

Minutes of the FOURTH (4th) meeting of the 2016-2017 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday February 2, 2017 at 7:15 pm in the Boardroom of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dorina Popa Varsamis	Crestview Elementary	Bilal Sirhan	Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary
Birtha Myrthil	Franklin Hill Elementary	Frank D'Onofrio	Pinewood Elementary
Sammy Reda	Genesis Elementary	Lorne Crawford	Rawdon Elementary
Angela Kosciuk	Hillcrest Academy	Carla Tosti	Rosemere High
Sandra Wolff	John F Kennedy Elementary	Effie Kontakos	Souvenir Elementary
Bob Pellerin	Joliette High	Christine Flynn	St Jude Elementary
Christopher Tracton	Lake of Two Mountains High	Patricia Sasso	St Paul Elementary
Daniel Ryan Stone	Laurentia Elementary	Abbondio Castronovo	St Vincent Elementary
Don Beverly	Laurentian Regional High	Thomas McCuiston	Ste-Adele Elementary
Tony Beliotis	Laval Junior Academy	Jo Morrissey	Ste-Agathe Academy via telephone
Patrick Leprohon	McCaig Elementary	Sergio Di Marco	Terry Fox Elementary
Sarah Andrews	Morin Heights Elementary	Leonor Paixao	Twin Oaks Elementary
Michael Thorburn	Mountainview Elementary	Nadia Zuccaro	SEAC
Andrew Vieira	Our Lady of Peace Elementary		

ALSO PRESENT: Anne McMullon, Commissioner; Angelo Grasso, Director General EPCA; Robert Green, (via telephone), Debie Germann and Dayo Odubayo, EPCA

ABSENT: Arundel Elementary, Grenville Elementary, Joliette Elementary, Jules Verne Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, Laval Senior Academy

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:15

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Happy New Year to members!

On behalf of the PC thoughts and prayers are with the families in Quebec City

The chairperson welcomed the guests from EPCA

Add 7.1 Hours at LJA and LSA

7.2 Anti-Bullying program

PC201702002-01 Laurentia Elementary MOVED THAT the agenda is accepted with additions. Seconded by Terry Fox Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of December 1st, 2016

Twin Oaks Elementary was present at the last meeting

PC201702002-02 Morin Heights MOVED THAT the minutes of December 1st, 2016 are accepted as presented. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Crestview Elem, Hillcrest Acad, Joliette High, Lake of Two Mountains High, Laurentia Elem, Laurentian Regional High, Laval Junior Acad, McCaig Elem, Morin Heights Elem, Our Lady of Peace Elem, Pierre E. Trudeau Elem, Rawdon Elem, Rosemere High, St Jude Elem, St Paul Elem, St Vincent Elem, Ste-Adele Elem, Ste-Agathe Acad, Twin Oaks Elem, Terry Fox Elem
Abstain: Franklin Hill Elem, Genesis Elem, John F Kennedy Elem, Mountainview Elem, Souvenir Elem, Pinewood Elem, SEAC

3. QUESTION PERIOD

Due to recent events in Orlando and Quebec City, a parent from Twin Oaks enquired about the lockdown procedures in schools. In her school, the lockdown practice has not been done in two years. She went on to enquire that when there is an event – is there communication done with students to discuss it.

The Chairperson will relay the question to the Board to get a proper answer to share with members at the next meeting.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Bill 105 (presentation by Mrs. Johanne Brabant, Secretary General)

Tabled to next meeting.

4.2 History Curriculum (presentation by Mr. Robert Green (via telephone), EPCA)

The EPCA's statement on the new History Curriculum was e-mailed to members.

Mr. Robert Green presented the EPCA's statement on the new History Curriculum that will be taught in our high schools. The EPCA is not against this new curriculum as a whole, they like the structure, the learning chronologically, however they feel it is marginalizing minorities and neglecting some very important historical events and people. They are questioning the structure as there are too many inconsistencies. They want it to include more to reflect the diverse minorities of all Quebec people. Mr. Green claimed that the reality is that not all teachers are trained history teachers and will only use the textbooks without supplementing. The EPCA is looking for endorsement from Parents Committee and Governing Boards to bring it back to the Minister of Education. There is a video available on the Quebec Federation of Home and School (QFHSA.org) site and the EPCA encourages members to ask their GB's to view the videos where all of the information is available.

In response to a question from St. Vincent, the EPCA is not aware of any opposition from the French school boards.

The members had many questions and concerns about pronouncing themselves against this curriculum without a school board representative present to talk about our teachers and boards view on this subject. Terry Fox went on to say that in the memo sent to all member from Ste-Agathe Academy, our History Consultant reported that the teachers did not see many problems with this new version. In addition, most history teachers will generally supplement the program to bring to light certain facts.

The Chairperson asked members to read over the statement the EPCA sent and if they have questions to e-mail them to her and she will get the answers before the next meeting to be prepared to discuss this issue further.

4.3 Top 3 priorities of PC for EPCA

Please send priorities to the chairperson before next meeting.

4.4 2017-2018 School Calendars – e-vote

Whereas Hillcrest Academy is concerned about the impact on certain courses like Physical Education and Music to schools on a 5-day cycle because most pedagogical days are scheduled on Monday's and/or Friday's;

Whereas St-Jude Elementary School would like the pedagogical day of October 10th to be placed on October 6th instead;

Whereas St-Paul Elementary School would like the pedagogical day of October 30th to be placed on November 1st instead;

PC 20170117 Carla Tosti MOVED THAT the SWLSB Parents committee approves the 2017-2018 "all schools except" school calendar with the above concerns and conditions noted.

This motion was **CARRIED** on the following division:
For: Crestview Elem, Franklin Hill Elem, Hillcrest Acad, John F Kennedy Elem, Jules Verne Elem, Lake of Two Mountains High, Laurentia Elem, Laval Senior Acad, McCaig Elem, Morin Heights Elem, Mountainview Elem, Our Lady of Peace Elem, Pierre E. Trudeau Elem, Rawdon Elem, Rosemere High, St Jude Elem, St Paul Elem, St Vincent Elem, Ste-Agathe Acad, Terry Fox Elem, SEAC
Abstain: Genesis Elem, Joliette High, Ste-Adèle Elem

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Best Practices

Nothing this month

6. REPORTS

6.1 School Board's Report

Congratulations to Mary Lazaris, Principal, Twin Oaks Elementary who won the Canadian Outstanding Principals Award through the Learning Partnership.

6.2 Chair Report

In members packages.

6.3 Treasurer’s Report

In members packages. All good – please submit expense claims after each meeting.

6.4 Parent Commissioner Report

In member’s packages.

6.5 RCP-3L Report

No report this month

6.6 SEAC Report

In members packages.

SEAC is still looking to schools to include a member on their Governing Boards who’s child has special needs.

6.7 EPCA Report

In members packages

7. VARIA

7.1 Hours at LJA and LSA

In response to a question from St. Paul, starting and finish time in both schools may be changed as a result of the boards’ on-going transportation contract negotiation with STL. The Director General wishes to reiterate that no start/finish times have been determined and /or finalized.

7.2 Anti-Bullying program

In response to a question from St. Paul on Anti-Bullying and Anti Violence Plan, the director General responded that all schools must have an ABAV plan. In some cases, the plan is integrated within the school’s code of conduct. ARTICLE 75.1. *The governing board is responsible for approving the anti-bullying and anti-violence plan, and any updated version of the plan, proposed by the principal.* This applies to both elementary and secondary.

8. QUESTION PERIOD

Twin Oaks suggested that schools GB’s send a member to attend SEAC meetings to be aware of what is going on.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting February 2, 2017

PC20161201-07 Terry Fox Elementary MOVED THAT the meeting is closed at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approved _____, 2017

Chairperson _____ Secretary _____

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O’Keeffe, Recording Secretary