

**PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC**  
**Ville de Rosemère**

**A Regular meeting** of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board was held via videoconference on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 19:30 hours, at which were:

**Present via videoconference:** Paolo Galati, Chairperson; Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon, Vice-Chairperson; Commissioner Melissa Wall, Alternate Vice-Chairperson; Commissioners Karla Abraham Di Francesco, Donna Anber, Anick Brunet, Vincent Cammisano, James Di Sano, Olivia Landry, Bob Pellerin and Parent Commissioners Tara Anderson and Stéphane Henley; and Gaëlle Absolonne, Director General.

**Also present via videoconference were:** Frédéric Greschner, Assistant Director General; Anna Sollazzo, Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; Florence Delorme, Director of School Affairs and School Organization; Michel Dufour, Director of Material Resources and Transportation; Geoffrey Hipps, Director of Pedagogical Services; Stephanie Krenn, Director of Human Resources; Chao Ling Pan, Director of Financial Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer.

**Absent:** Commissioner Emilio Migliozi.

**Guests:** Vicky Perreault, Principal, Virtual School, and her staff on the livestream.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order welcoming everyone who is viewing the meeting online and verified quorum with the Secretary General.

The Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General confirmed quorum.

**TIME: 19:30 hours**

**0.0 Opening of Meeting**

**0.1 Acknowledgement of the Land**

*"We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Kaniien'keha:ka or Mohawk nation. The Mohawk Nation is also known as the "Eastern Door Keepers" and is a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, which also includes the Seneca, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Onondaga and Oneida Peoples.*

*All those who gather here are counted as esteemed stakeholders in our community and most importantly friends."*

**0.2 Recognition**

The Chairman welcomed Vicky Perreault, Principal of the Virtual Campus, and the teachers and staff of the Virtual Campus to the meeting.

This evening, the Council is pleased to be able to honour the exceptional work of the Virtual Campus team over the past year, given that COVID-19 required the school board to be innovative in order to ensure the continuation of a quality education. With the support of the head office team, Ms. Perreault and her team are to be commended for building the school within a very short timeline.

He also acknowledged the contributions of the Principals of Arundel and Grenville Elementary Schools, and the head office teams for establishing the Virtual Campus and for the support provided to ensure that the school year for the Virtual Campus students was as effective as possible.

The school board is extremely proud of everyone involved in the creation and operation of the Virtual Campus. Earlier this week, the families of Virtual Campus students were advised that the campus team was to be honoured this evening and if they would provide feedback on their respective experiences.

The Director General noted that the feedback received was very positive and highlighted the following comments received from parents:

*"The **care** that was taken to make sure my children received the same level of instruction as in-person, can only be described as a complete success.*

*This year has provided the **calmness and stability** my child needed.*

*This has been the best learning year, with **dedicated professional teachers** who overcame the restrictive circumstances of a pandemic to further the education of my children under exceptionally difficult circumstances.*

*This has been a harrowing year and my child's experience has been **nurturing, engaging, and fun**. Beginnings of this unknown journey lead to a **self-growth and accomplishment** in my child's studies.*

*This has been an **amazing educational** and **endearing experience**.*

*Even remotely the teachers were able to **encourage my child** to do activities he refused to try with me previously.*

*A trying, but successful year thanks to the **dedication of great teachers** & administrators.*

*I'm really impressed and am **so thankful for all the teachers** who have made my kids love school again!*

*Thank you for your time and hard work in making this possible for our special needs children ! You make a huge difference in their lives. Continue to be wonderful!*

*The teachers have been amazing and have recreated a school room setting. Despite a very difficult year my child's teachers have all done a phenomenal job!*

*I have to admit that we were apprehensive about the virtual learning at the beginning of the year. There was no need to worry, you are all excellent at what you do. My son is flourishing and that is in no small part because of you."*

The Chairperson stated that over 100 messages were received from the Virtual Campus families and that they would be shared with the Virtual Campus team.

He gave special mention to the teachers who, despite being somewhat apprehensive about going virtual full-time, took the time and effort to making the experience feel as normal as possible for the Virtual Campus students.

The Principal of the Virtual Campus thanked the Council and the Virtual Campus families for their very kind works of appreciation. The entire team has really embraced this opportunity to offer something different and have conquered the challenges faced with online learning.

### 1.0 Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda  
CC-210428-CA-0092

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented in document #SWLSB-2021/04/28-CA-001.

**Carried unanimously**

### 2.0 Approval of Minutes – March 31, 2021

Approval of Minutes  
March 31, 2021  
CC-210428-CA-0093

Commissioner Olivia Landry MOVED THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on March 31, 2021, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written and exempt from public reading by the Secretary General.

**Carried unanimously**

### 3.0 Question Period

The Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General explained the parameters of the question period and drew attention to where people online can type in their questions for the second question period.

The Chairperson advised that a letter has been received from the Laurier Teachers' Union (LTU) addressed to himself and the Director General, and that within the letter it states the following:

- LTU disagrees with distance learning for the upcoming professionals' strike;
- LTU considers online learning illegal as per its collective agreement and the *Education Act*;
- There are other options that could have been considered.

In response to the questions from LTU, the Chairperson noted that the Council respects the right of all unions to strike and, that being said, it also has a commitment to its students to provide educational services through engaging and innovative learning so they can succeed. A resolution is being presented later in the meeting that addresses some of the reasons the school board retained distance learning and the school board's request to the Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ) concerning negotiations.

The Director General noted that it is important to know what criteria was used in making the decisions with respect to strike situations, as follows:

- The safety and security of the students and staff are at the forefront;
- The school board respects the rights of its unions to strike and asks that everyone respect the picket lines so as to avoid any conflict;
- The current need to maintain and enforce the sanitary measures in all buildings of the school board due to COVID-19;
- The review of all options available in order to maximize the student timetable and be respectful of the Basic School Regulation;
- Preserve and optimize instructional services outside of strike hours.

She went on to note that the school board always tries to be solution-oriented and collaborative with the unions. The letter from LTU referred to other solutions that could have been retained and the school board's reasons are as follows:

- The MEQ's directive for minimal services to students is in effect for distance education when related directly to COVID-19 isolation cases (classroom or entire school). The decision that the school board has taken to move to distance education does not relate to the decree. In addition, the necessary devices and equipment have been distributed and made available for the students and staff;
- Trading a floating pedagogical day cannot happen as there is jurisprudence on this.

In closing, she noted that the main goal is to ensure that the students receive the best services available, as per the school board's Commitment-to-Success Plan.

In response to a question from the Chairperson, the Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General noted that there were no questions, only a comment that there is no equity with respect to devices as not all students have access to them.

#### 4.0 Report from the Chairperson

The Chairperson stated that the Council is proud that COVID-19 has not stopped the school board from ensuring that students and staff continue to be its number one priority. He thanked the parents, teachers, support staff, maintenance staff and professionals for their support and for following the public health directives. Even though everyone will be vaccinated at some point, it is necessary, until that time, to continue following these directives due to the variants. Everyone needs to continue to work together to keep the schools, centres and each other safe.

Commissioner Anick Brunet entered the meeting.

**TIME: 20:11 hours**

He went on to present his monthly report noting:

- April 16, 2021 – An interview with Global News concerning the recycling of masks. This recycling program is costly and each school has to fund its own participation. To date, Laurentia Elementary School, Phoenix Alternative and Rosemere High School have made the decision to participate. Laurentian Regional High School participates in a similar program with the Maison des jeunes in Lachute. The schools collect the masks and when a box is full it is returned to the manufacturer where the masks are sanitized, shredded and used for another purpose;
- April 21, 2021 – An interview with *Laval News* on enrolment. In recent years, there has been a decline in enrolment at the school board but things are improving as enrolment has increased over the past four years. Numbers show that there is an increase in enrolment in northern regions of the school board but a decrease in the more urban areas. The increase in enrolment has even exceeded the projections of the MEQ;
- The school board has requested four new schools under the PQI in Mirabel, Deux-Montagnes, Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac and Laval to replace Crestview Elementary School.

#### Community Comments from Commissioners

- Congratulations to the CDC Vimont for the amazing work they have done in partnership with the Learning Exchange on the promotion of family literacy. The next activity will take place on May 15, 2021, *Exploring the World of Birds*;
- McCaig Elementary School and Rosemere High School (RHS) cleaned up their respective school yards for Earth Day. The Secondary V students at RHS will be receiving special treats as they head towards graduation;

- In collaboration with the Ville de Sainte-Adèle, Sainte-Adèle Elementary School is participating in a Beehive Program, whereby there will be three beehives in the town as well as two in Mont-Rolland and Saint-Sauveur, respectively, in order to help repopulate the bee nation. The school will paint the beehives for the Ville. The teachers at Sainte-Adèle Elementary School reached out to the French schools in the area to also participate in the project;
- A shout-out to the Laval Rockets for coming to Sainte-Adèle Elementary School, via Zoom, to read to the students as part of its literacy outreach program;
- On April 17, 2021, the Secondary I students at Lake of Two Mountains High School built six planters and they will grow vegetables and plants.

## 5.0 Report from the Director General

The Director General presented her monthly report noting:

- The teachers' strike on April 14, 2021, took place, while the strike on April 27, 2021, was cancelled. The next strikes are tomorrow, April 29, 2021, by the professionals, for half a day, and on May 13, 2021, by the support staff for the entire day. The information has been shared with parents to help them plan accordingly;
- Proud Moments
  - April 20, 2021 – *LSA Connects with Students* – This is a new guidance website that is focused on student needs and is accessible to anyone who logs onto the school's website. There is also a mental health section that provides links and phone numbers to helpful services. Congratulations to the LSA Guidance Department and those who supported them in this great endeavour;
- Security Awareness at the SWLSB
  - Many organizations are just one link away from a potential disaster given that if you click on the wrong link it can open a number of nefarious programs that could lead to the theft of important information. The Information Technology team is to be commended for its stringent management of the school board's systems and for providing training on security awareness for the head office employees. A self-paced program was made available to head office employees and contains five video capsules with questions and answers on various types of ways that hackers can steal information. The school board is a firm believer in lifelong learning;
- Pre-Kindergarten
  - In the 2021-2022 school year, the number of pre-kindergarten classes will grow from 34 classes to 42 classes. This is very good news as it is a huge contribution to the school board's enrolment and for services to the anglophone community. When pre-kindergarten was first introduced in 2018-2019, there were only five classes and, over the past three school years, it has grown considerably. Students and parents were asked how they felt about pre-kindergarten and the response was overwhelmingly positive;
- Upcoming Opportunities
  - May 1, 2021 – School Administrator Day;
  - May 10-14, 2021 – School Daycare Week;
  - May 28, 2021 – Professional Development for Teachers;
  - May 28, 2021 – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation presents the Laurier Gala and Hope Fest at 7:30 p.m., on Facebook Live. This event is to celebrate student success.

## 6.0 Business Arising

### 6.1 Engagement of Service Provider – Bailiff Services

Engagement of Service  
Provider – Bailiff Services

**CC-210428-FR-0094**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution no. CC-210224-FR-0080, authorizing the publication of a call for tenders for a bailiff services contract of three (3) years with the possibility of an annual extension of up to five (5) years;

WHEREAS the estimated cost for the total duration of the service contract is \$160,000.00, before taxes;

WHEREAS a public call for tenders for bailiff services was made and tenders were opened on April 1, 2021;

WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2021, as part of the tendering process, a Selection Committee was held and conducted a qualitative evaluation of the tenders received;

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the bailiff services contract to Charron Boissé Lévesque, Huissiers de justice Inc.;

AND THAT the Director of Financial Resources be authorized to pay all invoices related to said bailiff services contract.

**Carried unanimously**

## 7.0 Decision Items

### 7.1 Human Resources

#### 7.1.1 Organizational Chart 2021-2022 – Authorization for Consultation

The Director of Human Resources noted that the organizational chart has not been updated since January 2017 and the needs of the school board have evolved significantly since that time. There are eight special projects that the school board would like to make permanent as well as four management positions.

Organizational Chart  
2021-2022 –  
Authorization for  
Consultation

**CC-210428-HR-0095**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. CC-170125-HR-0050, approving the organizational chart for management;

WHEREAS the needs of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board have changed considerably over the past four (4) years;

WHEREAS an organizational chart for management has been prepared to come into effect as of the 2021-2022 school year;

Commissioner James Di Sano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation the proposed 2021-2022 Organizational Chart for Management, as per document no. SWLSB-2021/04/28-HR-001.

AND THAT in accordance with the management policies of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, the Council of Commissioners approve a consultation period beginning on April 29, 2021, and ending on June 14, 2021, with the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association (SWLAA) and the Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – SWL Section (AQCS).

**Carried unanimously**

### 7.1.2 Service Contract – Employee Assistance Program

The Director of Human Resources advised the Council that in January 2017, the school board partnered with the Lester B. Pearson, New Frontiers and Riverside School Boards to share the services of a firm to provide an Employee Assistance Program and that we are requesting to join a new contract with two years remaining. In response to a question, the Director of Human Resources stated she would survey its employees on the services provided.

Service Contract –  
Employee Assistance  
Program

**CC-210428-HR-0096**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution no. CC-170125-HR-0054, entering into an agreement with Lester B. Pearson, New Frontiers, and Riverside School Boards to share the services of a firm to provide an Employee Assistance Program and mandating that the Lester B. Pearson School Board act as the manager of the transaction and be authorized to call for tenders on behalf of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for a two-year service contract with an annual renewal option for up to three years;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's Employee Assistance Program is up for renewal as of July 1, 2021;

WHEREAS it is not suggested to renew said contract as the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales tender agreement (SAR290-2018) awarded to Morneau Shepell and concluded for other school boards in our region is more beneficial in terms of pricing;

WHEREAS the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales requires an official mandate with regard to the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board joining in on the existing contract with regard to the Employee Assistance Program for the remainder of the term as per the tender agreement (SAR290-2018);

Commissioner Melissa Wall MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, the Council of Commissioners approve the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's participation in the contract resulting from the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales group purchasing SAR290-2018 for a term of 24 months beginning on July 1, 2021, and ending on June 30, 2023;

AND THAT the Director General or, in her absence or with her knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this service contract.

**Carried unanimously**

## 7.2 Financial Resources

### 7.2.1 Allocation of Resources 2021-2022

The Director of Financial Resources advised that after a discussion at the Corporate Committee, the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) has been added as a consulting body.

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley, who is also the Chairperson of the SEAC, noted that he is pleased that SEAC has been reinstated as part of the consultation process and thanked the Council on behalf of the special needs students.

Allocation of Resources  
2021-2022

**CC-210428-FR-0097**

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board shall establish objectives and principles governing the allocation of its revenues in accordance with section 275 of the *Education Act*;

WHEREAS the annual budget consultation took place from December 10, 2020, to February 11, 2021, in accordance with section 193.3 of the *Education Act*;

WHEREAS the Governing Boards, Parents Committee, Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – SWL Section (AQCS), and Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators Association were consulted and their respective feedback received;

WHEREAS the Resource Allocation Committee must annually make a recommendation to the Council of Commissioners regarding the establishment of objectives and principles governing the allocation of its resources, in accordance with section 193.3 of the *Education Act* and the criteria determining the allocation of personnel, in accordance with section 261 of the *Education Act*;

WHEREAS the Resource Allocation Committee completed its review of the annual budget consultation survey in order to establish the objectives and principles, and criteria of allocation of resources, recommended in the Allocation of Resources 2021-2022 document;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners wishes to receive further recommendations with regard to the needs in human resources for Crestview Elementary School following the transitional year indicated in the Allocation of Resources 2021-2022 document;

Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Council of Commissioners accept the recommendations of the Resource Allocation Committee for the 2021-2022 school year, as contained in document no. SWLSB-2021/04/28-FR-001.

**Carried unanimously**

### **7.3 Corporate Affairs and General Secretariat**

#### **7.3.1 By-Law no. BL2009-CA-19: By-Law Establishing Procedures for the Examination of Complaints from Students or Their Parents – Authorization for Consultation**

By-Law no. BL2009-CA-19: WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted By-Law Establishing Procedures for the Examination of Complaints from Students or Their Parents

WHEREAS the By-law requires that some of the processes within be clarified;

Authorization for Consultation

**CC-210428-CA-0098**

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation the proposed amendments to by-law no. BL2010-CA-19: *Procedure for the Examination of Complaints from Students or Their Parents*, as per document no. SWLSB-2021/04/28-CA-002;

AND THAT the proposed amendments to said by-law be subject to a consultation beginning on April 29, 2021, and ending on June 14, 2021, with the Governing Boards, Parents' Committee, Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Chapter, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association, Laurier Teachers' Union, SPPOQA (Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels de l'Ouest de Québec Anglophone), CSN-S18 and SEPB-Québec-FTQ Local 577, and the Student Ombudsman.

**Carried unanimously**

### 7.3.2 Policy no. 2000-CA-03: Reconsideration of a Decision Affecting a Student – Authorization for Consultation

Policy no. 2000-CA-03:  
Reconsideration of a  
Decision Affecting a  
Student

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. 000322-CA-0177, approving policy no. 2000-CA-03: *Reconsideration of a Decision Affecting a Student*, and resolution no. CC-141112-CA-0065, amending section 7.0 of said policy;

Authorization for  
Consultation

WHEREAS the policy requires amendments in order to be aligned with by-law no. BL2010-CA-19: *Procedure for the Examination of Complaints from Students or Their Parents*;

**CC-210428-CA-0099**

Commissioner Donna Anber MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation the proposed amendments to policy no. 2000-CA-03: *Reconsideration of a Decision Affecting a Student*, as per document no. SWLSB-2021/04/28-CA-003;

AND THAT the proposed amendments to said policy be subject to a consultation beginning on April 29, 2021, and ending on June 14, 2021, with the Governing Boards, Parents' Committee, Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Chapter, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association, Laurier Teachers' Union, SPPOQA (Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels de l'Ouest de Québec Anglophone), CSN-S18 and SEPB-Québec-FTQ Local 577, and the Student Ombudsman.

**Carried unanimously**

### 7.3.3 School Fees Policy - Authorization for Consultation

School Fees Policy

WHEREAS policy no. 2006-FR-03: *Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents – Youth Sector* of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board requires modifications to notably provide clarification to certain sections;

Authorization for  
Consultation

WHEREAS the rates currently referred to in Appendix I are not an integral part of the policy and may be subject to change by resolution of Council.

**CC-210428-FR-0100**

Commissioner Anick Brunet MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation the proposed amendments to policy no. 2006-FR-03: *Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents – Youth Sector*, as per document no. SWLSB-2021/04/26-FR-002;

AND THAT the proposed amendments to said policy be subject to a consultation beginning on April 29, 2021, and ending on June 14, 2021, with the Governing Boards, Parents' Committee, Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Chapter, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association, Laurier Teachers' Union, SPPOQA (Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels de l'Ouest de Québec Anglophone), CSN-S18 and SEPB-Québec-FTQ Local 577;

FURTHER THAT the amendments to Appendix 1 of policy no. 2006-FR-03: *Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents – Youth Sector*, become effective immediately.

**Carried unanimously**

## 7.4 Information Technology

### 7.4.1 Microsoft Licences 2021-2022 – Purchase Contract

Microsoft Licences  
2021-2022  
Purchase Contract

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) uses Microsoft Corporation products and services for most of its information technology infrastructure;

**CC-210428-IT-0101**

WHEREAS the SWLSB pays annual (educational) licence fees to the Microsoft Corporation for the right to use its products and services;

WHEREAS these licence fees cover the SWLSB's workstations, laptops, servers, storage, email, office productivity software, identity management, security, systems management, databases and cloud-based solutions;

WHEREAS the current contract with Microsoft Corporation expires on May 31, 2021;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ) has mandated the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales (CAG) to conduct a public call for tenders on behalf of all educational institutions across the province to obtain the best overall scenario and price structure;

WHEREAS the CAG is completing public call for tender (2021-7520-01) to select a supplier to manage the Microsoft Corporation licence dossier for a 3-year period;

WHEREAS the Microsoft Corporation has already prepared invoices for all educational institutions given the short timeline;

WHEREAS the estimated amount of the Microsoft annual invoice for 2021-2022 is \$165,000.00, before taxes;

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the invoice to be received for the 2021-2022 Microsoft Corporation licence fees for an amount of \$165,000.00, before taxes;

AND THAT, should the invoice exceed \$165,000.00, the Director General or, in their absence, the Assistant Director General, be authorized to approve an additional 10% of said amount.

**Carried unanimously**

## **7.5 Material Resources and Transportation**

### **7.5.1 Engagement of Contractor – Parking Lot Renovation Project – Ste-Adèle ES**

Commissioner Melissa Wall left the meeting.

**TIME: 20:47 hours**

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS renovations to the parking lot at Sainte-Adèle Elementary School are required;

Parking Lot Renovation Project - Ste-Adèle ES WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for renovations to the parking lot at Sainte-Adèle Elementary School and tenders were opened on March 23, 2021;

**CC-210428-MR-0102** WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

Commissioner Donna Anber MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the renovations to the parking lot at Sainte-Adèle Elementary School to Excapro Inc., for a total cost of \$216,929.20, before taxes, or \$231,868.57 net taxes;

AND THAT the Chairperson or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Vice-Chairperson as well as the Director General or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources and Transportation be authorized to sign documentation concerning this project, as per by-law no. BL2008-CA-01: *Delegation of Functions & Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.*

**Carried unanimously**

### 7.5.2 Engagement of Contractor – Washroom Renovation Project – JHS

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS washroom renovations are required at Joliette High School;

Washroom Renovation Project - JHS WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the washroom renovations at Joliette High School and tenders were opened on March 26, 2021;

#### CC-210428-MR-0103

WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the washroom renovations at Joliette High School to Construction Hébert & Hébert Inc., for a total cost of \$567,000.00, before taxes, or \$606,047.87, net taxes;

AND THAT the Chairperson or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Vice-Chairperson as well as the Director General or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources and Transportation be authorized to sign documentation concerning this project, as per by-law no. BL2008-CA-01: *Delegation of Functions & Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board*.

**Carried unanimously**

### 7.5.3 Engagement of Contractor – Auditorium Renovation Project – LSA

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS renovations to the auditorium and the installation of an access ramp are required at Laval Senior Academy;

Auditorium Renovation Project - LSA WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the renovations to the auditorium and the installation of an access ramp at Laval Senior Academy and tenders were opened on April 1, 2021;

#### CC-210428-MR-0104

WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the renovations to the auditorium and the installation of an access ramp at Laval Senior Academy to Groupe Piché Construction Inc., for a total cost of \$1,653,789.67, before taxes, or \$1,767,682.03, net taxes;

AND THAT the Chairperson or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Vice-Chairperson as well as the Director General or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources and Transportation be authorized to sign documentation concerning this project, as per by-law no. BL2008-CA-01: *Delegation of Functions & Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board*.

**Carried unanimously**

Commissioner Melissa Wall returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 20:52 hours**

#### 7.5.4 Engagement of Contractor – Bus Loading Zone & Paving Renovation Project – Pinewood (B) ES

Engagement of Contractor WHEREAS renovations to the parking and bus zone at Pinewood B Elementary School are required;

Bus Loading Zone & Paving Renovation Project WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the renovations to the parking lot and bus zone at Pinewood B Elementary School and tenders were opened on April 15, 2021;

Pinewood (B) ES

**CC-210428-MR-0105** WHEREAS the conformity of all bidders has been verified;

Commissioner Karla Abraham Di Francesco MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board award the contract for the renovations to the parking lot and bus zone at Pinewood B Elementary School to Excavation Jérémy Forest Inc., for a total cost of \$574,807.63, before taxes, or \$614,393.19, net taxes;

AND THAT the Chairperson or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Vice-Chairperson as well as the Director General or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this project;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources and Transportation be authorized to sign documentation concerning this project, as per by-law no. BL2008-CA-01: *Delegation of Functions & Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board*.

**Carried unanimously**

#### 7.5.5 Proposed Agreement between SWLSB and CSS de Laval – Crestview ES

The Chairperson commented that the Council is very pleased that an agreement could be reached with the Centre de services scolaire de Laval concerning Crestview Elementary School.

Proposed Agreement between SWLSB and CSS de Laval – Crestview ES WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) adopted resolution no. CC-201209-MR-0050, approving the requests to the Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ) under the *Plan québécois des infrastructures 2021-2031* (the "PQI");

**CC-210428MR-0106** WHEREAS said PQI includes a request for the construction of a new building for Crestview Elementary School;

WHEREAS, on an annual basis, school boards and school service centers can meet with the MEQ to further discuss their PQI requests;

WHEREAS, after its meetings with the SWLSB and the Centre de services scolaire de Laval (CSS de Laval), the MEQ inquired as to the possibility for the SWLSB to cede the Crestview Elementary School building to the CSS de Laval if the construction of a new building for the school was authorized;

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2021, the Corporate Committee discussed the idea of ceding the Crestview Elementary School building to the CSS de Laval if the construction of a new building for the school was authorized, and mandated the Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources and Transportation to open discussions with the CSS de Laval;

WHEREAS the SWLSB and the CSS de Laval have drafted an agreement concerning their respective PQI requests as they relate to the Crestview Elementary School building;

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the agreement with Centre de services scolaire de Laval for Crestview Elementary School building, as presented in document no. SWLSB-2021/04/28-MR-001;

AND THAT the Chairperson or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Vice-Chairperson as well as the Director General or, in their absence or with their knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this agreement.

**Carried unanimously**

### **7.5.6 Acquisition – Electrical Equipment - Photocopiers**

The Director of Material Resources and Transportation advised that the *Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales* (the CAG) has been mandated by the MEQ to handle the tenders for group purchasing and, in order for the school board to participate in a CAG tender, authorization from the Council is required.

The Director of Information Technology noted that this contract will allow for the purchase of photocopiers on an annual basis for three years.

Acquisition – Electrical  
Equipment - Photocopiers

**CC-210428-MR-0107**

WHEREAS on October 31, 2020, the Government of Québec adopted the *Act respecting the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales* (the Law);

WHEREAS section 53 of the Law states that the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales (CAG) has taken over all the rights and obligations of Collecto Services regroupés en éducation and will ensure the continuation of the master contracts for the acquisition of goods and services identified by the Conseil du trésor;

WHEREAS the Conseil du trésor has mandated the CAG to conduct public calls for tenders on behalf of all public organizations across the province to obtain the best overall scenario and price structure;

WHEREAS the CAG will be completing public tender no. 2021-6955-64 to select a supplier for multifunctional equipment such as photocopiers;

WHEREAS the CAG has opted to award the contract to all suppliers whose submitted price in respect of the goods to be acquired does not exceed the lowest price by more than 10%;

WHEREAS the Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies requires authorization by the Council of Commissioners (dirigeant de l'organisme public) of the public body before a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to participate in this tender as it has estimated that at least fifty-nine (59) photocopiers in its schools and centres will need to be replaced within the next twenty-nine (29) months;

WHEREAS the Director of Information Technology estimates replacing fifty-nine (59) photocopiers will cost \$300,000.00, before taxes;

Commissioner James Di Sano MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in public tender no. 2021-6955-64, for the selection of a supplier of multifunctional equipment, such as photocopiers;

AND THAT the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales be authorized to award contracts to multiple suppliers within 10% of the lowest bid;

AND THAT the purchase of the required number of photocopiers from the suppliers selected by the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales be authorized up to an amount of \$300,000.00, before taxes;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Information Technology be authorized to sign all purchase orders required over the next twenty-nine (29) months.

**Carried unanimously**

### 7.5.6 Acquisition – Electrical Supplies

In response to questions from the Chairperson, the Director of Material Resources and Transportation noted that the school board does not have to go with the lowest conformable bidder on a tender as it can take the next lowest bid as long as it is no more than 10% above the lowest bid. This tender does meet all legal requirements as it was conducted through the CAG.

Acquisition – Electrical  
Supplies

WHEREAS on October 31, 2020, the Government of Québec adopted the *Act respecting the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales* (the Law);

**CC-210428-MR-0108**

WHEREAS section 53 of the Law states that the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales has taken over all of the rights and obligations of Collecto Services regroupés en éducation and will ensure the continuation of the master contracts for the acquisition of goods and services identified by the Conseil du trésor;

WHEREAS the Conseil du trésor has mandated the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales to conduct public tenders on behalf of all public organizations across the province to obtain the best overall scenario and price structure;

WHEREAS the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales will be completing public tender no. 2021-7516-60, to select a supplier for electronic equipment and supplies, such as cables, wiring, outlets, switches, etc.;

WHEREAS the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales has opted to award the contract to all suppliers whose submitted price in respect of the goods to be acquired does not exceed the lowest price by more than 10%;

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies* requires authorization by the Council of Commissioners (*dirigeant de l'organisme public*) of the public body before the notice of a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board wishes to participate in this tender as it will be for a period of three (3) years and will offer the best pricing structure;

WHEREAS the Director of Material Resources and Transportation estimates that the purchase cost of electrical supplies is \$210,000.00, before taxes;

Commissioner Olivia Landry MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board in public tender no. 2021-7516-60, to select a supplier for electrical supplies;

AND THAT the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales be authorized to award contracts to multiple suppliers within 10% of the lowest bid;

AND THAT the purchase of the required electrical supplies from the suppliers selected by the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales be authorized up to an amount of \$210,000.00, before taxes;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Material Resources and Transportation be authorized to sign all purchase orders for the school years 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.

**Carried unanimously**

Commissioner Melissa Wall excused herself for the evening.

**TIME: 21:14 hours**

## **7.6 General Directorate**

### **7.6.1 Ratification – Strike Actions**

The Director General presented the following resolution noting that its intent is clear within.

Ratification

WHEREAS fifty-seven (57) school boards and school service centres in the province of Québec received a first notice of strike for Wednesday, April 14, 2021, from their respective teachers' unions;

Strike Actions

WHEREAS the teachers' unions, affiliated with APEQ-QPAT, FSE and CSQ, indicated in their respective notices that said strike would not be for a full day, but for ninety (90) minutes from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., with all classes beginning at 9:30 a.m.;

**CC-210428-CA-0109**

WHEREAS, as per Annex 2 of by-law BL2008-CA-01: *Delegation of Functions and Powers of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board*, and after informing and consulting the members of the Council of Commissioners, the Director General mandated Morency, Société d'avocats to include the SWLSB as part of a request for an interlocutory injunction presented by many school boards and school service centres due to the abusive nature of this strike which could be repeated up to seventeen (17) times;

WHEREAS a second notice of strike was sent by the teachers' unions for April 27, 2021, from 2:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.;

WHEREAS unions representing other staff members of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board may also send notices using this method of pressure tactic, which was qualified by the teachers' unions as being innovative;

WHEREAS, following the notices of strike from the teachers' unions, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Professionals' Union has also decided to use this innovative strike method and has therefore sent a notice of strike for April 29, 2021, from 00:01 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.;

WHEREAS these repetitive strikes cause significant disruption to the school day and all of the elements associated with it, including the students' regular schedules;

WHEREAS for this reason a mandate was given to Morency, Société d'avocats following the first notice of strike received with regard to this new innovative method, said method being abusive by its repetitive disruptive nature;

WHEREAS, whenever possible, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board prioritizes student educational services to be given in person;

WHEREAS all decisions taken by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board must be taken considering the best interest of students, which includes their safety, security and general well-being;

WHEREAS all staff members of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board always go over and above what is required of them on a daily basis, which has been very apparent during this pandemic, as they have stepped up with their creativity, flexibility, adaptability and determination to ensure that the safety, well-being and education of their students are well supported;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners recognizes and supports the teachers as well as all other staff members in their endeavours to keep the students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board on a firm education path at all times;

WHEREAS the procedures before the Superior Court of Québec and the Tribunal administratif du travail must not be construed as a lack of support towards the actions by the unions, their filing being in regard to the method of strike and not the right to strike itself;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners firmly requests the Québec Government to conclude negotiations with all unions in a timely manner;

Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board ratify and support the decision to engage Morency, Société d'avocats to proceed with a request for an interlocutory injunction before the Québec Superior Court as well as the decision to proceed with online learning for all students on April 14, 2021, and for any future strike when deemed necessary for the best interest of students;

AND THAT the Québec Government be urged to find common ground with all the provincial unions in order to conclude negotiations so that new contracts can be signed in a timely manner.

**Carried unanimously**

## **8.0 Information Items**

### **8.1 SWL Foundation Report:**

Commissioner James Di Sano reminded everyone that planning for the Laurier Gala and Hope Fest is underway and that Communications is to be thanked for all of its work on the advertising.

The Chairperson noted that there have been a lot of changes at the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation and new ventures are being planned. He reminded everyone that the Laurier Gala and Hope Fest will be held on May 28, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., on Facebook Live.

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano left the meeting.

**TIME: 21:17 hours**

## **8.2 Parent Commissioners' Reports**

### **8.2.1 Parents' Committee Report:**

The report is in the meeting package.

### 8.2.2 SEAC Report:

The report is in the meeting package.

### 8.3 Report of QESBA

The Chairperson noted that yesterday was the last day of the hearings on the Bill 40 court challenge and that the QESBA has worked on this case to ensure that the rights of English education are upheld.

In response to a question from Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon, the Chairperson advised that the judge has not yet closed the hearing and everyone is awaiting his response to the case. It is anticipated that the ruling will be made within a short timeframe.

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano returned to the meeting.

**TIME: 21:19 hours**

### 9.0 Question Period

The Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General reviewed the process for asking questions and advised the Chairperson that, while no questions had been received, there were some comments thanking the school board for recognizing the Virtual School.

In response to a comment from the first question period, the Director General reassured everyone that the school board accommodated any request received for technology since the beginning of COVID-19 and that, to date, 4,500 devices and LTE modems have been loaned out. If there are additional needs, the school principal should be contacted and they will contact Information Technology.

### 10.0 Correspondence

The correspondence can be found in the meeting package.

In response to a comment from Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon, the Chairperson concurred that if there is to be an increased turnout for school elections, mail-in voting needs to be authorized.

### 11.0 Varia

#### 11.1 Communications from the MEQ

Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon noted that he is highly appreciative that a second resolution will be sent to Jean-François Roberge, Ministre de l'Éducation, and that it is disappointing that he refuses to acknowledge the Chairperson.

Communications from  
the MEQ

**CC-210428-CA-0110**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. CC-200625-CA-0126, formally requesting that it be recognized and acknowledged as the point of contact for the Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ) for all governance matters;

WHEREAS said resolution also requested that the MEQ respect the role of the Council of Commissioners and its Chairperson, as well as the communication channels with regard to governance matters as was previously the case, before the adoption of Bill 40;

WHEREAS, as of April 21, 2021, no action has been taken by the MEQ with respect to the request outlined in said resolution therefore, all communications related to governance continue to be sent to the attention of the Director General rather than both the Chairperson and the Director General;

WHEREAS the members of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board have been duly and legally elected by their communities as the representatives and governing body of our school board and should be treated as such;

Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board reaffirm resolution no. CC-200625-CA-0126;

AND THAT the Council of Commissioners wishes to advise the Minister of Education, Jean-François Roberge, that it is unacceptable that his office has not acted upon the duly received request to be recognized and acknowledged as the point of contact for all governance matters;

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Education, Jean-François Roberge and the Premier, François Legault.

**Carried unanimously**

**13.0 Adjournment**

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their time and patience this evening and every day. He noted that the work ethic here at the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is astounding because of the dedication of the directorate, administrators, commissioners and all employees who are willing to put in the extra time to ensure that the school board functions properly.

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED the adjournment of the meeting.

**Carried unanimously**

**TIME: 21:29 hours**

**NEXT MEETING ⇒ REGULAR ⇒ May 26, 2021**