

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, May 26, 2021, at 19:30 hours, at which were:

Present via videoconference: Paolo Galati, Chairperson; Parent Commissioner Adam Gordon, Vice-Chairperson; Commissioners Karla Abraham Di Francesco, Anick Brunet, Vincent Cammisano, James Di Sano, Olivia Landry, Emilio Migliozi, 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; and Chao Ling Pan, Director of Financial Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer.

Absent: Commissioner Melissa Wall, Alternate Vice-Chairperson; Commissioner Donna Anber

Guests: Goretti Dematos, Special Education Technician, Souvenir Elementary School; Daniel Johnson, Spiritual Animator, Laval Junior Academy; Eric Spooren, Teacher, Twin Oaks Elementary School; Dena Chronopoulos, Principal of Twin Oaks Elementary School; and Jessica Savard, Vice-Principal, Twin Oaks Elementary School.

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

After roll call, the Director of Corporate Affairs and Secretary General confirmed quorum.

TIME: 19:31 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 Kanien'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."

1.0 Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson MOVED THAT the agenda be approved in document no. SWLSB-2021/05/26-CA-001.

CC-210526-CA-0117

Carried unanimously

2.0 Recognition

The Chairperson advised that this evening the Council would be recognizing the winners of the OSEntreprendre Challenge. This challenge promotes and encourages entrepreneurial activities at all levels of education and in business across Québec. The challenge takes place on three levels, local, regional and provincial and the school board is proud to recognize the following winners of the 23rd edition of the OSEntreprendre Challenge:

- Eric Spooren, Teacher at Twin Oaks Elementary School, and his Grade 2 class for *The Green Club* project.
- Goretti Dematos, Special Education Technician, and Olivia Mancini, Teacher, both of Souvenir Elementary School, and the grade five students who entered into a project with Labre House, a homeless shelter that has been greatly affected during COVID-19.
- Daniel Johnson, Spiritual Care Animator from Pedagogical Services, is the regional winner of the Local Stakeholders Involvement Award for the Laval region.
- Karen Stoddart and Sheryl Cree, both Teachers at Twin Oaks Elementary School, who could not be present this evening; are to be congratulated for their submission and win at the local level for the project Going Batty for Pollinators.

The Chairperson congratulated all that were involved in these projects for the OSEntreprendre Challenge as fostering entrepreneurship is a crucial life skill, as it promotes and teaches thinking differently.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.1 April 28, 2021

On a *point of order*, the Vice-Chairperson noted that the mover of the upcoming resolution was not present at this particular meeting.

The Chairperson asked Commissioner Karla Abraham Di Francesco to move the following resolution:

Approval of Minutes
April 28, 2021

CC-210526-CA-0118

Commissioner Karla Abraham Di Francesco MOVED THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on April 28, 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

3.2 May 5, 2021

Approval of Minutes
May 3, 2021

CC-210526-CA-0119

Commissioner James Di Sano MOVED THAT the minutes of the Special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on May 3, 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

3.3 May 12, 2021

Approval of Minutes
May 12, 2021

CC-210526-CA-0120

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED THAT the minutes of the Special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on May 12, 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

3.4 May 19, 2021

Approval of Minutes
May 19, 2021

CC-210526-CA-0121

Commissioner Anick Brunet MOVED THAT the minutes of the Special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on May 19, 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

4.0 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.

She further confirmed that there were no questions received for the first question period.

5.0 Report from the Chairperson

The Chairperson declared that he is very proud that COVID-19 has not stopped the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board. He thanked all employees and parents for their patience and for reinforcing the health protocols with their students and/or children. Everyone has and is doing an excellent job of working together to keep everyone safe.

He continued, presenting his monthly report and noting:

- A generous donation from Guy Ouellette, Member of the National Assembly for Chomedey, to John F. Kennedy, Our Lady of Peace and Souvenir Elementary Schools of science boxes, which contain science experiments for cycles 2 and 3 students;
- On the evening of May 28, 2021, the Laurier Gala and Hopefest will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Facebook Live. There were 75 video submissions so it made it incredibly hard to select 16 acts to perform. Over 200 students will be honored at this event for achievements in academics, arts, sports, citizenship and school perseverance.

On a sad note, the Chairperson informed the Council and audience of the passing of Elisabeth Rossi, Administrative Technician at Pedagogical Services. Ms. Rossi was a long-time employee of the school board and will be missed. He expressed condolences to Ms. Rossi's husband and her daughters and their families.

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of Elisabeth.

6.0 Report from the Director General

The Director General presented her monthly report noting:

- Strike Actions
 - The CSN is the next union to strike and the strike began at noon today and will end at noon tomorrow;
 - The next strike action will be taken by the Professionals on June 9, 2021, from 0:01 until noon;
 - The right of the unions to strike must be respected;
 - While the school board will always prioritize in-person learning, it needs to consider the safety and security of all stakeholders and the need to maximize instructional time;
 - The school board's Mission & Vision statement says that *The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board believes that all students deserve our complete commitment to their success;*

- All students, employees, parents and stakeholders are thanked for being patient during these unprecedented times;
- It is hoped that the government and the unions can soon find common ground;
- Vaccination Partnerships
 - The school board has entered into partnerships with the Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (the "CISSS") in the regions of Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière for the vaccination of students over twelve years of age. The vaccination period is from June 7-14, 2021, but the dates and procedures for each region have not yet been determined;
 - The procedures will be somewhat different by regions;
 - There will be a hybrid model for the vaccination process with some high school students receiving their vaccination at school, while others will be transported from the school to the closest vaccination centre. Grade 6 students will also be transported either to the closed high school or vaccination centre;
 - Since May 25, 2021, parents have been able to make appointments to have their children vaccinated who are over twelve years of age, through Clic Santé. Students who have already received their vaccine will not have to be a part of this program;
 - Special thank you to the Communications Team for their assistance in distributing this information quickly;
- Proud Moments
 - May 20, 2021 – Attended *Coding at RHS with WOTP Students* which showcased the achievements of the WOTP (Work Oriented Training Path) students who did the coding and designed their own game. Some of the year 3 WOTP students were looking for a stage and found one with KidCoders Computers Academy (KCA) and they brought what they learned back to the school;
 - May 21, 2021 – Attended the launch of the Campaign: Awareness and Prevention of Domestic Violence in Argenteuil. This campaign is supported by many partners to raise awareness about domestic violence, especially given the ongoing pandemic. The campaign will see signs distributed throughout the nine municipalities of the MRC d'Argenteuil displaying messages about the prevention of domestic violence. Services for the prevention and victim assistance related to domestic violence will be offered in English. Special thanks to Mélanie Bujold, CLC Coordinator at LRHS;
- Upcoming Opportunities
 - May 28, 2021 – Laurier Gala and Hopefest;
 - June 10, 2021 – SWLSB Retirement Virtual Celebration – This virtual celebration will allow the school board to thank its retirees for their dedication and commitment to public education and for making a difference in the lives of so many students and colleagues.

The Chairperson noted that he had omitted to ask his fellow Commissioners at the end of his report if they had any proud moments they wished to share this evening. There were no proud moments to share.

7.0 Business Arising

There was no business arising.

8.0 Decision Items

8.1 Human Resources

8.1.1 Nomination of In-School Administrators - Principals

The Director General named the successful candidates for the positions of Principal.

The Director of Human Resources provided background information on each of the successful candidates.

Nomination of In-School Administrators

WHEREAS the position of principal at Morin Heights Elementary School became vacant on May 11, 2021;

Principals

WHEREAS the positions of principal at Franklin Hill and St-Paul Elementary Schools will become vacant after June 30, 2021;

CC-210526-HR-0122

WHEREAS, as per section 79 (2) of the Education Act, the Governing Board of each of these schools was consulted on the selection criteria for the appointment of the principal;

WHEREAS policies no. 2000-HR-01: *Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association* and no. 2000-HR-02: *Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section*, have been applied;

WHEREAS the positions were posted and a Selection Committee was held on May 25 and 26, 2021;

Commissioner Emilio Migliozi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board appoint the following to the position of principal, effective July 1, 2021.

SCHOOL	PRINCIPAL
Franklin Hill ES	Peter Papadeas
Morin Heights ES	Véronique Bond
St-Paul ES	Lynn Neveu

Carried unanimously

The Chairperson congratulated each of the successful candidates and wished them good luck in their new assignments.

Peter Papadeas, incoming Principal at Franklin Hill Elementary School, thanked the Council for this opportunity and thanked the Rawdon Elementary School community for all of its support over the past two years. He will ensure that a smooth transition takes place with his replacement.

Véronique Bond, current interim and now incoming Principal of Morin Heights Elementary School, thanked the Council for the opportunity to continue working at the school and that she looks forward to the continued development of its Wild School project.

Lynn Neveu, incoming Principal of St-Paul Elementary School, thanked the Council for tis vote of confidence and that she will ensure a smooth transition for her replacement at Genesis Elementary School.

8.1.2 Nomination of In-School Administrators – Vice-Principals

The Director General named the successful candidates for the three positions of Vice-Principal.

The Director of Human Resources provided background information on each of the successful candidates.

Nomination of In-School
Administrators

WHEREAS the positions of Vice-Principal at Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Souvenir Elementary Schools will become vacant/available after June 30, 2021;

Vice-Principals

CC-210526-HR-0123

WHEREAS policies no. 2000-HR-01: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff represented by the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association and no. 2000-HR-02: Regulating the Working Conditions of Management Staff Represented by the Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section, have been applied;

WHEREAS the positions were posted and a Selection Committee was held on May 25 and 26, 2021;

Commissioner Olivia Landry MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Selection Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board appoint the following to the position of vice-principal, effective July 1, 2021.

SCHOOL	VICE-PRINCIPAL
Pierre Elliott Trudeau ES	Chantal Roberge
Souvenir ES	Kyriaki Sunday Skoufaras

Carried unanimously

The Chairperson congratulated each of the successful candidates and wished them good luck in their new assignments.

Sunday Skoufaras, incoming Vice-Principal at Souvenir Elementary School, expressed her appreciation to the Council on her appointment noting that she is very excited to work with this school community.

Chantal Roberge, incoming Vice-Principal at Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School, thanked the Council for this opportunity for a new adventure.

8.2 Information Technology

8.2.1 Microsoft Licences

The Director of Information Technology noted that the tender for the Microsoft licences were called on February 10, 2021, and on April 7, 2021, the government issued a decree that allows the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales (CAG) to enter into contracts with numerous suppliers. The Council approved the payment of the invoice to be received for the 2021-2022 Microsoft Corporation licence fees and the purchase order was processed. On May 25, 2021, the school board was advised by the CAG that an additional resolution would be required, which is being presented this evening.

Microsoft Licences

CC-210526-IT-0124

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. CC-210428-IT-0101, approving the payment of the invoice to be received for the 2021-2022 Microsoft licence fees;

WHEREAS on May 25, 2021, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board received information from the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales (CAG) concerning a change in strategy with regard to the contract to be awarded for the acquisition of Microsoft licences;

WHEREAS said contract will be awarded to the licence reseller Softchoice by mutual agreement for a period of thirty-six (36) months;

WHEREAS, as per decree no. 529-2021, the authorization of the Council of Commissioners is required to confirm this mandate to the CAG and the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to this contract;

Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director of Information Technology, the Council of Commissioners authorize the Director General to confirm to the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales the participation of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board to the contract to be awarded to the licence reseller Softchoice by mutual agreement, as per document no. SWLSB-2021/05/26-IT-001;

AND THAT the Director General or, with their absence or with their knowledge, the Assistant Director General be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this mandate to the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales.

Carried unanimously

9.0 Information Items

9.1 SWL Foundation Report:

There was no report

9.2 Parent Commissioners Reports

9.2.1 Parents' Committee Report:

The report can be found in the meeting package.

9.2.2 SEAC Report:

The report can be found in the meeting package.

9.3 Report of QESBA

There was no report.

10.0 Question Period

In response to a question from Jason Stewart, a member of the online audience, the Director General noted that a strike day is like a puzzle, many pieces need to fit together properly, so the following is taken into consideration when planning for a strike day and when making the decision to hold classes online rather than in-person:

- A plan or criteria is established for each strike day;
- The safety and security of everyone;
- The right of all unions to strike is to be respected;
- Prioritizing in-person classes whenever possible;
- Transportation:
 - The school board transports 93% of its student population so there is always high density traffic around the schools because of buses and parental drop-off and pick-up;
 - The coordination with regard to the transportation of students who are a part of a transportation wave;

- There are students who would spend more time being transported than being in class if in-person classes were sanctioned during the school hours that are not a part of the strike hours.

The Chairperson also commented that transportation is a complex issue given that the school board territory covers 35,000 sq/km and the fact that there are two interboard transportation agreements.

In response to a question from Marie Boivin, a member of the online audience, the Director General noted that there is no ideal solution for situations where in-person classes are not possible and, like students from Grade one through Grade eleven, the school board needs to ensure that regular timetable of the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students is respected. The school board acknowledges that there has been a loss of instructional time so all efforts are being taken to maximize said time.

The Chairperson commented that COVID-19 has created an unprecedented time and while the school board does prioritize in-person classes there are times that it is not possible. Things are looking up as the government continues to negotiate with the unions and as it also implements its plans for reopening.

11.0 Correspondence

The Chairperson drew attention to the correspondence found in the meeting package.

12.0 Varia

There were no varia items.

13.0 Adjournment

The Chairperson thanked everyone for who attended this evening. He also thanked students, employees, parents and stakeholders for their continued support and patience as we continue to hope for a better situation for the 2021-2022 school year.

Commissioner Vincent Cammisano MOVED the adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 20:35 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇒ REGULAR ⇒ June 23, 2021