

Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board

2019 - 2020

# Annual Report

AN ENGLISH EDUCATION,  
A BILINGUAL FUTURE



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

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## Abbreviations used in this document

SWLSB | Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board  
MEES | Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur  
CTSP | Commitment-to-Success Plan  
SEAC | Special Education Advisory Committee  
PC | Parents' Committee

# Message from the Chairperson



The 2019-2020 school year has been one like no other. Looking back on this tumultuous year, we must not forget our incredible accomplishments, despite the global pandemic and challenges brought about. The Council of Commissioners is extremely proud of the overall results and achievements of this past year.

This annual report is a testimony to the incredible work that has been accomplished in 2019-2020. In the following pages, you will see for yourself why the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, with its 84.5% graduation and qualification rate, ranks among the top 10 school boards across the province and first in the LLL regions.



When school boards/school service centres across the province closed on March 13, our lives and our education system were turned upside down. Although we were taken by surprise, being a strong and resilient community, we all pulled together and did what was needed to adapt to this new reality and continue servicing students, who continued to be our *raison d'être* despite the pandemic. The school board was proactive in:

- Maintaining essential school board operations;
- Operating emergency daycares in targeted areas of our territory;
- Respecting all public health directives, particularly for employees physically reporting to work;
- Ensuring that all teleworking employees were well equipped;
- Offering online activities and resources to students and their families to enable students to remain engaged in their learning;
- Promoting positive mental health;
- Ensuring ongoing communication with our community;
- Keeping students and staff safe in the elementary schools reopening in May;
- Providing training seminars to help teachers adapt to distance education;
- Putting in place strategies to respect the social and sanitary measures in all schools/centres, which included training sessions for our caretakers.

## Technology and Resourcefulness

The COVID-19 pandemic had an unprecedented impact in education around the world and our school board was no exception. Quickly, the Information Technology (IT) department became in high demand with needs to fulfill. Responding to hundreds of support calls from employees needing technological assistance, the IT team was proactive in making sure all needs were met for effective telework and distance education to take place.

- Installation of a Virtual Private Networks (VPN) platform capable of offering up to 10,000 connections;
- Deployment of additional laptops for employees to telework;
- Installation of a new server farm to enable access to specific applications;
- Addition of 200 licences to the school board's existing remote desktop environment;
- Addition of 150 Zoom licences for the management team to connect with their school/centre teams;
- Presentation of Zoom training sessions to 800 new users;
- Configuration of a Microsoft Teams environment for all users;
- Deployment of laptops for students without technology at home.



By June 20, online meetings at SWLSB had increased by 1047%! As an example, data indicated that 4,180 meetings took place during a typical week on either Zoom, Teams or Google Classroom platforms, for a total of 64,086 participants.

### Council Meetings Livestreamed

The Council of Commissioners made the shift to virtual meetings and, since May, all Council meetings are broadcast live for the general public to view. The Information Technology Department upgraded the head office boardroom to include motorized cameras, additional microphones, projectors and screens to make the system fully compatible and allow for an optimal video conferencing and livestream experience.

### The Learning Backpack

As soon as school closures were announced, the Pedagogical Services team immediately came together to develop online training resources for students. The Learning Backpack encompassed hundreds of resources, each carefully selected by the Pedagogical Services Department consultants. The platform was very successful, with more than 21,000 visits while schools were closed.



Pedagogical Services also developed training sessions for teachers and other employees on how to use Google Classroom, Zoom and Microsoft Teams.

### Partial School Reopening in May

On April 27, the Minister of Education announced its plan to reopen schools located outside of the *Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal*. Our Material Resources/Transportation Department team worked tirelessly to ensure our eight schools reopening on May 11 respected all public health regulations and that staff and students had at their disposal sufficient supplies of personal protective equipment and disinfecting products.



### Hope Fest

Every year, the school board, in collaboration with the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation, holds its annual Laurier Gala/Star Fest event. Understandably, the event was cancelled this year. Nevertheless, we didn't let COVID get in our way! With the help of an organizing committee, I had the privilege of producing an online version that we called HOPE FEST. This one-time and unique happening, held on May 29, was hosted by radio personality Cousin Vinny and showcased talented students from across the school board. The event was broadcast live on the board's Facebook page and reached more than 16,000 views.

## Thank You

This annual report will serve to remind us of the year during which we accomplished the impossible, during impossible times.

The Council of Commissioners takes this opportunity to applaud all SWLSB employees who have not only been resilient, creative and caring during these challenging times, but who remained professional, loyal and committed to their work. Council is very proud to have such outstanding individuals contributing to the success of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

The Council would also like to thank SWLSB students and families for their patience, adaptability and understanding as we navigated these uncertain times together. This past year has clearly demonstrated that we are stronger when we work together.

I would like to thank my fellow commissioners for their continued support and dedication to English public education. We were not always in agreement, but despite our differences, we always came together for the good of our students and staff, and I am very appreciative of that. Thank you for all that you have done.

I could not be prouder to be part of a school board that knows how to come together when the going gets tough. We are more than a school board. We are a family. And as we've said several times this past year, *we will get through this together.*

Paolo Galati  
Chairperson





## Annual Wall Calendar Unveiling

As per our annual tradition, the 2019 wall mural was unveiled at the first regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the 2019-2020 school year. This mural is comprised of 38 drawings selected from thousands of entries submitted. The theme for this year's contest was "**How I Show Kindness**". All the students whose drawing was selected were invited to attend the Council meeting for the mural unveiling which took place on September 25, 2019.

## SWLSB Teacher Receives Award for Excellence in Teaching High School Physics

Rosemere High School teacher **Andrea Venditti** was the recipient of the prestigious **Canadian Association of Physicists (CAP) Award for Excellence in Teaching High School/CEGEP Physics**. The Council was extremely proud to recognize Ms. Venditti for her **innovative efforts** in bringing physics to our youth, her **ability to build bridges** between students young and old, and her **outstanding efforts** in getting students to perform in physics competitions and activities outside of class.

Ms. Venditti leads students through exploring STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) using objects, like toys, to demonstrate concepts and encourage conversations among the students. As a result, her lessons engage students and stimulate discussion. Her material is always available for all students to access and use.



## Finalist for the Together Against Bullying Award

Council was extremely proud to honour **Justine Dansereau, Pedagogical Consultant, School Climate**, on December 11, 2019, for being one of the three finalists in the **Together Against Bullying Award**, an initiative of the MEES.

Every year since 2015, the Ministère de la Famille awards a prize for an initiative called *Ensemble contre l'intimidation* (Together Against Bullying). This award, presented by the Premier of Québec, honours a person, an organization or a school board that stands out through their actions and contribution to prevent and fight bullying. There were 48 nominations across the province, and a 5-person jury had the difficult task of choosing 3 finalists. We are extremely proud that Ms. Dansereau was one of the 3 finalists selected for this prestigious award. Ms. Dansereau was invited to the 2019 ceremony which took place on November 27 in Québec City's Parliament Building. Council applauded her commitment to help prevent and counter bullying in our schools.



### Justine Dansereau Pedagogical Services Department

For being a finalist in the **Together Against Bullying** contest. This initiative of the Ministère de la Famille pays tribute to the people and organizations who, thanks to their actions and their commitment, help prevent and counter bullying.

Council of Commissioners Meeting | December 11, 2019



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE EN ABÉTIPI-CAURIER  
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD



## SWLSB Teachers Promoting SWLSB at McGill University's Career Fair

At its meeting of February 26, 2020, the Council of Commissioners recognized four SWLSB teachers who took part in an advertising campaign to recruit new teachers through heartwarming testimonials.

The video shoots were held in three schools across the school board's territory: Laval Junior Academy, McCaig Elementary and Rawdon Elementary. Thanks to these amazing teachers who spoke so openly about their passion for teaching, these videos turned out to be so much more than expected. Their energy and love of the teaching profession could be felt through the screen. Thank you to **Vicki Fraser** from McCaig Elementary, **Kirsten Diachidos** from Laval Junior Academy, **Nathalie Korb** from Rawdon Elementary and **Carolanne Gravel** from Rawdon Elementary for representing our board so well.

## SWLSB Communications Team Wins Awards

Congratulations to the Communications team, **Maxeen Jolin** and **Susan O'Keeffe**, for having received two **BRAVO! Awards** from the **Canadian Association of Communicators in Education (CACE)**: a **Coup de Coeur award** for the 2019-2020 registration campaign and a **Distinction award** for the 2018-2022 Commitment-to-Success Plan branding. Their projects were selected among 300 other entries from school boards across Canada.



## SWLSB Physical Education Teachers Coming Together

Being confined did not stop **30 SWLSB Physical Education teachers** from across the school board's territory to come together, although at a distance, to make a video **promoting wellness** as well as the importance of **staying active and eating well**, which are vital habits for a balanced life. These lifestyle habits are **EVEN MORE** important when people are isolated and going through a challenging situation like the one we experienced.

Within hours of posting the video on social media, it was viewed by thousands of people! The Council congratulates the Physical Education team for coming together and creating this engaging video.

## Emergency Daycares Services During COVID-19

Shortly after the closure of all schools and centres due to the global pandemic, the government announced that schools would be offering emergency daycare services to the children of frontline workers in the health sector. The school board had less than 48 hours to prepare and get organized to open these daycares that needed to respect all public health sanitary measures in place.

The following five SWLSB schools offered emergency daycare services during these very challenging times:

- John F. Kennedy Elementary
- Mountainview Elementary
- Rawdon Elementary
- Laurentia Elementary
- Laurentian Elementary



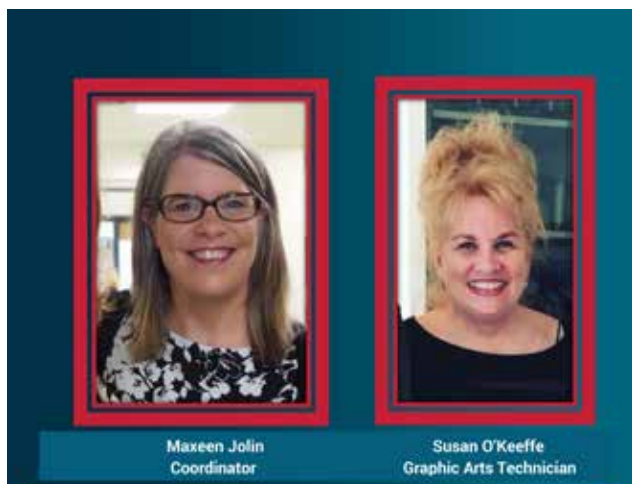
At its meeting of June 25, 2020, Council recognized the emergency daycare workers for **their resilience, collaboration, sense of civic duty and commitment** to providing daily quality daycare services to the children and families under their care, in a context that was unknown for everyone.

Council also commended **Josée Pomminville**, Daycare Technician and the school board's Daycare Liaison, for her professionalism and dedication, as she made sure that the SWLSB daycares continued to offer top quality and safe services and that the daycare team members across the school board worked together for the well-being of all the children they service. Ms. Pomminville was instrumental in supporting the emergency daycare teams during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## SWLSB Communications Team

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, and more specifically as the school board faced the COVID-19 pandemic, its Communications team was instrumental in supporting all our stakeholders. Using visuals and content-oriented communications, **Maxeen Jolin** and **Susan O'Keeffe** kept parents, students, staff and the public up to date with timely information regarding the health, safety, and education of our community.

They also ensured the promotion of English-language education and played a vital role in sustaining the vitality of its network. Thanks to their dedication and work ethic, they led the way and consistently rose to each challenge with a **positive attitude and mindset**.





## Adopt-a-Family

On June 25, 2020, the Council of Commissioners recognized the **Spiritual Care and Guidance, and Community Involvement Animators of the Pedagogical Services Department** for the Adopt-a-Family project. During the COVID-19 crisis, they mobilized school board staff and aligned school resources in order to provide groceries during a 12-week period to SWLSB families in need.

**A total of 118 SWLSB employees answered the invitation** to adopt a family by purchasing \$50 worth of groceries each week and delivering them to a family in need. To respect COVID-19 travel restrictions, volunteers were matched with families in their region. The Spiritual Animators connected volunteers with as many families as possible, respecting privacy, confidentiality as well as COVID-19 health and safety measures.

Fifteen schools participated in this initiative representing all three regions of our school board: Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière. School administrators and secretaries collaborated to allot budgets for the families in their school, identify families in need of support and inform the Spiritual Animation team, process receipts and facilitate reimbursements in an efficient and timely manner.

In the end, **this project helped 67 families** by providing them with groceries on a weekly basis through a collective investment of over \$45,000 to help our community. In addition, each family received a \$100 grocery card in July thanks to a donation from the Parents' Committee and the Council of Commissioners.

**Lynda da Silveira**  
Assistant Director

**Cheryl Smith**  
Spiritual Care and Guidance, and Community Involvement Animators

**Daniel Johnson**

**Dominic Di Stefano**

### Adopt-a-Family

#### Pedagogical Services Department

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pedagogical Services Department team assembled volunteers to purchase groceries for families in need. The volunteers and schools answered the call to support their communities. Together, the employees of the SWLSB have, once again, risen to the occasion.

The response received from those who wanted to volunteer was so overwhelming that not all employees who registered were able to participate in the program. Thank you to everyone who put their names forward to help these families and thank you to the administrators and support staff who worked on this initiative.

The Adopt-a-Family program touched all the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board regions and involved 15 schools serving 63 different families. Thank you to all the volunteers!

André-Anne Côté • Abigail Lawrence • Amanda Diodati • Anna Tamburri • Carmen Cepa • Carolyn Roberts  
Céline Sévigny • Christiane Beauchamp • Christina Chedel • Connie Procopio • Debbie Adams • Despina Mardas  
Donna Desmarceaux • Dorinda Raymond • Edith Frenette • Elaine Dalbec • Gautama Swaminathan  
Genevieve Ducharme • Heather Usher • Heidi Klinger • Ian Ritchie • Isabel La Chance • Janet Sallie  
Jennifer Schembri • Jessica Budd • Jessica Rooney • Josée Royer • Joy Fitzgibbons • Karen Lorenz • Karen Stoddart  
Karine Valiquette • Laurie Croteau • Laurie Lebow • Lena Toubkian • Lori Tanner • Lucia De Fanti  
Marjoleine Volpe • Marie-Josée Dufour • Melaine Demers • Melissa Jones • Melissa Tomassini  
Muriel-Anne Maki • Michelina Martino • Nadia Varano • Nathalie Giguère • Nicole Comeau • Noua Helal  
Olivia Mancini • Penelope Fergus • Rosa Ferrulli • Sandra Malone • Sandy El Baranvigi • Sarah Leboeuf  
Shannon Lemm • Sharon Larriessy • Shauna Bolland • Sheila Lindsay • Stephanie Wicki • Susan Cunningham  
Tammy Joseph • Tjasa Korda • Wanda Nephakis

Council of Commissioners Meeting | June 25, 2020

# Teamwork

THE STRENGTH OF THE TEAM IS EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER.  
THE STRENGTH OF EACH MEMBER IS THE TEAM.

- Phil Jackson

# Council of Commissioners



**Paolo Galati\***  
Chairperson



**Peter MacLaurin**  
Electoral Division 1



**Melissa Wall\***  
Electoral Division 2



**Guy Gagnon\***  
Electoral Division 3



**Anne McMullon**  
Electoral Division 4



**Bob Pellerin\***  
Alternate Vice-Chairperson  
Electoral Division 5



**Emilio Miglioizzi**  
Electoral Division 6

**Vicky Kaliozakis\***  
Vice-Chairperson  
Electoral Division 7



**Anick Brunet**  
Electoral Division 8



**James Di Sano\***  
Electoral Division 9



**Tara Anderson**  
Parent Commissioner  
Elementary



**Anthony Beliotis**  
Parent Commissioner  
Secondary



**Stéphane Henley\***  
Parent Commissioner  
Students with Special Needs



\* Members of the Executive Committee

## Vision

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board believes that all students deserve its complete commitment to their success.

## Mission

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's mission is to provide engaging and innovative learning where everyone achieves success and well-being. To accomplish its mission the school board:

- Supports student success
- Prepares students for the future
- Offers equitable and varied educational options



# Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Portrait



SWLSB schools range in enrolment from 90 students in one of our elementary schools located in a rural Laurentian setting to more than 1,500 students in our largest secondary school in Laval. Illustrated below is our enrolment portrait.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board		Students Enrolment as of September 30, 2019
26 Elementary Schools		7,783 students
9 High Schools		4,909 students
Homeschooling		930 students
<b>Total enrolment YOUTH SECTOR</b>		<b>13,622 students</b>
2 Adult Education and 2 Vocational Training Centres		1,412 students
1 Nature and Science Centre		
1 Service aux entreprises (Qualification)		

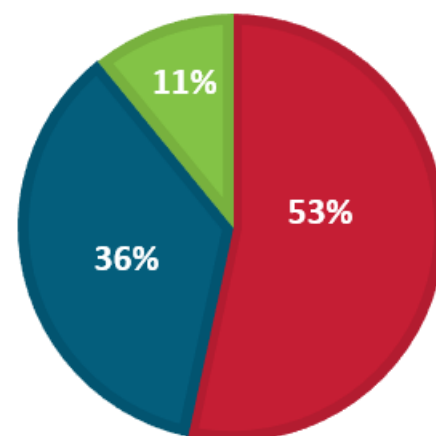
Laval	
11 Elementary Schools	3,889 students
3 High Schools	2,418 students
<b>Total enrolment YOUTH SECTOR</b>	<b>6,307 students</b>
1 Adult Education and 1 Vocational Training Centre	

Laurentides	
11 Elementary Schools	2,626 students
5 High Schools	2,261 students
<b>Total enrolment YOUTH SECTOR</b>	<b>4,887 students</b>
1 Adult Education and 1 Vocational Training Centre	
1 Nature and Science Centre	

Lanaudière	
4 Elementary Schools	1,268 students
1 High School	230 students
<b>Total enrolment YOUTH SECTOR</b>	<b>1,498 students</b>

Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board - Employees	
Administrators	89
Professionals	99
Teachers	1,184
Support Staff	572
Maintenance	96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,040</b>

- Laval
- Laurentides
- Lanaudière





The first version of the 2018-2022 Commitment-to-Success Plan (CTSP) was adopted by the Council of Commissioners on June 27, 2018.

In the preparation stages, students, parents, staff, governing board members, alumni and community stakeholders, including elected officials, were consulted on the direction and orientations that should be the focus of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board. Following approval by the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES), the final version of the plan was adopted by Council on October 18, 2018.

The CTSP includes five orientations and five objectives (as illustrated below) aligned with those of the MEES to ensure improved student success rates.

The 2019-2020 Annual Report focuses on the school board's results achieved in the second year of the 2018-2022 Commitment-to-Success Plan.



## ENGAGE • BUILD • ACHIEVE ENGAGER • BÂTIR • ACCOMPLIR

### 5 ORIENTATIONS

<p><b>Retain and support quality employees.</b></p> <p><i>Assurer la fidélisation des employés et leur offrir le soutien nécessaire.</i></p>	<p><b>Offer students a variety of choices through 21<sup>st</sup> century programs and curriculums.</b></p> <p><i>Offrir aux élèves des parcours variés grâce à des programmes d'études et des curriculums adaptés au 21<sup>e</sup> siècle.</i></p>	<p><b>Develop a learning and working environment that promotes health, safety and well-being.</b></p> <p><i>Offrir un environnement d'apprentissage et de travail favorisant la santé, la sécurité et le bien-être.</i></p>	<p><b>Increase the level of literacy competencies among the adult population on the school board's territory.</b></p> <p><i>Rehausser les compétences en littératie de la population adulte sur le territoire de la commission scolaire.</i></p>	<p><b>Engage students in physical activities 60 minutes a day.</b></p> <p><i>Faire bouger les élèves 60 minutes par jour.</i></p>
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### 5 OBJECTIVES | 5 OBJECTIFS



Provide **equal opportunities** for all students to succeed.  
*Offrir une **chance égale** de réussite à tous les élèves.*



Ensure that elementary school students enter **high school before age 13.**  
*Assurer le passage du primaire au **secondaire avant l'âge de 13 ans.***



**Graduate a greater number of students** from high school or vocational training **before age 20.**  
***Augmenter le nombre d'élèves** qui obtiennent un **diplôme** d'études secondaires ou professionnelles **avant l'âge de 20 ans.***



Improve **success rates in the writing component** of the English Language Arts ministry exam.  
*Améliorer le **taux de réussite à l'épreuve ministérielle d'écriture** en anglais, langue d'enseignement.*



Ensure that the **infrastructure** is conducive to **21<sup>st</sup> century learning** and working.  
*S'assurer que l'**infrastructure** est propice au travail et à l'**apprentissage au 21<sup>e</sup> siècle.***

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[www.swlauriersb.qc.ca](http://www.swlauriersb.qc.ca)





# Results in Achieving the MEES Targets

ENGAGE • BUILD • ACHIEVE  
ENGAGER • BÂTIR • ACCOMPLIR

## OBJECTIVE 1:

**By 2030, reduce the gap in success rates between various groups of students by 50%**

The Ministry of Education has identified certain groups of students who do not meet the criteria to graduate and has established a 50% reduction in identified gaps. All students have our commitment to their individual success and as such, we will follow suit and make sure that all students have equal access to education.

**RESULTS:** The 2018 results for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board indicate an increase in the gap between the graduation rate of girls and boys (5.4% in 2017). This can be attributed to uncontrollable cohort variance. The gap between the graduation rate of students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning difficulties and students without an IEP has decreased by 3.8% points since 2015, a decrease of 1.4% from the 2017 cohort. This indicates that we are 2.2% points away from attaining our 2022 target of 25.4% gap between these two groups of students.

	Province of Québec					Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board				
	Baseline 2015 (2008 cohort)		Results 2018 (2011 cohort)		Target 2022	Baseline 2015 (2008 cohort)		Results 2018 (2011 cohort)		Target 2022
	Success rate	Gap	Success rate	Gap	Gap	Success rate	Gap	Success rate	Gap	Gap
Boys <sup>1</sup>	73.8%	All sectors 10.1%	77.6%	8.5%	6.1%	78.4%	8.7%	80.1%	8.1%	6.2%
Girls <sup>1</sup>	83.9%		86.1%			87.1%		88.2%		
Students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning difficulties	48.3%	Public sectors 34.1%	56.2%	30.2%	25.3%	55.4%	31.4%	64.2%	27.6%	25.4%
Students without IEP	82.4%		86.4%			86.8%		91.8%		
Start secondary school in a milieu défavorisé <sup>2</sup>	69.0%	Public sectors 8.9%	73.2%	8.2%	6.5%	70.8%	12.6%	83.0%	1.3%	10.2%
Other areas <sup>3</sup>	77.9%		81.4%			83.4%		84.3%		

Source: Rapport *Diplomation et qualification par commission scolaire au secondaire (tableau 1)*, 2017 edition

Source: Excel report titled "885 000\_Taux\_Diplomation\_qualification\_ed2020\_DIS" Charlemagne, September 2020

<sup>1</sup>7-year graduation and qualification rate

<sup>2</sup>Based on the *indice de milieu socio-economique (IMSE)* of the public secondary school attended (IMSE decile rank 8, 9 or 10)

<sup>3</sup>Based on the *indice de milieu socio-economique (IMSE)* of the public secondary school attended (IMSE decile ranks 1 to 7)

## OBJECTIVE 2:

### By 2030, reduce to 10% the proportion of students starting public secondary school at age 13 or older

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adheres to research-based practices and therefore does not promote the retention of students. Although certain decisions are made to retain a student, these are taken for exceptional reasons and, in these cases, do contribute to positive outcomes, particularly where remaining in the same setting for too long or being unprepared for changes to their environment may be harmful to students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning disabilities.

**RESULTS:** The 2019 results indicate that the proportion of students who start public secondary school at age 13 or older in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is 3.7%. We continue to maintain results below our 5% target.

	Province of Québec			Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board			
	Baseline 2017	2019	Target 2022	Baseline 2017	2018	2019	Target 2022
Proportion of students	12.6%	9.6%	11.4%	3.7%	3.2%	3.7%	< 5%

Source: *Portrait des statistiques ministérielles* (tableau 1), September 2016 edition

Source: Excel report titled "Taux de diplomation et de qualification par cohorte de nouveaux inscrits au secondaire selon la durée des études (5 ans, 6 ans et 7 ans), cohortes de 2011 et 2012"



### OBJECTIVE 3:

**By 2030, have 85% of students under the age of 20 obtain a first diploma (SSD or DVS), and 90% obtain a first diploma or qualification**

The SWLSB demonstrated a slight decrease in its graduation rate from 84.5% in 2017 to 84.2% in 2018. We continue to focus on the implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLC) in order to build a results-based culture at the school level. Teachers' use of formative and summative assessments and the practice of providing feedback to students has also been a focus this year and will continue to be in the upcoming years as well. We anticipate an increase in the success rate in the various subjects, resulting in an increased graduation rate.

**RESULTS:** The 2018 graduation rate of students under the age of 20 obtaining a first diploma or qualification (based on the cohort of students entering Secondary 1 in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board by September 30, 2011) is 84.2%. This represents a 0.3% point decrease in the graduation rate from 2017 (84.5%).

Improve the graduation and qualification rate (7-year cohort)								
	Province of Québec				Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board			
	Baseline 2015 (cohort 2008)	Results 2017 (cohort 2011)	Target 2022	Target 2030	Baseline 2015 (cohort 2008)	Results 2018 (cohort 2011)	Target 2022	Target 2030
Students under 20 obtain a first diploma or qualification	78.8%	81.8%	84.0%	90.0%	82.8%	84.2%	88.0%	90.0%

Source: *Portrait des statistiques ministérielles* (tableau 1), September 2016 edition

Source: *Diplomation et qualification par commission scolaire au secondaire* (tableau 1) édition 2020

Indicator 2: (Tableau 1.1 *Diplomation et qualification réunis selon le secteur, sexes réunis, total*)



## OBJECTIVE 4:

**By 2030, increase to 90% the success rate on the composition component of the Elementary 6 (Cycle 3, Year 2) language of instruction ministerial examination in the public system**

SWLSB offers students an English education and a bilingual future. Our Secondary 5 English Language Arts and French Second Language subjects continue to yield results in the 90 percentiles. Measured at the end of cycle 3, we maintain high results in both languages.

Supporting English- and French-language teaching and learning and providing early interventions will help us maintain the current course success rates. We promote collaboration between language teachers at all levels in order to promote bilingualism and develop successful citizens of Québec.

**RESULTS:** The 2018 data indicate a 92.7% success rate in FSL reading (a 6.07% increase from the 2017 results) and 92.8% in FSL interaction (a 1.8% point increase since 2017). The English Language Arts trend demonstrates steady results in the 90% range.

Improve and/or maintain the first- and second-language competencies of our students						
	Province of Québec		Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board			
	Baseline 2016	Target 2022	Baseline 2016	Results 2017	Results 2018	Target 2022
Grade 6 English Language Arts (ELA) Reading Competency - MEES exam	n/a	n/a	90.1%	91.9%	91.6%	92.5%
Grade 6 English Language Arts (ELA) Writing Competency - MEES exam	n/a	n/a	94.0%	93.6%	94.4%	94.0%
Grade 6 Français Langue Seconde, programme de base (FLS) Reading Competency - SWLSB exam	n/a	n/a	94.0%	86.0%	92.7%	95.0%
Grade 6 Français Langue Seconde, programme de base (FLS) Interaction Competency - SWLSB exam	n/a	n/a	94.0%	91.0%	92.8%	95.0%

Source: SWLSB Lumix data retrieved November 25, 2020





## OBJECTIVE 5:

### By 2030, ensure that all school buildings are in good condition

The age and condition of many of our buildings represent a challenge for providing a 21st century learning environment. Moreover, universal design principles were not taken into account in 20th century building and infrastructure design. We are constantly working to upgrade our schools based on available funding to provide learning environments that promote the health, wellness and safety of our students and staff.

To bring our schools up to the satisfactory level of the Facility Condition Index, the Material Resources Department has worked diligently over the last two years to initiate and carry out a number of projects such as roofing, window replacement, brick pointing, foundation work and washroom renovations. Given sufficient Ministry funding, we are confident that we will be able to meet our goals.

### Ensure that all school buildings are in good condition

	Province of Québec		Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board	
	Baseline 2018	Target 2022	Baseline 2018	Target 2022
% of schools, centres and buildings in satisfactory condition according to the Facility Condition Index (FCI)	68.0%	85.0%	26.0%* (13 buildings)	50.0% (23 buildings)

Source: Système informatisé de maintien d'actifs des commissions scolaires (SIMACS) 2017

\*Our baseline percentage is lower than the provincial level because of the buildings part of our Arundel Nature and Science Centre.



LSA washroom | Before



LSA washroom | After



LTMHS | Before



LTMHS | After



St. Paul Elementary lockers | Before



St. Paul Elementary lockers | After



Laurentia Elementary | Before



Laurentia Elementary | After



## Adult Education

Several initiatives were put in place in our two Adult Education centres (CDC Vimont and CDC Lachute) to achieve Orientation no. 4 of the school board which consists in **increasing the level of literacy competencies among its adult population**. The literacy levels of our adult learners are as wide-ranging as the school board's territory.

Adult Education programs mirror this diversity, supporting English and non-English-language speakers alike through Francization and Basic English courses, secondary as well as pre- and post-secondary academics, and supporting members of the special needs community through Social Integration Service programs.

In keeping with our inclusive community approach, an inter-program model was adopted In 2019-2020. **Within the literacy development continuum, a focus on reading and oral expression became a centre-wide goal**. Our objectives were to:

- improve reading comprehension strategies;
- build self-confidence and reduce anxiety with oral expression; and
- encourage an appreciation of books by providing low-risk opportunities to share books with strong visual cues, accessible vocabulary and high-interest themes.

CDC Vimont implemented the project *My Book ... Your Book* which originally began with an emphasis on children's literature. Centre budget allocations and grants from the MEES were combined, thus channeling finances in support of a number of literacy initiatives within the project. The Literacy Cart provided free books, both in English and French, for students to take home, keep and read with their families.

**A Family Literacy Evening**, in partnership with The Learning Exchange, provided adult students with a special occasion to share the joy of reading and storytelling with their own children and grandchildren. Francization and Basic English students were invited to build literacy skills with our social integration students through reading and listening activities.

Although the school year was shortened, over 400 students participated in at least one of the activities organized within the project.





## Vocational Training

Enrolment	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Students under 20 years	71	73	61
Students over 20 years	441	510	379
<b>Total</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>440</b>

Source: Lumix

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board offers a wide range of vocational training programs to meet the diverse career needs of adults under and over 20 years of age. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the limitations on the mobility of international students, there was a decrease in the student population at CDC Pont-Viau in 2019-2020, which we expect to see in 2020-2021 as well. The student population under 20 years of age declined as a result of this situation and the increase in the secondary school graduation rates. Fewer students under 20 started Vocational Training programs, but rather completed their studies in the youth sector and then went on to post-secondary education.

The Computing Support program and the Health, Assistance and Nursing program remain the most popular. Enrolment in the other vocational training programs has remained relatively stable, with the exception of Hotel Reception which experienced a dramatic reduction in clientele. Career exploration activities, promotional campaigns on social media and local advertising are important ways of recruiting students. Retention of students is high thanks to the academic and social services support measures put in place to help students complete their program in a timely manner.



## Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation is a non-profit organization that works in collaboration with businesses, parents and schools to build partnerships with the goal of giving back to the students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board. Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has invested more than \$850,000 in our schools and centres and every year awards citizenship bursaries to graduating students in the youth and adult sectors. The money raised by the Foundation comes from two major fundraisers held in January and June.



The Foundation, in partnership with the school board, also finances the annual Laurier Gala/Star Fest, an evening that recognizes more than 200 students in our school board and highlights the musical talents of over 20 students.

## Board of Directors of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation

### President

Christian Fréchette

### Treasurer

Harold Ashenmil

### Members

Steve Ceccolini • Josée Côté • Chrystine Legault • Sandro Mussini  
David Paulozza • Alan Simoneau • Ed Turchyniak





The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board attracts students from all over the world to its programs in the youth sector and the vocational training sector. International students benefit from a rich cultural and academic experience in a bilingual environment in our great schools and centres.

International students serve as ambassadors to promote the SWLSB as a highly recognized educational institution abroad. The International Student Program enables us to increase our student enrolment in the youth and vocational training sectors. It also enhances intercultural interactions between international and local students and generates revenues that enable us to maintain our programs and local workforce.

During the 2019-2020 school year, our international students came from Bangladesh, Ghana, Rwanda, China, Vietnam, Mexico, Cambodia, Spain, Thailand, the Philippines, Sweden, Germany, England and Brazil. We welcomed:

- **28 new international students in the youth sector**, who were enrolled at Laval Senior Academy, Laval Junior Academy, Rosemère High School, Lake of Two Mountains High School, Sainte-Agathe Academy, John F. Kennedy Elementary School, and Sainte-Adèle Elementary School.
- **21 new international students in our vocational training centres** in programs such as Computing Support, Health, Assistance and Nursing, Accounting, Construction Business Management, and Secretarial Studies.

Enrolment for the 2019-2020 school year was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As of March 18, 2020, students were unable to travel to Canada due to the travel ban that was imposed by the federal government. Despite the pandemic, we still have students interested in coming to our schools and centres. We will continue to promote our school board through online platforms and participation in virtual recruitment fairs. We are currently strengthening our current partnerships and developing new ones to increase recruitment of international students to our school board.

## International Student Testimonials

- "I really enjoy being part of the Lake of Two Mountains High School. I love my teachers! I would really recommend an exchange program to everyone because it is a great opportunity to practice language, get to know other people and culture, and try something new." Fanny Bierwirth, student from Germany at Lake of Two Mountains.
- "It's a great experience to learn a new language. I really enjoyed my experience and appreciated the culture which is very different to mine. I also encourage students to come here or anywhere because it's a great experience." Mario Montes, student from Spain at Sainte-Agathe Academy.
- "I chose the accounting program because it relates to a course that I took in my country and I believe that completing a vocational program would allow me to advance my knowledge and experience in my field of interest. My teachers, classmates, and the staff at CDC Pont-Viau have treated me very well. Overall my experience at CDC Pont-Viau is a heartwarming one, which I will forever be grateful." Vineth Clair Blanco, student from the Philippines at CDC Pont-Viau.



## Parents' Committee 2019-2020



Before September 30 of each year, our schools hold their Annual General Assembly whereby parents/guardians of students elect Governing Board (GB) members. From among the elected GB members, each school elects a delegate and an alternate to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Parents' Committee (PC). These elections are held in accordance with the province's *Education Act*. Together, the representatives of the schools and one elected member from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) form PC for the year.

The Parents' Committee is the only committee within the school governance system that is entirely populated and led by parents. At the first PC meeting, a chairperson, a vice-chair, a secretary and a treasurer are elected. Members are also voted into various other committees and subcommittees.

Meetings are held at the head office on the first Thursday of the month. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PC was forced to continue meeting via Zoom teleconferencing or in a hybrid manner (in-person and via Zoom).

The Parents' Committee is a non-decision-making body that participates in consultations that benefit our students. We also have the significant role of advocating for parents at large. PC has access to space on the SWLSB website as well as a Facebook page that is managed by a team of PC members.

In the past year, PC has focused on stronger engagement with our public. This has been achieved through direct visits to local school communities, "Like" campaigns for our Facebook page, more advertising of regular PC meetings to the public, and some lengthened Q & A periods in our meetings. The PC team undertook to create a new subcommittee called PC<sup>2</sup> (Parents' Committee Publicity Committee) with the goal of bringing more awareness to our public.

The past year certainly was one that nobody could have imagined. Instead of the typical recess from June through October, PC continued to advocate for all parents, helping to bring forth back-to-school concerns.

In closing, I would like to thank the 2019-2020 Parents' Committee team. The strong collaboration from all allowed for a very successful year. Furthermore, on behalf of PC, I extend the sincerest gratitude to the entire school board for their continual support of the PC team, demonstrating the strong relationship with our parental community.

As Henry Ford said: "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Warm regards,  
Adam Gordon  
2019-2020 Chairperson, Parents' Committee

PC Executive composition	Committees PC members sit on	Consultations	Topics discussed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson</li> <li>Vice-Chairperson</li> <li>Secretary</li> <li>Treasurer</li> <li>Elementary Parent Commissioner</li> <li>Secondary Parent Commissioner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA)</li> <li>Regroupement des comités de parents 3L - RCP3L</li> <li>Transportation Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds of Establishment</li> <li>Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables</li> <li>School Calendars</li> <li>Enrolment Criteria</li> <li>Budget Building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead in water pipes</li> <li>RCP3L membership</li> <li>Internal rules</li> <li>Facebook page</li> <li>E-voting procedures</li> <li>Publicity Committee</li> <li>Unrepresented schools at PC</li> </ul>
	<b>PC subcommittees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PC Facebook page</li> <li>Sexuality Education</li> <li>PC<sup>2</sup> Parents' Committee Publicity Committee</li> </ul>	<b>Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation</li> <li>Sexuality Education</li> <li>COMMUNICATE, the new mass notification system</li> </ul>	



## Reports | Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct and Student Ombudsman

### Ethics Commissioner

The Ethics officer charged with the enforcement of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for the Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, handled no complaints.

Click [here](#) for M<sup>e</sup> Vincent Guida's report.

### Alternate Student Ombudsman

The Alternate Student Ombudsman handled no complaints for the year ending June 30, 2020.\*

\*Complaints are handled as per our [procedures](#).

Click [here](#) for M<sup>e</sup> Vincent Guida's report.



# Finance

## Statement of Principle



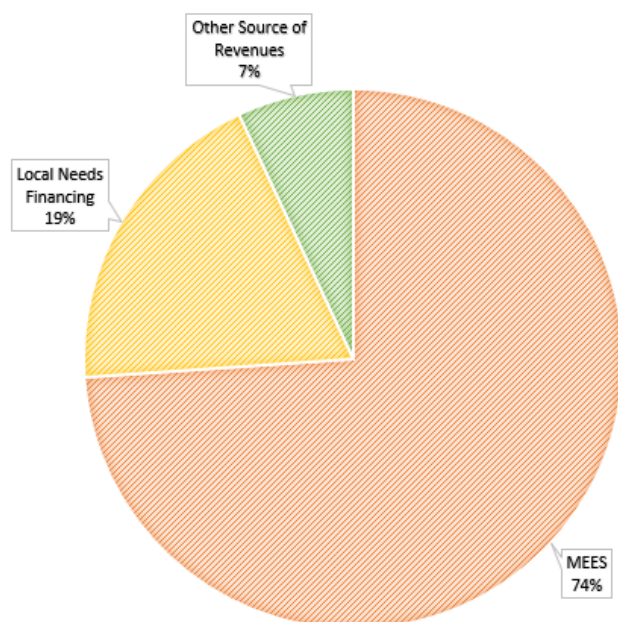
The school board shall allocate the resources at its disposal among its schools and centres in an equitable manner and in consideration of the social and economic disparities, the needs expressed by its institutions, existing partnerships and the Commitment-to-Success Plan. The school board shall reserve the amount determined necessary for its needs to administer the services entrusted to it by law and for the needs of its committees.

The school board shall establish parameters for the equitable distribution of its resources that ensure services to students as required by the provisions of the *Education Act* and school board policy.

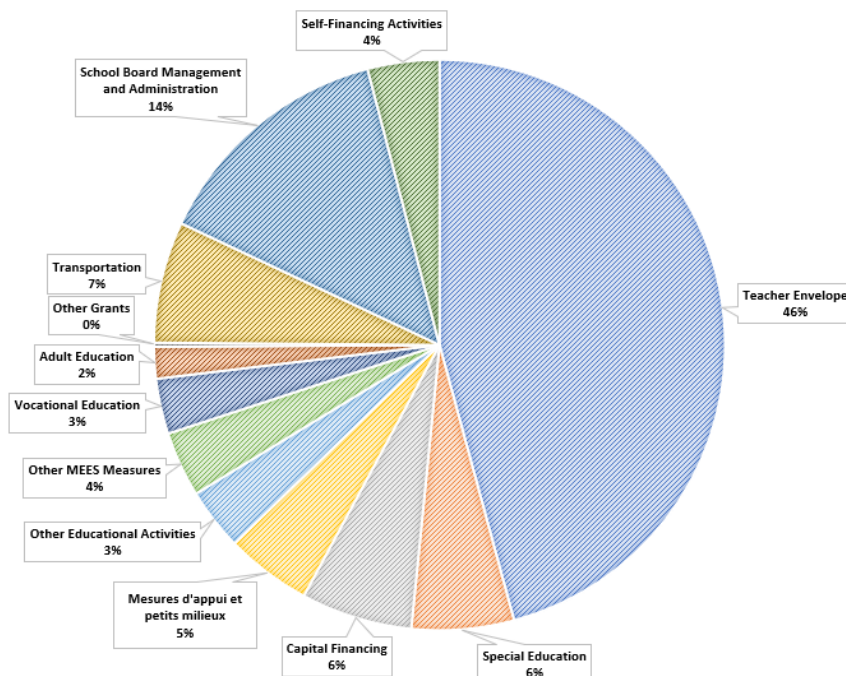
These parameters shall take into account the distinctive feature of each school and centre. Allocations will be built on a base and/or a per-student allocation adjusted in consideration of social and economic disparities.

The budgetary process encourages responsibility, accountability, innovation, creativity and transparency.

### REVENUES: \$179,448,956



### EXPENSES: \$178,483,788





**ENGAGE • BUILD • ACHIEVE**  
**ENGAGER • BÂTIR • ACCOMPLIR**

## **Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board**

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**A B C**