

Minutes of the FIRST (1<sup>ST</sup>) meeting of the 2018-2019 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:15 pm in the Boardroom of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Anick Brunet	Genesis Elementary	Luca Arnaldi	Our Lady of Peace Elementary
Charbel Mourad	Hillcrest Academy	Ani Dumoulin	Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary
Damiano Ferraro	John F Kennedy Elementary	Frank D'Onofrio	Pinewood Elementary
Bob Pellerin	Joliette High	Amber Lawrence	Rawdon Elementary
Adam Garonce	Jules Verne Elementary	Carla Tosti	Rosemere High
Adam Gordon	Lake of Two Mountains High	Effie Kontakos	Souvenir Elementary
Tara Anderson	Laurentia Elementary	Christine Flynn	St. Jude Elementary
Don Beverly	Laurentian Regional High	Mike Panichella	St. Paul Elementary
Tony Beliotis	Laval Junior Academy	Melanie Hay	Ste-Agathe Academy
Douglas Howarth	Laval Senior Academy	Billie Chasiotis	Terry Fox Elementary
Lisa Cipriani	McCaig Elementary	Nathalie Codner	Twin Oaks Elementary
Lannie Richard	Mountainview Elementary		

**ALSO PRESENT:** Gaëlle Absolonne Director General; Dean Dugas, Vice-Chairperson, Council of Commissioners; Anne McMullon, Ailsa Pehi, Melissa Wall, Paolo Galati, Vicky Kaliotzakis, Commissioners; Sergio Di Marco, Stéphane Henley, Parent Commissioners

**ABSENT:** Arundel Elementary, Crestview Elementary, Franklin Hill Elementary, Grenville Elementary, Joliette Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, Morin Heights Elementary, St. Vincent Elementary, Ste-Adele Elementary, SEAC Representative

The outgoing Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:14 pm

**1. WELCOME BY OUTGOING CHAIR**

Welcome to our new Director General, Gaëlle Absolonne and the Commissioners who are present tonight.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Add:

- 10.1 Policies on field trips, ECAs and school fees
- 10.2 Psychological Services
- 10.3 Services to Home schoolers

**PC20181004-01** Laval Junior Academy MOVED THAT the agenda is accepted with additions. Seconded by Laurentia Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**3. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS**

Members introduced themselves

**4. ELECTIONS**

**4.1 Procedures of Elections**

**PC20181004-02** Mountainview Elementary MOVED THAT the voting will be done by show of hands. Seconded by Laurentian Regional High.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division

For: 17  
Against: 3  
Abstain: 3

**4.2 Nomination/Election of Chairperson of Elections and Scrutineers**

**PC20181004-03** Rosemere High MOVED THAT Gaëlle Absolonne is nominated as chairperson of elections. Seconded by Laval Senior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**4.3 Nomination/Election of Chairperson**

Rawdon Elementary nominates Carla Tosti, Rosemere High – accepts – congratulations

**4.4 Nomination/Election of Vice-Chairperson**

Amber Lawrence, Rawdon Elementary nominates herself – accepts – congratulations

**4.5 Nomination/Election of Secretary**

St Jude Elementary nominates Lisa Cipriani, McCaig Elementary – accepts - congratulations

**4.6 Nomination/Election of Treasurer**

Rosemere High nominates Adam Gordon, Lake of Two Mountains High – accepts - congratulations

**4.7 Nomination to Advisory Committee on Transportation**

**PC20181004-04** Laval Junior High MOVED THAT Douglas Howarth, Laval Senior Academy is nominated to the Advisory Committee on Transportation for the 2018-2019 school year. Seconded by Rawdon Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**4.8 Nomination/Election of Elementary Parent Commissioner**

Rosemere High nominates Tara Anderspn, Laurentia Elementary  
Laval Junior High nominates Charbel Mourad, Hillcrest Academy  
The committee entered into a vote by a show of hands.

**PC20181004-05** Rosemere High MOVED THAT Charbel Mourad is named as Elementary Parent Commissioner for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Seconded by Saint Jude Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**4.9 Nomination/Election of High School Parent Commissioner**

Laval Junior Academy nominates himself

**PC20181004-06** Laval Senior Academy MOVED THAT Tony Beliotis, Laval Junior Academy is named as High School Parent Commissioner for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Seconded by Rawdon Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**4.10 Nomination/Election of EPCA (English Parents Committee Association) Director (1)**

**PC20181004-07** Laval Senior Academy MOVED THAT Billie Chasiotis, Terry Fox Elementary is named as the EPCA Director for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**4.11 Nomination/Election of RCP-3L Representative and Alternate**

**PC20181004-08** Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT Anick Brunet, Genesis Elementary is nominated as the Representative, and Carla Tosti, Rosemere High is nominated as the alternate to the RCP-3L for the school year 2018-2019. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

**4.12 Election of Recording Secretary and Remuneration**

**PC20181004-09** St Jude Elementary MOVED THAT Susan O'Keeffe is engaged as recording secretary for the 2018-2019 year at a cost of \$90 per meeting and \$10 for every half hour after 9:45 p.m. Seconded by Hillcrest Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

## 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of June 7, 2018

**PC20151005-10** Joliette High MOVED THAT the minutes of June 7, 2018 are accepted as presented. Seconded by Mountainview Elementary.

**This motion was CARRIED on the following division:**

**For:** Joliette High, Laurentia Elem, Laurentian Regional High, Laval Junior Acad, Laval Senior Acad, McCaig Elem, Mountainview Elem, Rawdon Elem, Rosemere High, St. Jude Elem  
**Abstain:** Genesis Elem, Hillcrest Acad, John F. Kennedy Elem, Jules Verne Elem, Lake of Two Mountains High, Our Lady of Peace Elem, Pinewood Elem, Pierre E. Trudeau Elem, Souvenir Elem, St Paul Elem, Ste-Agathe Acad, Terry Fox Elem, Twin Oaks Elem

## 6. QUESTION PERIOD

The Chairperson explained that the question period is for the public and not the members. Twin Oaks commented that she has a question and would like to ask it during the meeting.

**PC20151005-11** Souvenir Elementary MOVED THAT we add a transportation question in Varia. Seconded by Rawdon Elementary

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

## 7. BUSINESS ARISING

### 7.1 Subcommittee Facebook page project

The Chairperson gave the history of the FB page to new members. She is looking for members to sit on this sub-committee. Lisa Cipriani, McCaig; Amber Lawrence, Rawdon Elementary; Adam Gordon, Lake of Two Mountains High; Tara Anderson, Laurentia Elementary.

This sub-committee needs to come up with clear guidelines that will be incorporated into the Internal Rules and Procedures.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### 8.1 Date, Time, Place of Meetings

**PC20181004-12** Laval Senior Academy MOVED THAT the meetings for 2018-2019 will be the first Thursday of each month with the exception of January and March. The meetings will be held on: October 4, November 1, December 6, 2018, no meeting in January, February 7, March 14, April 4, May 2 and June 6, 2019. Meeting start time will be at 7:15 pm and will be held at the Administrative Center located at 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Quebec. Seconded by Pinewood Elementary.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

### 8.2 Internal Rules & Procedures

This was included in member's packages. Please read these documents and be prepared to discuss and vote at the next meeting. The information for Facebook will be included in these rules.

### 8.3 Internal Financial Policy

This was included in member's packages. The Chairperson explained the budget and the statement of expense claims.

**PC20181004-13** Pinewood Elementary MOVED THAT the internal Financial Policy is approved as presented. Seconded by St Jude Elementary.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

### 8.4 SEAC Members

**PC20181004-14** Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT Laura Orzea, Crestview Elementary; Stephane Henley, Crestview Elementary and Nadia Zuccaro, St Vincent Elementary, are accepted as members on the SEAC for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Seconded by Souvenir Elementary.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9. REPORTS

### 9.1 School Board's Report

- Gaelle Absolonne and Dean Dugas presented a joint school board report.
- Ms. Absolonne introduced herself and gave members her background. She went on to thank the members for their implication to this committee.
- A power point was presented to members on the four priorities for this year, Commitment-to-success-plan, professional growth, partnerships and budget. Ms. Absolonne will send the presentation to the Chairperson to send to members.
- Ms. Absolonne explained what the Educational Project is. Each school will be responsible to prepare one that must be in line with the Commitment-to-success-plan.
- In response to a question from Twin Oaks, Ms. Absolonne explained that we lose most of the students from grade 6 to 7 from Laval who go onto the island for private schools or specialty schools. We will be looking into strategies to keep them here. More information will be coming on the 240 school that the SWLSB has applied to the MEES for. In response to a follow up question about transportation to RHS, the member was asked to discuss the question privately.
- We congratulate our Chairperson Jennifer Maccarone who was elected as the MNA for the Westmount-Saint-Louis riding. Mr. Dugas has replaced her in her absence. She will be vacating her position as Chairperson, so we foresee an opening on the council of commissioners. The eligibility criteria was handed out to members and Mr. Dugas explained. Members have until October 10 to submit any other criteria they would like to see. Anyone wishing to fill a vacant commissioner seat will need to submit his or her name by October 16<sup>th</sup>. A public notice will go on the website, Facebook page and sent to schools to be sent to their parents. This public notice will go out on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday October 17 at 6:30 p.m., members are invited to meet the candidates that have put their name forward for any open seat. Parents Committee will then be able to give their recommendation to Council. Members who cannot make the meeting are invited to call in. Members are asked to send in their comments on the criteria by October 8<sup>th</sup> to the Chairperson who will then submit them to the Secretary General. On October 24<sup>th</sup> Council will elect their Chairperson as well as any vacant wards. Anyone who is only available by phone can call in to be on a conference call. Mr. Dugas gave members the teleconference number.
- The new parent commissioners are invited to meet Mr. Dugas after the meeting and he will explain the role of the commissioner to them.
- GB training – members would like two dates to choose from – the first date is October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. The training will be for all governing board members. Although the invitation said for GB chairs, it will be offered to anyone on the governing board who wants to go. Another training will also be offered in the future.

### 9.2 EPCA (English Parents Committee Association)

In members packages

## 11. VARIA

### 11.1 Policies on field trips, ECAs and school fees

In response to a question from Laval Senior Academy on what the new directive from the government is, Ms. Absolonne broke down the questions:

- Field trips – the policy was revised by Council in the spring and is on the website.
- School fees – all school fees and supply lists were revised by the Secretary General to ensure they follow the directives of the MEES.
- Activities – if they take place during instructional time related to the curriculum, they are free of charge to students. There are some activities at other times not related to the curriculum that can be charged to parents with a minimal cost whereby schools cannot make a profit.
- After school activities – ie: sports – these can be charged to parents.

- Information on the new budget rules: two new mesures that were given to schools to subsidize some activities: Mesure 15186 – sortie scolaire en milieu culturel – can be used for cultural field trips; and Mesure 15230 – l'école inspirante – this one is flexible but the objective is to take students on field trips.

### 11.2 Psychological Services

In response to a comment from Laurentian Regional High on the lack of English services in the Laurentians and what can be done to change this, Ms. Absolonne explained that it is difficult to find these services in English all over the province as there is a shortage of professionals willing to work in the public sector. They prefer to work in the private sector because they make more money. This challenge is also being faced in the French sector. LRHS mentioned that there is no problem hiring private services, and wants to know why the school board cannot outsource to private individuals and hire them on a contract basis. Ms. Absolonne explained that in order to work in our schools they must be an employee of the school board. LRHS followed up by asking if the hiring of private professionals could be looked at as an option.

### 11.3 Services to Home schoolers

With the new Law 144 – SWLSB must offer services to home schooling. Rawdon would like to know if there is a policy prepared yet. Ms. Absolonne explained that home schooling is under the umbrella of PED services. Parents need to register with the ministry for home schooling now and submit the learning process to them. Rawdon went on to say that she heard that the policy should be made public. Ms. Absolonne will verify this and give the information to the chair to pass along.

### 11.4 Transportation Question

In the month of June parents were sent information on transportation for the next school year. Within this document there is information on the name of the transporter and their phone numbers. It tells you what to do and where to call.

Transporters have rules to follow for first aid and who to communicate with in case of an emergency. All of the bus drivers of our transporters come to the head office every year to a training session.

## 12. QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question from Laura Wittebol, an update on the request of the special project school – request has been made, waiting for news. As soon as we have information we will share it with parents.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

**PC20181004-15** Pinewood Elementary MOVED THAT the meeting is closed at 9:30 p.m. Seconded by Hillcrest Academy.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

Chairperson

Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:  
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary