Mitchell: **Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola, Edward Turchyniak**

Commissioner Merle Parkinson: **Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik**

The Chair of Elections declared Commissioner Steve Mitchell elected to seat #1 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Mitchell thanked the Council for its vote of confidence.

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

Commissioner Robert Dixon nominated Commissioner George Benoit. Commissioner Benoit accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Grace Nesi nominated Commissioner Merle Parkinson. Commissioner Parkinson declined the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Commissioner George Benoit was elected by acclamation to seat #2 on the Executive Committee by acclamation.

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

Commissioner Albina Pace nominated Commissioner Grace Nesi. Commissioner Nesi accepted the nomination.

Commissioner George Benoit nominated Commissioner Robert Dixon. Commissioner Dixon accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Commissioner Grace Nesi spoke to her nomination to seat #3 noting that she has been a member of the Executive Committee on several occasions and that she had declined her nomination in 2011 to allow for another commissioner to become a member.

Commissioner Robert Dixon addressed his nomination by stating that he feels that he is well connected to the ongoing issues and feels that he provides a positive contribution. He would be honoured to serve again on the Executive Committee.

The Chair of Elections called for the vote for seat #3 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Robert Dixon:	Georges Benoit, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Steve Mitchell, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioner Grace Nesi:	Steve Bletas, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson

The Chair of Elections declared Commissioner Robert Dixon elected to seat #3 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Robert Dixon thanked everyone.

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

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico nominated Commissioner Steve Bletas. Commissioner Bletas accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Robert Dixon nominated Commissioner Merle Parkinson. Commissioner Parkinson accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

Commissioner Mike Pizzola MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Commissioner Steve Bletas spoke to his nomination noting that during this last year of the current Council experience will be needed on the Executive Committee and he has served as a Commissioner of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board since 1998.

Commissioner Merle Parkinson noted that she had addressed the Council concerning her nomination to the Executive Committee but added that she has been a commissioner of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the past 10 years.

The Chair of Elections called for the vote for seat #4 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Steve Bletas:	Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Emilio Migliozi, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Mike Pizzola, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioner Merle Parkinson:	Georges Benoit, Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik

The Chair of Elections declared Commissioner Steve Bletas elected to seat #4 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Steve Bletas thanked everyone for their support.

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

Commissioner Steve Bletas nominated Commissioner Mario Di Domenico. Commissioner Di Domenico accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Albina Pace nominated Commissioner Grace Nesi. Commissioner Nesi accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

Commissioner Mike Pizzola MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico addressed his nomination noting that as a member of the Executive Committee he has stuck to the rules and stays above the politics.

Commissioner Grace Nesi declined to address her nomination as she had commented on an earlier nomination in this process.

The Chair of Elections called for the vote for seat #5 on the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio, Steve Mitchell, Emilio Migliozi, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioner Grace Nesi	Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Nancy Rupnik

The Chair of Elections declared Commissioner Mario Di Domenico elected to seat #5 on the Executive Committee.

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

Commissioner Steve Mitchell nominated Commissioner Edward Turchyniak. Commissioner Turchyniak accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Albina Pace nominated Commissioner Merle Parkinson. Commissioner Parkinson declined the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

Commissioner Mike Pizzola MOVED THAT nominations cease.

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak was elected to seat #6 on the Executive Committee by acclamation.

CC-131030-CA-0036

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

George Benoit	Nick Milas
Steve Bletas	Steve Mitchell
Mario Di Domenico	Edward Turchyniak
Robert Dixon	

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Peter MacLaurin

Parent Commissioner Roberto Bomba turned the chair back over to the Chairman.

Commissioners George Benoit, Nazario Facchino and Emilio Migliozi left the meeting.

TIME: 21:48 hours

6.2.2 Review of Inclement Weather Policy:

The Director General advised the Council that the inclement weather policy needs to be revised to reflect the weather differences in the various regions of the school board.

CC-131030-HR-0037

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-061213-HR-0072, approving policy #2006-HR-07: Inclement Weather & Emergency Closing of Establishments;

WHEREAS the policy requires review in order to bring it up to date with the school board's current practices;

Commissioner Grace Nesi MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Corporate Committee to review policy #2006-HR-07: Inclement Weather & Emergency Closing of Establishments.

AND THAT any recommendations for amendment be brought to the November 27, 2013 meeting of the Council of Commissioners

Carried unanimously

6.2.3 Agreement with CRÉVALE – Promotion of Education:

The Director General noted that the school board is currently a partner with CRÉVALE and it would be beneficial to the school board to continue this partnership as it can provide funding for various education projects.

CC-131030-CA-0038

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #051214-CA-0094 approving its participation in the Comité régional pour la valorisation de l'éducation (CRÉVALE) to promote education awareness in the Lanaudière region;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to be a part of the 2013-2014 Entente portant sur la valorisation de l'éducation dans la région de Lanaudière;

Commissioner Albina Pace MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director General, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board enter into an agreement for the promotion of education in the Lanaudière region for 2013-2014.

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 agreement.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Robert Dixon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Albina Pace, Merle Parkinson, Mike Pizzola, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Guy Gagnon

6.2.4 Student Ombudsman Report:

The Chairman MOVED THAT the council go “in camera”. **TIME: 21:50**
hours

Commissioners George Benoit, Nazario Facchino and Emilio Miglozzi returned to the meeting during the “in camera” session.

The meeting resumed. **TIME: 22:10 hours**

CC-131030-CA-0039

WHEREAS a complaint has been filed with the Student Ombudsman by “Parent KT” on September 24, 2013;

WHEREAS the Student Ombudsman submitted his report on October 23, 2013;

WHEREAS the Student Ombudsman report considers that the complaint cannot be dealt by him since it is not included in his jurisdiction because it raises questions that should be dealt with under Section 26 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3);

WHEREAS the Student Ombudsman report nonetheless contains a recommendation «That the Council of Commissioners inform the parent that her complaint that the School Board did not take action against the teacher may be referred to the Ministry of Education authorities for a determination as to whether the complaint is receivable or not.»;

WHEREAS it has been made known to the school board that the parent has, since the Student Ombudsman report has been submitted, filed a complaint under Section 26 of the Education Act with the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS);

WHEREAS the school board believes that this complaint under Section 26 renders the Student Ombudsman's recommendation moot;

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board acknowledge the receipt of the Student Ombudsman report dated October 23, 2013.

AND THAT the Council of Commissioners decline the recommendation made therein as now being without any useful effect and moot.

Carried unanimously

6.3 HUMAN RESOURCES

6.3.1 Posting of Director of Material Resources Position:

The Director General advised the Council that Daniel Hogue, Director of Material Resources, has resigned his position, effective November 15, 2013. Given that, and the fact that the Assistant Director of Material Resources is currently on medical leave, she is asking for a mandate to post the position immediately, establish a Selection Committee and interview as soon as possible.

CC-131030-HR-0040

WHEREAS the Director of Material Resources has given notice of resignation, effective November 15, 2013;

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Director General to post for the position of Director of Material Resources as per policy #2000-HR-02: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section of the Association des cadres scolaires du Québec (ACSQ).

Carried unanimously

6.3.2 Selection Committee - Director of Material Resources:

The Director General noted that the Selection Committee requires three (3) commissioners and a representative of the Association des cadres scolaires du Québec (ACSQ) and asked that interested Commissioners review the timeline for the interview process prior to considering being on the committee.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico nominated Commissioner Elio Lattanzio. Commissioner Lattanzio accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Steve Mitchell nominated Commissioner Peter MacLaurin. Commissioner MacLaurin accepted the nomination.

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

The Chairman suggested that it might be a good idea to have alternates in case of unforeseen circumstances.

Parent Commissioner Angela Martorana nominated Commissioner Merle Parkinson. Commissioner Parkinson accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Nazario Facchino volunteered to be an alternate

Commissioner Elio Lattanzio ceded his place on the Selection Committee to Commissioner Parkinson and she accepted, leaving an alternate position open.

Commissioner Grace Nesi volunteered.

CC-131030-HR-0041

WHEREAS the Director of Material Resources has given notice of resignation, effective November 15, 2013;

WHEREAS the Directorate wishes to complete the replacement process in a timely and efficient manner;

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 5.2 of policy #2000-HR-02: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section of the Association des cadres scolaires du Québec (ACSQ), the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is required to form a Selection Committee for the engagement of a new Director of Material Resources;

WHEREAS this Selection Committee must include three commissioners;

Commissioner Grace Nesi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Directorate, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board establish a Selection Committee in accordance with policy #2000-HR-02: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section of the Association des cadres scolaires du Québec (ACSQ) and that the following Commissioners be named to the said committee:

Steve Kmec
Peter MacLaurin
Merle Parkinson

Nazario Facchino (Alternate)
Grace Nesi (Alternate)

FURTHER THAT a recommendation be brought to the Council of Commissioners once the selection process has been completed.

Carried unanimously

6.3.3 Engagement of Secretary General:

The Director General provided an update on the posting for the position of the Secretary General noting that interviews were conducted with three candidates, 1 internal and 2 external. This evening the Selection Committee has its recommendation.

In response to comments from Commissioner Steve Kmec, the Director General noted that it was the recommendation of the Selection Committee in its preliminary review of the posting of the Secretary General to indicate that having a legal background would be an asset but not a requirement.

CC-131030-HR-0042

WHEREAS the Secretary General resigned on August 14, 2013;

WHEREAS this position was posted internally from September 19 – October 3, 2013 and externally from October 4 – 18, 2013;

WHEREAS a Selection Committee held interviews on 2013-10-21;

Commissioner Steve Mitchell MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board appoint **Johanne Brabant** to the position of Secretary General, effective 2013-10-31.

Carried unanimously

The Chairman extended congratulations to the new Secretary General.

6.4 MATERIAL RESOURCES

6.4.1 Group Purchasing – Mandate to Director of Material Resources:

The Director of Material Resources advised the Council that under Law 1: Integrity in Public Contracts Act, school boards are required to participate in group purchasing wherever possible and the following resolution will allow the Director of Material Resources to represent the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board on different buying groups.

CC-131030-MR-0043

WHEREAS By-Law # BL2008-CA-01: Delegation of Functions & Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, delegates the Director of Material Resources to make the public calls for tenders required under the law of various Quebec provincial government ministries, or under the by-laws or policies of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board;

WHEREAS one of the objectives of Policy # 1999-MR-01: Supply of Goods & Services of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board encourages group purchasing when financially beneficial;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board participates in several purchasing groups in order to obtain goods and services at a fair market price;

Commissioner Elio Lattanzio MOVED THAT on the recommendation of the Director of Material Resources, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Director of Material Resources to represent the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board at the following purchasing groups:

- Comité d'achats regroupés Laval-Laurentides-Lanaudière (CARLLL);
- Centre collégial des services regroupés (CSSR).

AND THAT the Director of Material Resources reports to the Council of Commissioners on all tenders.

FURTHER THAT this resolution replace resolution # CC-011212-MR-0054.

Carried unanimously

8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:

In response to questions from the audience, the Director General, assisted by the Directors, noted the following:

- that there are many factors examined by the Council prior to a decision being taken of the movement of students, such as enrolment figures and building capacity;
- the school board is currently awaiting the official September 30 enrolment figures from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS);
- it is the responsibility of the school board to use its buildings effectively and to ensure that those students that live in the zone have priority;
- registration in public schools happens in January and February and this school board has moved registration for the 2014-2015 school year up by 3 weeks. The exams for the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) will be scheduled once registration is completed, which is usually in April. All information concerning how registration works will be posted on the school board's Web site;
- the registration period will begin with re-registration whereby all families with children currently registered in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board will receive re-registration forms to be completed, followed by registration for families of students not currently registered in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and once all those have been received they will be reviewed and, if necessary the enrolment criteria will be applied;
- stakeholders are invited to go to the school board's Web site to view a simulation of how the lottery system works as it will provide a better understanding to the process; and
- the goal of the school board is not to have to apply the enrolment criteria which is why changes need to be made to the high school structure in Laval.

TIME: 22:38 hours

CC-131030-CA-0044

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED THAT the meeting be extended until the completion of the agenda.

Carried unanimously

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

The Chairman drew attention to correspondence in the package.

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 *SWL Foundation:*

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak informed the Council that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala Viva Las Vegas, with an Elvis impersonator, will be held on January 23, 2014 at the Embassy Plaza in Laval. Tickets will be 225\$. The Laurier Gala and StarFest will be held on May 22, 2014 at the Chateau Royal. The Foundation will be trying some new events such as a bike rally and an eco adventure to promote physical fitness and health.

Commissioner Turchyniak also welcomed Commissioner Elio Lattanzio as a parent representative to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation.

7.2 *Parent Commissioners Report*

Parent Commissioner Angela Martorana commented on a seminar at McGill University on the lessons learned about Bill 56 during the past year. The seminar indicated that parents must be educated as ambassadors to communicate to children how they should handle situations of violence and bullying. It also noted that bullying is used to identify every little issue in a school when it is not necessarily true and

that this needs to be addressed. The Principal of Mountainview Elementary School, Darlene Miller, has implemented an initiative at the school from kindergarten to grade 6 to educate the students of how to handle issues of bullying and violence. She indicated that this initiative should be presented to other schools including high schools.

7.3 *Report of the QESBA:*

There was no report.

10.0 VARIA:

The Vice-Chairman advised the Council that there are rumours that the Premier is going to establish a technical committee to look at school boards as part of a twinning with municipalities but to date the Fédération des Commissions scolaires du Québec (FCSQ) and the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) have heard nothing about this from the Ministry. The FCSQ and the QESBA have prepared comments on this issue but are waiting for the Premier to approach the school boards.

The Chairman advised the Council that Leo LaFrance, Assistant Deputy Minister, Services à la communauté anglophone, aux affaires autochtones et au Plan Nord, has announced that he will be retiring in January 2014. A replacement is yet to be named.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 22:50 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2013-11-27

Johanne Brabant, Secretary General

Nick Milas, Chairman