

Minutes of the SECOND (2<sup>nd</sup>) meeting of the 2017-2018 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at 7:15 pm in the Boardroom of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jessica Le Duc	Franklin Hill Elementary	Andrew Vieira	Our Lady of Peace Elementary
Soha Morsi	Genesis Elementary	Bilal Sirhan	Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary
Michael Arfani	Hillcrest Academy	Frank D'Onofrio	Pinewood Elementary
Bob Pellerin	Joliette High	Amber Lawrence	Rawdon Elementary
Samuel Lhémy	Jules Verne Elementary	Carla Tosti	Rosemere High
Xavier Pouchain	Lake of Two Mountains High	Effie Kontakos	Souvenir Elementary
Tara Anderson	Laurentia Elementary	Christine Flynn	St Jude Elementary
Don Beverly	Laurentian Regional High	Patricia Sasso	St Paul Elementary
Douglas Howarth	Laval Junior Academy	Abbi Castronovo	St Vincent Elementary
Tony Beliotis	Laval Senior Academy	Thomas McCuiston	Ste-Adele Elementary
Lisa Marie Cipriani	McCaig Elementary	Jo Morrissey	Ste-Agathe Academy
Lannie Richard	Mountainview Elementary	Angela Lombardo	Terry Fox Elementary

**ALSO PRESENT:** Fred Greschner, Assistant Director General; Sergio Di Marco, Elementary Parent Commissioner; Eileen Kelly, Centre Director, Vocational Training

**ABSENT:** Arundel Elementary, Crestview Elementary, Grenville Elementary, John F Kennedy Elementary, Joliette Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, Morin Heights Elementary, Twin Oaks Elementary, SEAC Representative

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Add : Varia 7.1 Student Athletic Training Program

**PC20171102-01** St Vincent Elementary MOVED THAT the agenda is accepted with addition. Seconded by Souvenir Elementary

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of October 5, 2017**

**PC20151102-02** Laurentia Elementary MOVED THAT the minutes of October 5, 2017 are accepted as presented. Seconded by Souvenir Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:  
For: Franklin Hill Elem, Genesis Elem, Joliette High, Jules Verne Elem, Lake of Two Mountains High, Laurentia Elem, Laval Junior Elem, Laval Senior Acad, McCaig Elem, Mountainview Elem, Pierre E. Trudeau Elem, Rawdon Elem, Rosemere High, Souvenir Elem, St. Vincent Elem, Ste-Adele Elem, Ste-Agathe Acad, St. Jude Elem,  
Abstain: Hillcrest Acad, Laurentian Regional High, Our Lady of Peace Elem, Pinewood Elem, St. Paul Elem, Terry Fox Elem

**3. QUESTION PERIOD**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING**

**4.1 Internal Rules & Procedures**

In 4.0 meeting – numbering off at 4.3 and 4.4 – will be corrected

The Chairperson reminded the members on the rules on decorum on 10.1.

**PC20151102-03** St Jude Elementary MOVED THAT the Internal Rules and Procedures are approved with minor changes. Seconded by Pierre E Trudeau Elementary

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

## 4.2 Internal Financial Policy

Items 12 and 13 to become 13 and 14 to add:

### 12.0 Transportation Advisory Committee

Travelling and meals expenses will be reimbursed in compliance with this policy. *Chapters 6 & 7*

In response to a question from Rawdon Elementary, the treasurer was waiting to get the budget from the school board before preparing the mileage forms to reimburse members. There is nothing specific in the internal rules about how long it takes to get reimbursed.

**PC20151102-04** Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT the Internal Financial policy is approved with noted additions. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Vocational Training - Presentation by Ms. Eileen Kelly

Mr. Greschner and Mrs. Kelly presented the Vocational Training courses and options available at our school board.

Vocational Training offers marketable skills to students. They then go into the world and can make good money. All courses taken in VT lead to recognized diplomas from the government.

Many of the courses available are given on line so that students everywhere on our territory are able to do them.

In response to a question from Laval Junior Academy, Vocational Training is public so the ministry pays. Students are only charged for consumable goods. A suggestion was made to go to high schools to offer some courses during weeks when there are no classes. Ms. Kelly responded that it has been done and there is a special project happening in Joliette right now with a student who really wants to learn but does not have the means to get to Laval.

Most of the courses are either associated with companies or can be recommended to them, where they can get their hours to get their cards needed once they graduate. There is no placement program though once they graduate. Businesses are invited to call Vocational Training to ask for graduates to go and work in their companies.

The number of hours needed for a stage depends on the program.

Students in the WOTP (semi-skilled program) in high schools can go to Vocational Training and could be considered for VT providing they can get their functional prerequisites.

In response to a question from McCaig Elementary on giving thought to courses on videography, graphic arts, etc in Vocational Training or perhaps more current courses, Ms. Kelly responded that one day these could be bridge programs. Trying to get the cards is difficult as it takes a long time to get them through the ministry. The ministry checks with Emploi Quebec to see if there is a need for these jobs before they start the process of getting the programs in the school.

In a follow up question, on having a place for students on the autism spectrum or Asperger's, this is not a problem. In the Accounting and Carpentry classes there have been autistic students and they have had students with dyslexia.

Lake of Two Mountains high spoke about a company in St-Eustache who is trying to match the skills of the market needed to the courses available to take. He will give the name to the VT.

In response to a question from Rawdon Elementary, there are opportunities in the Lanaudière to take hybrid courses at Vocational Training.

Ms. Kelly encourages the members to drop by the centre to see what is offered.  
Mr. Greschner will send the PowerPoint presentation to the Chairperson to send to members.

## 5.2 SEAC membership

**PC20171102-05** Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT Samantha Rodgers of Sainte Agathe Academy is nominated as a delegate to the SEAC for the 2017-2018/2018-2019 school years. Seconded by Pierre E Trudeau Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

## 5.3 Consultation – Enrollment Criteria

Documentation was in members packages. Comments needed by December 4<sup>th</sup> and the next meeting is December 7<sup>th</sup>.

The Elementary Parent Commissioner pointed out that the enrolment criteria is all the same except for the paragraph in yellow where SWLSB personnel will not be allowed to fill out forms or letters of recommendation for students to attend schools in other school boards. Parents will still have the choice to send their children to other boards but we will not facilitate it. This will not apply to specialty schools in regards to students with special needs. Any students wishing to attend another English school board are required to fill out an interboard agreement.

In response to a question from Rawdon Elementary, we are working on bringing in specialty programs to our schools in order to keep our students in our board.

In response to a question from Hillcrest Academy, we are not hurting a child's chances of getting into other school boards by not filling out the letters or forms.

The elementary parent commissioner explained that it is a financial burden on our board when students leave. Our board can offer comparative programs and they can be equally as successful in our schools.

Clarity on out of zone – parents have to apply every year to attend out of zone schools. McCaig Elementary suggested that perhaps this could be clearer written in the policy.

**PC20171102-05** Pierre E Trudeau MOVED THAT the 2018-2019 enrolment criteria is approved as presented. Seconded by Souvenir Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Franklin Hill Elem, Joliette High, Lake of Two Mountains High, Laurentia Elem, Laval Junior Elem, Laval Senior Acad, McCaig Elem, Mountainview Elem, Pierre E. Trudeau Elem, Rosemere High, Souvenir Elem, St. Vincent Elem, Ste-Adele Elem, Ste-Agathe Acad, St. Jude Elem, Hillcrest Acad, Laurentian Regional High, Our Lady of Peace Elem, Pinewood Elem, St. Paul Elem  
Against: Genesis Elem, Jules Verne Elem, Rawdon Elem, Terry Fox Elem

## 5.4 Consultation – Deed & Three-Year Plan

Go back to your governing boards with your own deeds and discuss it. Schools should send written comments to the Chair and an e-vote will be sent to members as the comments need to be given in by December 1.

Nothing has changed in the deeds, except Joliette Elementary School has a pre-K in the three year plan.

## 6. REPORTS

### 6.1 School Board's Report

- Mr. Lamoureux is out and expected to return after the holidays. We wish him the best!

- 3 Pre-K's are in our schools that are funded by the ministry for schools who are in areas recognized where there could be a vulnerability in early learning. We have one in Rawdon, Ste-Agathe and Joliette Elementary. We would love to offer them in all our schools.
- The ministry has just given us 48 hours to be consulted on parameters that could be amended to rules that we have funded our schools for students with special needs. Instead of submitting case by case like we do now to get validations on students with special needs, they would look at a refusal rate and sample 10% - for example rather than submit 200 cases, we would submit 20 and get funding based on the refusal rates in the past.
- There are dedicated mesures given directly to the schools this year – most recent ones – 6 elementary schools selected to take part – ecole on bouge - On the move – this will be to implement and have a coordinator fostering students to have 60 minutes of activity embedded in the student's days.
- Official 2017-2018 numbers – 80 students less – 12,819 for the 2017-2018 school year. We are at more than the ministry projected however.
- Laurier Stars - \$15 a ticket – at Laval Junior Academy. The SWL Foundation is working on a fundraiser. All funds raised this year will be given back to the schools for multi-sensory equipment.

In response to a question from PETES – we have analyzed where we are losing and gaining students – mostly we lose for private schools and other English boards. We are doing more marketing for our schools. Our success rate is high – we are 4<sup>th</sup> in the province. Mr. Lamoureux authorized a special project for an Advanced Leadership Program where there is a technician working with the elementary and high schools to get leadership programs aligned across the board. When parents fill out the forms for enrolment we are asking them what the reason is if they choose to send their children to other schools.

Certificates of eligibility – sometimes parents are told there is no possibility of getting them. SAA knows of two families who were told there was no chance, and they both received them.

Suggestion to advertise on television and radio to promote our schools.

Perception is that we are not receptive to sports etudes. This is part of our marketing and some of our schools already work with students “a la piece” who are involved in sports etudes.

In response to a question from Jules Verne – we are looking at a different way to display all of our elementary schools. More information to come

There is an open house at Laval Junior on November 7 where, in addition to the staff of LJA, there will be one member of each subject department of Laval Senior Academy there to answer questions.

## **6.2 Chairpersons Report**

In packages

## **6.3 Treasurers Report**

A verbal projection was given to members and a more detailed one will be made at a following meeting.

Mileage sheets should be handed in at every meeting.

The chairperson will send out an e-mail for a holiday potluck

## **6.4 Parent Commissioner Report**

In members packages.

In response to a comment concerning the servitude from Hydro Quebec for work to be done at Laval Junior Academy – Mr. Greschner assured the member that it would not be as extensive as the last repairs. He has the projected date of these repairs and will forward it to the Chairperson. They would prefer to do it in the summer but this has to be done soon. Mr. Greschner went on to say that, the government is injecting money into the schools to bring them up to standard. Sometimes projects must be done during the school year, but the safety of students and staff are taken into consideration.

The member wants assurance that there is someone there from the city to control the traffic in the morning and afternoon to avoid the chaos.

#### 6.5 RCP-3L

FCPQ has asked us to re-join them but we are already part of the English Parents Committee Association, which is the English version of them. The RCP-3L is not an affiliate of the FCPQ so they should not be requesting us to re-join their association.

Their General assembly will be held on November 25<sup>th</sup>

#### 6.6 SEAC

No report

Carla will communicate with the SEAC to find out who the representative is

#### 6.7 EPCA

The EPCA general assembly is on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

### 7. VARIA

#### 7.1 Student Athletic Training Program

The question is related to a Student Athletic Training program for which the school board has nominated an organization to present a program to a number of our schools. Some parents question if the nominated organization causes a conflict of interest since they are affiliated to a regional soccer organization.

Mr. Greschner will get a proper answer to the conflict of interest portion but went on to say that sometimes organizations offer services to schools. These extra-curricular services are offered to the schools. Presentations are made to governing boards and it is up to the individual governing boards to vote on whether they want this or not. This is not school board based, but individual school based decisions.

### 8. QUESTION PERIOD

### 9. ADJOURNMENT

**PC20171102-06** Souvenir Elementary MOVED THAT the meeting is closed at 9:57 p.m. Seconded by Pierre E Trudeau Elementary

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2017

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Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:  
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary