

Minutes of the eighth (8th) meeting of the 2020-2021 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. via ZOOM videoconferencing.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT: Gaëlle Absolonne, Director General; Paolo Galati, Chairperson; Anna Sollazzo, Director of Corporate Affairs / Secretary General; Chao Ling Pan, Director of Finance; The alternate delegates from Franklin Hill Elementary, Laval Junior Academy, Terry Fox Elementary, SEAC

ABSENT: Grenville Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, Laval Senior Academy, Morin Heights Elementary, Rawdon Elementary, St. Vincent Elementary, Ste-Agathe Academy

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm

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

Welcome to our guests.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

McCaig Elementary read the acknowledgement of the land.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Add: 11.1 Concern over the quality and safety of the procedure masks

PC20210506-01 Joliette High MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted with the addition. Seconded by Mountainview Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of April 8, 2021

PC20210506-02 Hillcrest Academy MOVED THAT the minutes of April 8, 2021 be accepted. Seconded by Terry Fox Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Arundel Elementary, Crestview Elementary, Franklin Hill Elementary, Genesis Elementary
Hillcrest Academy, John F Kennedy Elementary, Joliette Elementary, Joliette High
Jules Verne Elementary, Lake of Two Mountains High, Laurentia Elementary
Laurentian Regional High, Laval Junior Academy, McCaig Elementary Mountainview Elementary
Our Lady of Peace Elementary, Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary, Rosemere High, Souvenir Elementary
St. Jude Elementary, St. Paul Elementary, Ste-Adele Elementary, Terry Fox Elementary,
SEAC Representative
Abstain: Pinewood Elem
(26-0-1)

6. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions.

7. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- Thank you to M^e. Sollazzo and Mr. Pan who presented a PowerPoint on the consultations listed below.
- A response, even if there are no recommendations must be sent in writing by June 14, 2021.
- The results of the consultations are scheduled to be presented at the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners on June 23, 2021.
- The presentations were given on the main changes. There are two versions in the package, the current one and the one with the changes tracked.
- In response to a question from McCaig, there were 2 forms originally, one for the policy and one for bylaw but they were similar. There is now one form available for both but were removed as part of the policy/bylaw. They will be available to be filled out electronically or hand written. On the website there is an online form already. When a parent or guardian gets to step 3, a form will be sent by the secretary general.

7.1 By-law establishing procedures for the examination of complaints from students or parents

As in members' packages and explained.

7.2 Reconsideration of a decision affecting a student

As in members' packages and explained.

7.3 Policy on school fees charged to parents

As in members' packages.

Changes to the policy:

- Structure – to clarify and simplify
- Scope – international students excluded
- Corrections – MEQ vs MEES, lab coats, name of the regulation, origin of the policy, invoices vs lists, materials are named exactly as per regulation.
- Supervision – rations, subsidizing, Supervision ratios are now as per the school's needs. There is no longer a subsidy for the third child. Students should not be penalized if their school fees are not paid.
- Activities – educational activities, substitution costs and entrance fees. Some of these fees may be charged to parents.
- School supplies – precision as to the tool used and its publishing. Schools will use the SSLT tools.
- Appendix 1 and 2 – adopted by council and removed as per Appendix 2. Appendix 2 was really for internal use and no meaning for the general public.
- Franklin Hill Elementary – They have 16 supervisors right now, they are 4 students away from 17 supervisors. What do they do if they need to hire an extra supervisor after the fees are voted on. You can always have another GB to approve the updated fees if you have to add another supervisor. The finance department can help your principal with this.
- McCaig Elementary - Since the ratio for supervision is not part of the document anymore, do they have an obligation to enter into the system what their ratios are. If there are no more minimum or maximums it could be inequitable ratios between schools. At the school board level, they do have the ratios and the school board receives all school fees and approves them.
- LTMHS - School fees based on actual costs – do we conduct audits to compare what the schools are invoicing for supervision versus what it actually costs at the end of the year. There is no audit mechanism at the school board level. The actual charge appears on financial statements are provided to them on a monthly basis. They can compare at the end of the year to evaluate this.

8. REPORTS

8.1 PC Chairperson

Nothing to report this month.

If there are highlights you would like the chair to report, please send them to him.

8.2 School Board

8.2.1 General Directorate

Education Minister press conference:

- March 31 and April 1: "*Rendez-vous pour la réussite éducative*"
- May 6: Press conference for "*Plan de relance pour la réussite*"
- Summary of the "*Plan de la relance*" [CLICK HERE](#). English version to follow.
- Modifications will be done to the Basic School Regulations (BSR). Looking at two report cards for next year.

- Additional measures to help transitioning to an "in person" back to school as much as possible. Funds will be allocated for a safe return to school.
- More information about health measures for the back to school to come. i.e.: how many students in the bus, class bubbles. The sooner we know the better we can prepare.

Up coming strike action

- May 13 – Support staff – this is a full day strike. We are hoping that all the contracts are finalized before the beginning of the school year. The HR and president of the support staff have discussed to try to come to a clear understanding of the mode of strike.
- Confirmed that there will be picket lines to be expected in all schools/centres and at the head office. No one will be able to cross the lines.
- No in-person classes.
- Final plans will be communicated shortly. Two options – if picket lines all day: Suspension of classes, if it is for half a day, could be online classes for the afternoon.

Summer School [click here](#)

- Dates | Online from July 5 to July 23, 2021.
- Registration period | Online from June 28 to 30, 2021.
- We are in the process of recruiting teachers.

Proud moments

- McCaig Elementary: Students and staff were invited to clean the school yard or a part of the school property for Earth Day. Students in all grades took part in this week-long initiative. Thank you!
- Twin Oaks Elementary: Doing their part for Earth Day! Students did an excellent job cleaning up in the front of the school. Well done :)
- Souvenir Elementary Grade 5 students embarked on a project to help a homeless shelter in Montréal named Labre House (Helping hand project) . They developed their entrepreneurial skills: organized, advertised, collected and packed the necessities to support the homeless. Won \$750 at the 2021 OSEntreprendre Challenge!!!
- Twin Oaks won prizes at the OSEntreprendre in two categories:
 - Elementary, cycle 1 (grades 1 and 2) | Green Club, (Hydroponic gardens – \$500 local level; \$750 provincial level)
 - Elementary, cycle 2 (grades 3 and 4) | Going batty for Pollinators, (Making soap and honey to be sold \$500 local level; \$750 provincial level)
- Daycare week – May 10 to 14. This year they have been more dedicated and committed so that front line workers could continue to work during the pandemic.
- Hope Fest/Laurier Gala – May 28, 7:20, FB live.

8.2.2 SWLSB Chairperson

- COVID-19 has not stopped the school board from accomplishing great things.
- Thank you to the parents for patience and continuing to reinforce the importance of public health.
- Commend all staff and students who are working hard and doing an excellent job respecting the public health protocol.
- We are recycling masks but it is expensive and the government is not funding this. 3 of our schools are piloting these projects. RHS, Laurentia Elementary and Phoenix Alternative. LRHS recycles through a community partner.
- Enrolment is growing in Laurentides and Lanaudière regions.
- Building a new school in the St. Lin area.
- Requesting 4 new schools – 1 in Laval for Crestview, 1 in Mirabel and 1 in Deux Montagnes, Ste- Marthe sur le Lac.
- PreK enrolment is up to 42 classes for 2021-2022.
- On track to achieve an 88% graduation and qualification rate. We are 9.1% above the provincial public-school average.
- Please continue to say healthy during these last few months of school.
- Souvenir Elementary asked to elaborate on the request for a school for the clientele of Crestview. This is a school that services special needs students. It has an incredible program but it is a growing community and the school is not fully adapted to all of the challenges it is facing. Want a new school with cutting edge technology. We are not requesting because of a steady increase, we need a school that is adapted for its clientele. A great percentage of our population receive specific services at this school. The physical environment needs updated facilities and equipment.
- Hillcrest Academy – recycling program – Terra Cycle is a significantly cheaper option than the Go Zero option. The delegate was asked to share the information with the chairperson to share with the members.
- SEAC if the school for Crestview is accepted, what will happen to the old school – there is an entente to put the new school in a location to ensure that we service not only the Crestview community but other areas of Laval as well. We would give the

current building to CS de Laval. It might be easier to sell the new school to the ministry as we now have a partner who needs a new school.

- Crestview - Where approximately would it be. Land is not easy to get in Laval, so this has not been decided yet. There is a committee who is looking at this. Making sure that whatever the location is, that is services not only Laval but outside Laval. What happens to the students who are zoned for the school now? There will potentially be rezoning depending on where the school is built so that overcrowding in other schools does not occur. As challenging as it may be, it will also be exciting!

8.3 PC Vice-Chairperson

- Quote card campaign is ongoing. If you would like to participate, please email the chairperson.
- Participated in the sub-committee meeting on rules and regulations to review the PC internal rules of procedure. One more meeting will take place that will finalize the proposed changes and then will be brought to the members.

8.4 Secretary

8.4.1 Facebook sub-committee

Get your quote cards in and we will share them.

8.5 Treasurer

In members' packages.

The cost of the tree indicated is on the high side until a final quote is received.

8.6 Parent Commissioner

In members' packages.

8.7 EPCA (English Parents Committee Association)

Neither director was able to attend.

- A link to a survey consultation on student usage of devices and how it is affecting them has been sent to parents.
- EPCA has been consulted on the project loi 294 that focuses on special needs students.
- Working on video capsules to provide training for various services to students.
- EPCA confirms that Allo prof does have bilingual staff to help if you need homework support.

8.8 RCP-3L

Nothing to report this month.

8.9 SEAC

In members' packages.

PC members are invited on May 18 where there will be a presentation on IEPs.

8.10 Transportation Advisory

Nothing to report this month

9. BUSINESS ARISING

9.1 Tree planting

- A small subcommittee was created.
- Chaired by Terry Fox Elementary, with members from SEAC, Laurentia Elementary, Hillcrest Academy and Jules Verne Elementary.

Mountainview left the meeting at 8:54

Pinewood left the meeting at 8:54

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Hope Fest/Laurier Gala PC awards

The Chairperson is suggesting that the PC offer a \$100 bursary for each of the 5 categories for students who have been nominated to the Laurier Gala. The recipient's names will be included in the program that will be printed for all students. Students have been chosen through their schools for the Laurier Gala, so recipients of the bursaries will be chosen at random. By printing this in the program it will give Parents Committee some visibility.

PC20210506-03 SEAC MOVED THAT the Parents Committee offer one \$100 bursary to a student in each of the 5 categories, Academics, Arts, Citizenship, School Perseverance and Sports. Seconded by Joliette High.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

The SWLSB Chairperson thanked the PC on behalf of the SWLF Board of Directors. The Foundation has given more than \$900,000 back to schools since its inception.

10.2 PC Budget – how to use the balance

- There will be a significant budget left at the end of the year.
- Are members interested in doing a virtual dinner if we cannot do in person? Either PC will send cards, or ask members to expense their meal.
- Do members want a sub committee on how to spend the money. It needs to be spent until June 30.

St. Paul left the meeting at 9:04

PC20210506-04 St. Jude Elementary MOVED THAT a subcommittee be struck to discuss how to spend the balance of the PC budget. Seconded by Joliette Elementary

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

The subcommittee will consist of Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary, Joliette Elementary, John F. Kennedy Elementary, SEAC, Rosemere High, Lake of Two Mountains High and Terry Fox Elementary.

10.3 August PC meeting

- Does the committee proactively want to have a meeting in August this year? The chairperson recommends that it be done 7 to 10 days prior to the start of school.
- The mandate on PC is until the next PC delegate from your school is elected at your annual general assembly.
- This can be voted on at the next PC meeting.

11. VARIA

11.1 Concern over the quality and safety of the procedure masks

- Souvenir Elementary reported that upon verification provided, some of the masks are poor quality and not certified level 2. At a recent GB meeting the principal was asked if she had received complaints of children having. She has received complaints but would not disclose them. The Souvenir Home and School conducted their own survey and 60% of parents who received the surveyed said their children were experiencing symptoms. The Souvenir delegate is asking that the school board conduct their own survey to find out if other children are experiencing symptoms. These concerns have been ongoing. Souvenir Elementary would like this put onto the next agenda so that he can follow up.
- The PC chairperson has received complaints that some of the masks being given out do not qualify as procedure masks.
- The Director General responded that to her knowledge, one batch of masks received through the ministry was sent back. Any feedback received is sent to the CAG for their review and they do modify the following batch and take it into account. A preventative recall was done and the boxes were returned. The concern where people thought there were moving particles in the masks – it was confirmed that it was textiles. Please continue to give your feedback so that we can send it to the CAG and do the proper follow up.
- In response to a question from Terry Fox Elementary, we do not choose the type of masks we purchase. We input the amount required and they send them to us. We have no control in asking to have specific masks.
- Hillcrest Academy parents are providing their own masks but the principal requested that they be a level 3 and she must see the box to verify prior to the child wearing it.

JFK left the meeting at 9:17

12. CORRESPONDENCE

13. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

- Having a child in two school boards, thank you for always promoting the proud moments and taking care of the health and wellbeing of our children.
- Why not offer more bursaries to students with your extra budget? This will be discussed at the subcommittee.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting: Thursday, June 3, 2021

PC20210506-05 Laurentia Elementary MOVED THAT the meeting be closed at 9:26 p.m. Seconded by Hillcrest Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approved _____, 2021

Chairperson

Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary