



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

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SWLSB Council of Commissioners denounces Bill 86

Rosemere, December 17, 2015 – SWLSB Chairperson, Jennifer Maccarone as well as a few SWLSB commissioners attended the press conference held on December 16, where prominent Anglophone community groups came together to denounce Bill 86.

Ms. Maccarone, as her fellow commissioners, are disappointed with the proposed Bill 86 *projet de loi* which is an insult to the integrity of our educational institutions which are key to the vitality of our communities. This bill clearly demonstrates that the government is totally disconnected from the English speaking community. “This government has consistently proven that they do not understand the importance of treating their minorities with respect. We must stand together to protect our educational institutions,” she affirmed at the press conference.

Premier Couillard has not been open to any discussions and open minded dialogue with us, despite our several requests to do so. Maccarone was firm in her remarks, “We have tried to communicate these messages to the Minister of Education François Blais over the last 9 months. We have consulted with our English-speaking community and a resounding majority has spoken through the Jennings report. We must maintain the right to choose who will be the caretakers of our system and our students. This is a basic principal of democracy that once again, is non-negotiable.”

Ms. Maccarone calls upon Premier Couillard to act in the best interest of his English-speaking minority community by having healthy and honest dialogues on the future of education institutions. Changes for the sake of changes will only put student success at risk, which is unacceptable! “The English schools boards have an exemplary 85% student success rate. We are obviously doing something right”, added Maccarone who is very concerned of the devastating impact Bill 86 would have, especially in rural regions, where English schools are real community centres for the English speaking minority.

For any interview requests with Chairperson Maccarone please contact the the School Board Communications Department.

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Source: Maxeem Jolin
Communications Coordinator | Communications Department
450 621-5600, ext. 1385 | mjolin@swlauriersb.qc.ca

