

Minutes of the THIRD (3<sup>rd</sup>) meeting of the 2020-2021 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. via ZOOM videoconferencing.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Laura Orzea	Crestview Elementary	Lannie Richard	Mountainview Elementary
Dalia Gonzalez	Franklin Hill Elementary	Emma Haralambous	Our Lady of Peace Elementary
Theresa Andrusko	Genesis Elementary	Tania Mitchell	Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary
Kelly Kennedy	Grenville Elementary	Jennifer St-Roch	Pinewood Elementary
Jenny Georgiopoulos	Hillcrest Academy	Stephannie Hamel	Rawdon Elementary
Jennifer Subaihi	John F Kennedy Elementary	Kristin Crowdis	Rosemere High
Vanessa Pietraroia	Joliette Elementary	Christos Strifas	Souvenir Elementary
Richard Alary	Joliette High	John Critchley	St. Jude Elementary
Sheila Lindsay	Jules Verne Elementary	Michelina Capozzi	St. Paul Elementary
Adam Gordon	Lake of Two Mountains High	Marcelo Iaconvella	St. Vincent Elementary
Tara Anderson	Laurentia Elementary	Chloée Alary	Ste-Adele Elementary
Donald Beverly	Laurentian Regional High	Barbara Barrasso	Terry Fox Elementary
Evan Goudis	Laval Junior Academy	Nathalie Codner	Twin Oaks Elementary
Lisa Cipriani	McCaig Elementary	Tony Beliotis	SEAC Representative
Tanya Khan	Morin Heights Elementary		

**ALSO PRESENT:** Gaëlle Absolonne Director General; Fred Greschner, Assistant Director General; Paolo Galati, Chairperson; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; The alternate delegates from Grenville Elementary, Laval Junior Academy, Souvenir Elementary, Terry Fox Elementary, SEAC

**ABSENT:** Arundel Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, Laval Senior Academy, Ste-Agathe Academy

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:17 pm

**1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS, AND OPENING OF MEETING**

The chairperson welcomed everyone.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

McCaig Elementary read the acknowledgement of the land.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Add: 11.1 Teacher evaluation results from last year

Add: 11.2 Lead in water, overview and protocol

Add: 11.3 Online payment methods

Add: 11.4 Air purifiers

**PC20201203-01** Joliette High MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted with additions. Seconded by Franklin Hill Elementary.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of November 5, 2020**

**PC20201203-02** Terry Fox Elementary MOVED THAT the minutes of November 5, 2020 be accepted. Seconded by Hillcrest Academy.

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

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

**Abstain:** Franklin Hill Elem, Genesis Elem, Grenville Elem, Rosemere High, St. Paul Elem  
**(24-0-5)**

## 6. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

## 7. SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Kristy Findlay – Speech Language Pathology

Welcome Kristy Findlay, Speech Language Pathologist, Centre Mosaïque de Québec Clinique d'orthophonie. Her presentation will be sent to the chairperson to share with the members. The presentation will be recorded.

**PC20201203-03** Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary MOVED THAT the presentation from Kristy Findlay be recorded. Seconded by St. Vincent Elementary

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

- CHSSN – new project with Kristy Findlay, partnered with 4Korners in the Laurentians – *Hey Early Childhood Skills Program*.
- Community speech language pathology to provide evidence-based continuum of promotion, prevention and intervention services.
- Support the development of communication and language in young children.
- There is a community of support surrounding the child and their parents.
- Parent focused approach.
- Promotion and prevention will be the focus for Phase 1.
- In response to a question from Our Lady of Peace Elementary, they in the beginning process of the program and will be getting in touch with daycares so that they can distribute the information.
- In response to a question from Laurentian Regional High, Kristy is the only SLP in the program and she is based in Quebec. They are hoping to get more professionals involved. She does not know of any incentives to get English SLPs up to the Laurentians. It is a problem all across Quebec. Parents are encouraged to speak loudly about this shortage.
- In response to question from Laurentia Elementary, the contact information is in the presentation and you can get in touch with her to see what NPI can respond to get you connected. They will be promoted as much as possible over the next few weeks.
- In response to a question from Pinewood Elementary, they are open to partnering with as many community organizations as possible.
- They are looking at bridging the gap between the English and francophone services.

*At 7:53 Rosemere High left the meeting*

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### 8.1 General Directorate

- **Safety Procedures**
  - All employees and visitors are required to do a daily auto-evaluation of their symptoms prior to entering any of our buildings.
- **Emergency Daycares**
  - On December 17 and 18, emergency daycares will be open in all our elementary schools. These daycares are open for front line workers only.
- **Ventilation in buildings**
  - We continue to respect all government standards and will adapt quickly should these evolve or be modified.
  - We are above the norms in the "Code national du bâtiment" as we invested in:
    - a) filters above the norms everywhere possible;
    - b) maintain level of CO2 under 800 ppm in all mechanically ventilated building;
    - c) we have optimized our systems to 100% fresh air since the beginning of the school year (air quality);
  - We are still in the process of thoroughly analyzing the feasibility of installing air purifiers and the requirements involved, as there are many factors to take into consideration.
  - **Our buildings:**
    - a) 57% of our buildings are mechanically ventilated.
    - b) 29% of our buildings are naturally ventilated.
    - c) 14% have a combination of both systems.

- Letter from the MEQ received on November 25. A sampling of buildings to be tested for the following:
  - 1) level of CO2
  - 2) humidity level
  - 3) temperature (inside)
- Schools will be tested between December 1 to 11, 2020.
- Data will be compiled by our MRT Department and sent to MEQ by December 16, 2020.
- **Proud Moments**
  - North Pole took over JFK <https://www.facebook.com/JohnFKennedyElementary>
  - Laval Junior planted 162 trees on their school grounds. They had an adopt a tree program where parents or students were able to purchase a tree in their name.
- **Upcoming events and opportunities**
  - Computing support program starting at CDC Pont Viau. Highlight of vocational training is that we hire our own!
  - Language courses through our Business training services – [www.qualificaction.ca](http://www.qualificaction.ca).
  - Embracing Diversity conference FREE for parents January 10, 2021.
  - Self-care is a priority – December challenge is to keep your cup full.
  - Board wide door decorating contest among employees of the SWLSB. In the middle of December, parents will be asked to vote for their favorite door.
- LJA tree planting was a joint venture between the Green Club and the Home and School.
- Natural ventilated buildings mean opening the windows. Letters were sent to schools with instructions on opening the windows often during the day to bring fresh air in (recess, lunch, before school, after school)
- The St. Vincent building that will be tested is the Concorde building.
- Schools chosen for the sampling were chosen based on criteria that the ministry asked for. MRT takes this seriously and wants an exhaustive analysis to present something rigorous to the commissioners.
- HAPPY HOLIDAYS to the PC and their families. Thank you for your involvement.

### Council Report

- The Council of Commissioners is making the health and safety of students and staff their highest priority.
- The commissioners had a lengthy discussion on the air purifiers.
- The chairperson had many meetings and phone calls with several stakeholders to look at options
- The council feels confident that they can make the proper decision once all of the data is done. They are doing everything to be sure that the health and safety of students and staff remains in the forefront.
- Thank you to the DG and ADG for their report.
- Souvenir Elementary – is there a plan for air purifiers like EMSB is doing. The DG responded that they are finalizing all the data analysis within the next week to present to council so they can make the proper decision. The Hepa system is being looked at in addition to other various types. A thorough analysis will be done.
- Of the schools that are mechanically ventilated, are they cleaned on a regular basis. The DG does not know what the frequency is, but the MR department follows what the building code stipulates. There is a team of people who take care of the ventilation systems. Readings take place regularly. During the last Souvenir GB meeting the principal reported that all classrooms were above the norm. The delegate would like to know we know that every classroom has great ventilation systems? The Merv 13 filters were put into systems who can take them. Some schools cannot take them but they have Herman Nelson filters in each of the classrooms. If the delegate of Souvenir Elementary wants more precisions, please forward the questions to the PC chair and the DG will get the answers.
- Will parents receive the results of the testing? These will be sent to the ministry.
- Twin Oaks – the percentage of covid cases per building according to their ventilation systems is in the director generals report. The only buildings getting sensors are the 16 mentioned in her report. The great majority of our mechanically ventilated systems have sensors already.
- Morin Heights – how were the schools chosen for sampling? Are you going to then use inferences in those schools and apply them to other schools? The ministry will do that with all the samplings they receive. They want to see what is applicable for the entire province and make recommendations based on that. We want to be sure with our testing that we have a bigger sampling. Schools were chosen based on covering our entire territory and all level of instruction. We also need the collaboration of our teachers to log some

information. We asked the principals to be sure the samplings are done in classrooms where there are many people in it. Something that represents the day to day habits in order to get a clear picture.

- LRHS – naturally ventilated buildings are a concern. He hopes that they are contacting ASHRAE, a group known for their innovation and expertise in terms of practical solutions. HE suggests they give them a call as they will give a cost-effective solution.
- Rawdon – Can parents get the results of the sampling of the 16 schools. Communication will be sent to parents so the community will be aware of what is being done. Will try to give feedback to each of the schools. If parents want greater information they can ask for an access to information but SWLSB will share as much information as possible. Our results will be available mid-December. When the ministry will give their report is unknown.
- McCaig – 650 laptops were expected to be received at the end of November – have they been received and who are they targeted for? They are expected to arrive before the holidays. Some are accounted for. There are needs in the adult sector. The priority will be the high schools as all students will be online after holidays. Vulnerable students are also being prioritized.
- Terry Fox – which schools have natural ventilation. Ask your principal for this as they have all received this information.
- The Council Chair reassured the committee that once the reports come in they will react immediately in a positive manner. A special council will be held in order to put the right measures in place. A resolution for next council will be made to ask the ministry to pay 100% of the PPE expenses. Right now, they are paying 90% and this does not include air purifiers if they are needed in any schools.
- Souvenir – What has the board spent so far on PPE for our schools. Has an estimate been prepared for what it will cost for air purifiers. Once the data comes back it will be easier to determine the costs of air purifiers if they are needed. Depending on the school and their needs and information that comes back, systems will be put into place. Once we know what is needed a special council will be held and a resolution will be made to mandate the DG to execute what is put into the resolution. This may have to be done through tender but will be a quick turnaround. Want to be ready as quickly as possible.

## 8.2 PC Chairperson

The chairperson prepared a PowerPoint for his report. The report will be sent to members.

- Many GB visits during the month.
- Challenge put out to all PC members to visit other schools GBs.
- EPCA held an AGA on November 28. Congratulations to the executive who were reelected for their second year.
- Congratulations to the parent commissioners who have taken roles on the various committees on the council of commissioners standing committees.

*At 8:47 Morin Heights Elementary left the meeting*

*At 8:58 Jules Verne Elementary left the meeting*

*At 9:01 Pierre E Trudeau Elementary left the meeting*

## 8.3 PC Vice-Chairperson

In members' packages.

Please fill out your quote cards for PC<sup>2</sup>.

## 8.4 Secretary

### 8.4.1 Facebook sub-committee

In members' packages.

## 8.5 Treasurer

In members' packages.

Next month a more in-depth budget review will be prepared.

## 8.6 Parent Commissioner

In members' packages.

## 8.7 EPCA (English Parents Committee Association)

No report.

**8.8 RCP-3L**  
No report

**8.9 SEAC**  
In members' packages.  
Embracing Diversity conference January 10, 2021.

**8.10 Transportation Advisory**  
No report.

**9. GUEST PRESENTATION – EPCA President Katherine Korakakis**

Katherine Korakakis was at the meeting to give an overview of EPCA.

- Spent last year solidifying and building relations and establishing trust.
- Increase in meetings – challenge is there is no funding to have support staff. Looking at posting for an executive director.
- EPCA year in review of calls and ministry/partner meetings was presented.
- Keys to success – leadership, partnership, parents, follow up, building capacity.
- Provincial training session on parent governance
- Strengthening parent governance and education in the covid context.
- All training sessions are taped and available on the EPCA website.
- Partners – PCs, QCGN, Learn, QFSHA, QESBA, DG Association, QPAT, APPELE, FCPQ.
- Developing a magazine in English focused on supporting parents on distance learning.
- Future – work more closely with PCs. 8 new directors have joined EPCA. Focused on communication to parents.
- What are the plans to make future statements from EPCA what parents actually want? The EPCA goes with what the majority of parents want. As an association they look at all parent needs.
- What are the plans to better communicate EPCAs plans? Will be working on more newsletters. Parents can sign up to receive EPCA newsletters by visiting website [www.epca.org](http://www.epca.org). All communication is posted on FB and on the website.
- Will EPCA consult with more than just online surveys. There is a percentage of parents who do not have internet. The president encouraged PC members to ask GBs to send EPCA information to parents through their governing boards. PC delegates must share information with their GBs.

*At 9:14 Grenville Elementary left the meeting*

*At 9:17 JFK Elementary left the meeting*

*At 9:21 St. Paul Elementary left the meeting*

- A survey will be sent to parents based on the announcement regarding Christmas. Should the December 17 and 18 days off for students be maintained or should they be sent back to school. Please take the time to fill it out. She has had media requests but she is waiting to respond according to the feedback from parents.
- In response to a comment from Hillcrest Academy, parent voices are very powerful.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**10.1 January speaker – Learn Quebec**

- Learn Quebec could not present last year because of covid. Learn Quebec gives all kinds of free services to our students.
- The committee through a general consensus would like to invite them to speak at the January meeting.

**10.2 Potential PC workshop – January/February 2021**

- Offer a workshop to parents at large that would help engage the community. Needs the commitment of all the PC members.
- Anxiety in students – have a workshop with professionals to guide parents on how to deal with stress and anxiety in their children due to covid. There are many students who are having trouble with the online learning. Members discussed the benefits of having such a

workshop. Three target audiences, parents of: in school students, students whose classes have shut down, students who are in the virtual campus.

- The committee is in favor of doing a workshop. The chairperson will look into getting presenters.

## 11. VARIA

### 11.1 Teacher evaluation results from last year

- The delegate at Franklin Hill reported that her GB has not received last year's teacher evaluation results. Could she please go back to her GB for a clarification on this as the director general would like to be able to respond but does not know what context she is speaking about.

### 11.2 Lead in water, overview and protocol – Souvenir Elementary

- Has not been updated on the lead in the water since covid began. Who is verifying the systems and how often are they being verified?
- Were the filters changed and who is maintaining and verifying them? When were they last changed?
- The MR team takes care of the follow up and maintenance of the systems. The director general will get back to him on the frequency and when they were changed.

### 11.3 Online payment methods

- Is there a way that schools could have access to online payments for fundraisers? Is there anything coming that would facilitate the ease of online payments.
- There are many of our schools who already have online payment. The director general will ask other schools if this is a practice.
- Hillcrest Academy uses a program called Active at their school for fundraising. She will email the delegate at Twin Oaks the link.

### 11.4 Air purifiers

- Covered in the school board report.

## 12. QUESTION PERIOD

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

Happy Holidays to all!

Next regular meeting: Thursday, January 7, 2020

If you cannot make a meeting please ask your alternate to attend.

**PC20201203-04** Laval Junior Academy MOVED THAT the meeting be closed at 10:03 p.m. Seconded by Ste-Adele Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:  
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary