



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

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SWLSB Urges the Government to Prioritize Vaccination of School/Centre Staff

Rosemère, March 25, 2021 – The Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) is calling on the Government of Québec to prioritize the vaccination of school and centre employees.

School and centre teams have been working tirelessly to maintain quality educational services for the benefit of all students. Now that all students will soon be in schools full-time and will benefit from in-person services, Minister Roberge must ensure that the vaccine is immediately available to all employees and that they be prioritized.

The education sector has been recognized as an essential service since the beginning of this pandemic and must be treated as such. It is the Government's obligation to provide students and staff with proper learning and working conditions.

“On December 17, the SWLSB Council of Commissioners adopted a resolution requesting the Premier and the public health authorities to recognize all staff working in the education sector as a group to be prioritized in the COVID-19 vaccination schedule. A formal request was made to the Education Minister on January 6. We have not yet received any response. This is unacceptable, especially with Secondary 3, 4 and 5 students returning to school full-time as of March 29, when variant cases are on the rise. Protecting our staff is not only our responsibility, it is vital in this fight against COVID-19,” said Paolo Galati, SWLSB Chairperson.

With a workforce of more than 2,000 employees, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is the third largest English school board of the Province of Québec and has an 87.7% graduation rate. Its territory comprises the administrative regions of Laval, Lanaudière and the Laurentides. The school board 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.

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