



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

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Passing of former SWLSB Chairperson, Steve Bletas

May 6, 2020, Rosemère –It is with great sadness that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) announces the passing of its former Chairperson, Mr. Steve Bletas.

Mr. Bletas was the very first Chairperson of the SWLSB, from 1998 to 2012. During his 14-year tenure, he was instrumental in negotiating land grants and other agreements with municipal and provincial authorities, securing funding for new schools in Rawdon, Blainville and Repentigny and obtaining renovation grants for schools in Chomedey (John F. Kennedy Elementary) and Duvernay (Jules Verne Elementary). He was also a founding member of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation, created in 2004.

In addition, Mr. Bletas was part of the Executive Committee of the Québec English School Boards Association and, over the years, a member of many different local and provincial education tables.

The Council of Commissioners extends its sincerest condolences to his family, in particular to his children, Eva and Michael. “We are deeply saddened by this loss. Steve was a visionary and a passionate and fearless leader. I have always had great respect for him,” declared Paolo Galati, SWLSB Chairperson.

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is the third largest English school board of the Province of Québec and boasts an 84,5% graduation rate. Its territory comprises the administrative regions of Laval, Lanaudière and the Laurentides. It provides preschool, elementary, secondary, adult education and vocational training services to over 14,000 students in 35 schools and 4 centres, as well as a business training division. The school board has a workforce of more than 2,000 employees.

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