

Minutes of the ninth (9th) meeting of the 2020-2021 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. via ZOOM videoconferencing.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dalia Gonzalez	Franklin Hill Elementary	Jason Stewart	Morin Heights Elementary
Jennifer Subaihi	John F Kennedy Elementary	Tania Mitchell	Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary
Vanessa Pietraroia	Joliette Elementary	Jennifer St-Roch	Pinewood Elementary
Richard Alary	Joliette High	John Critchley	St. Jude Elementary
Adam Gordon	Lake of Two Mountains High	Marcelo Iaconvella	St. Vincent Elementary
Daniel Stone	Laurentia Elementary	Chloée Alary	Ste-Adele Elementary
Evan Goudis	Laval Junior Academy	Barbara Barrasso	Terry Fox Elementary
Lisa Cipriani	McCaig Elementary	Tony Beliotis	SEAC Representative

ALSO PRESENT: The alternate delegates from Terry Fox Elementary, SEAC; Elena Ferrato, SEAC Guest

ABSENT: Arundel Elementary, Crestview Elementary, Genesis Elementary, Grenville Elementary, Hillcrest Academy, Jules Verne Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, Laurentian Regional High, Laval Senior Academy, Mountainview Elementary, Our Lady of Peace Elementary, Rawdon Elementary, Rosemere High, Souvenir Elementary, St. Paul Elementary, Ste-Agathe Academy, Twin Oaks Elementary

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:03 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

PC20210520-01 Laval Junior Academy MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted. Seconded by Joliette High.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

5. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- The committee agreed on sending a resolution concerning the strike actions, as opposed to writing a letter.
- Laval Junior Academy questioned if it was the PC place to send a resolution. He went on to say that he supports the Council of Commissioners resolution.
- The chairperson responded that as parents we do have a right. Although we do support the employees in their strikes, we want to encourage the government to move forward with the negotiations.
- Should the PC be sending a message to the board that they are not managing it well. It is hard for a kindergarten student to do online learning for that amount of time. The chairperson responded that this is a secondary issue and this resolution is directed to the government. The delegate sees the value of preparing one for the school board to perhaps better manage how the students learn during these strike days.
- Members agree on sending a resolution as it is parents who are having to live through this, taking time off work in order to be able to stay home with their children during these strike days.
- Pinewood Elementary finds that the number of hours of online learning that is happening during the strike days does not reflect what happened a year ago. There is disparity with the hours given a year ago as to what is being given during these strike days.
- SEAC would like to emphasize stronger the disappointment in the process and how long the negotiations are taking to conclude.
- Franklin Hill Elementary feels that if a student does not attend the zoom class on strike days but gets the homework done, they should not be marked as absent. The chairperson acknowledged that each school is responsible to manage the way their online learning is conducted during strike days.

6.1 Ongoing strike actions

WHEREAS in recent months there have been numerous strike actions from the various unions that represent the different categories of school staff including teachers, support staff, day care staff, care takers and numerous other areas;

WHEREAS these numerous strike actions have brought academic concerns from parents, as well as childcare challenges;

WHEREAS due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic parents feel general frustration towards the additional lost hours and days of classroom learning for their children;

WHEREAS our Parents' Committee feels the urgency to advocate for our children;

WHEREAS the Parents' Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier (SWL) school board fully support all our staff and their respective unions;

WHEREAS the Parents' Committee recognizes that all our staff regularly go above and beyond to support our children on their academic journey;

WHEREAS the Parents' Committee exists to represent the voice of all parents within our community;

WHEREAS the SWL Parents' Committee is aware of a similar resolution passed by the SWL Council of Commissioners and supports the existing resolution speaking for all stakeholders;

WHEREAS the SWL Parents' Committee would like to re-enforce the importance of all unions being able to quickly reach amicable agreements;

PC2021052-02 Joliette High MOVED THAT the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents' Committee firmly requests that the Quebec Government find common ground with all the provincial unions in order to conclude negotiations so that new contracts can be signed in a timely manner;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be shared with the Ministère de l'Éducation, the Chairman of the SWL Council of Commissioner, the Director General of SWLSB, the English Parents' Committee Association, the Quebec English School Board Association, all English school board Parents' Committee Chairs, as well the leaders of all local unions of the SWL employees. Seconded by St. Vincent Elementary.

This motion is **CARRIED** on the following division:
For: Franklin Hill Elem, John F. Kennedy Elem, Joliette High, Lake of Two Mountains High, McCaig Elem, Morin Heights Elem, Pierre E. Trudeau Elem, Pinewood Elem, St. Jude Elem, St. Vincent Elem, Ste-Adèle Elem, Terry Fox Elem
Abstain: Laval Junior Acad, SEAC
(14-0-2)

Joliette Elementary entered the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

WHEREAS the government has insisted on negotiating during the pandemic and has lacked urgency in resolving negotiations.

PC2021052-03 Morin Heights Elementary MOVED THAT the proposed amendment be included in resolution PC20210521-02. Seconded by Joliette High.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

WHEREAS the Parents' Committee also feel that the Ministère de l'Éducation, who ultimately determines the actual support being allocated towards our children's education, have the elected obligation to respectfully and swiftly address all stakeholder issues, especially since these actions are directly impacting our children;

PC2021052-04 St. Vincent Elementary MOVED THAT the proposed amendment be included in resolution PC20210521-02. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Morin Heights left the meeting at 7:54

Franklin Hill Elementary left the meeting at 7:54

7. VARIA

8. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

9. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting: Thursday, June 3, 2021

PC20210520-05 Laurentia Elementary MOVED THAT the meeting be closed at 7:57 p.m. Seconded by Pinewood Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approved _____, 2021

Chairperson

Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary