

Minutes of the SIXTH (6th) meeting of the 2021-2022 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. via ZOOM videoconferencing.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jonathan Korb	Arundel Elementary	Kate Gross	St. Jude Elementary
Laura Orzea	Crestview Elementary	Tammy Lalonde	St. Paul Elementary
Theresa Andrusko	Genesis Elementary	Linda-Marie Ferlisi	St. Vincent Elementary
Jenny Georgiopoulos	Hillcrest Academy	Chloée Alary	Ste-Adele Elementary
Vanessa Pietraroia	Joliette Elementary	Barbara Barrasso	Terry Fox Elementary
Steve Samanez	Jules Verne Elementary	Nathalie Codner	Twin Oaks Elementary
Tara Anderson	Laurentia Elementary	Richard Alary	Joliette High
Karrine Morrison	Laurentian Elementary	Adam Gordon	Lake of Two Mountains High
Karl Trottier	McCaig Elementary	Chloée Alary	Laurentian Regional High
Jason Stewart	Morin Heights Elementary	Polizoi Christodoulakis	Laval Junior Academy
Tania Mitchell	Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary	Laura Wittebol	Laval Senior Academy
Patrick Belanger	Pinewood Elementary	Kristin Crowdis	Rosemere High
Lisa Pietracupa	Rawdon Elementary	Renée Beausejour	Ste-Agathe Academy
Evan Goudis	Souvenir Elementary	Tony Beliotis	SEAC Representative

ALSO PRESENT: Gaëlle Absolonne, Director General; Robin Bennett, Director, Information Resources; Donna Anber, Commissioner; the alternate delegates from, Laurentia Elementary, Pinewood Elementary, Terry Fox Elementary, Laval Junior Academy, SEAC, Katherine Korakakis, President EPCA; Victoria Chavez, Treasurer, EPCA; Kate Cayen, PC Chairperson, Riverside School Board

ABSENT: Franklin Hill Elementary, Grenville Elementary, John F Kennedy Elementary, Mountainview Elementary, Our Lady of Peace Elementary

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:18 pm

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

The chairperson welcomed the members and guests present this evening.

With a moment of silence, the chairperson acknowledged the tragedy for the student Lucas from Lester B Pearson School Board.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

The vice-chairperson read the acknowledgement of the land.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Information from the caucus will be discussed in the chairperson's report.

11.1 Laurier Gala Awards

11.2 Anti-bullying conference

PC20220310-01 Joliette High MOVED THAT the agenda be accepted with additions. Seconded by Laval Senior Academy.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF February 3, 2022

PC20220310-02 Joliette Elementary MOVED THAT the minutes of February 3, 2022 be approved. Seconded by McCaig Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

6. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 EPCA Presentation – President Katherine Korakakis and team

- Welcome Katherine Korakakis, Victoria Chavez and Kate Cayen
- The EPCA represents all English-speaking parents across the province.

- The brief on Bill 9 (student ombudsman bill) that was submitted is available on the EPCA [website](#) and [FB page](#). Please follow their FB page as a lot of surveys and consultation information is available on there.
- Allo Prof is a tool that helps students with their homework. When this service was announced EPCA worked with them to translate their website into English. They are available to come to a meeting to present. Allo Prof is different from LEARN Quebec. LEARN is a tutoring service.
- One May 28 there is a parent symposium in partnership with the FCPQ. Parents can attend virtually or in person.
- EPCA puts out a monthly newsletter on various topics. You can sign up for it on their website.
- On March 16 EPCA will hold a workshop “The secret of code”. In this workshop it will cover some basic linguistic knowledge that all English readers should know, and how parents can help their children read and write more efficiently.
- EPCA is asking PC that when they consult or send our surveys, it is important that we answer and the information given to our GBs and as many parents as possible. It is the only way to know what the parents want and how they can advocate on their behalf.
- Thank you to the EPCA team.

8. BUSINESS ARISING

8.1 Subject Time Allocation (STA) Subcommittee

First meeting was held – great attendance. Some of the topics discussed were:

- Enhancing the French program at all of our schools by teaching French as a first language.
- Send a survey monkey to the SWLSB population and ask what their interest is in enhancing the French programs taught in our schools.
- Find a consistent French program across the entire board.
- Suggested to work school by school as they are independently in charge of their own STA.
- Visit some schools to see what their thoughts are on enhancing the French program.
- Use of French textbooks
- Does changing from FSL to French first language change the requirements for teachers who are teaching French? The Director General replied that It is not being taught in any of our schools and she does not want to give wrong information so will get this verified.
- Does this committee want to teach langue maternelle or langue d’enseignement? They want the same level of French as taught in the francophone schools. Langue maternelle versus d’enseignement – the director General will verify this with PSD to get the actual facts.

Rosemere High joined the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

- Each teacher is entitled to teach the subject matter to their students according to the QEP, but PSD can suggest accompanying materials to teachers to have similar tools being used.
- Can the members get a copy of the presentation that Genesis made in order for members to bring to their GBs? The chairperson will send it to members.
- If we push something standardized are we encouraging Bill 96? Some students do not have the capability to do French first language. Standardizing could do a disservice to some students.
- Can we do a survey monkey to see what the interest is in the population? If the PC members wish to survey the community the head office can facilitate sending it to parents. Go through the chairperson.
- If anyone else would like to participate in this committee, please contact the chairperson.

8.2 PC Caucus Feedback

- Very successful first PC caucus meeting held tonight, with Stephane Henley moderating the conversation.
- Received a large number of topics for caucus. Two were discussed at the meeting tonight.
- A suggestion was made to use a separate ZOOM link for caucus moving forward if this is not too difficult to jump from one link to another for the PC meeting?
- Discussion on how and where to hold caucus when meetings are in person so that non-members are not left sitting around if the caucus goes longer than 7:15p.m.

9. REPORTS

9.1 General Directorate Report

9.1.1 General Directorate – Team report with Commissioner Donna Anber and Robin Bennett, Director of IR Since Last PC Meeting

GB Training session:

- Link to training video and document: <https://www.swlauriersb.qc.ca/en/parents/governing-board/>

Sanitary measures update

- March 7 | Masks can be removed when elementary and secondary children are seated in the classroom
- March 12 | Gradual lifting of the Vaccination passport requirement and household isolations no longer need to isolate.
- Proms permitted (details to follow)
- For more information: https://cdn-contenu.quebec.ca/cdn-contenu/sante/documents/Problemes_de_sante/covid-19/mesures-en-vigueur.pdf?1644364596

Mozaik Parent Portal – update

Demo:

- Live demo: R. Bennett, Director of IR
- Video demo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngheDXjF2A0>

Advantages of using the Mozaik Parent Portal:

- Easily accessible from all technological devices
- Internet access as well as mobile app (mParent)
- Facilitates communication between home and school
- Time saver for all users
- Avoids back and forth phone calls or emails
- Gives information in a timely manner – live access
- Provides a variety of useful and practical information to parents
- Have access to: schedule, homework, absences and lates, report cards, finances and messages
- Is there a technical support email that parents can use if they get an error? Yes, take a screen shot of the error message and send it to the technical support email – ir.support@swlauriersb.qc.ca
- At the elementary level, when parents report absences or appointments, do the teachers receive the information as well as the office secretary? Yes, so parents do not need to email them as well unless you have a more detailed message to send.
- In the system you can put a child absent for a portion of the day. When a child is late it is up to the teacher/school to go back in to mark them present.
- Some teachers for assignments and results do not use Mozaik, could the school board insist that they all use the same reporting and messaging platform? Teachers are able to use their own method of communication. They are not obliged to use Mozaik. They decide their means of communication. We are hoping that when parents begin to discuss how easy it is to use, that everyone will get on board using Mozaik.
- Is there a way that students can log in as their parent and mark themselves absent? If your child has your password then they will be able to do this. Mr. Bennett suggests that you do not use the “remember my password” feature on your devices. Multi factor is being looked into and will be available soon.
- You can go into Mozaik and report an absence by a time frame.
- Why are teachers not being asked to use Mozaik? It is within their collective agreement to be allowed to use the communication tool that they want. We are hopeful that the more parents who use it will encourage more teachers to use it.
- Parents can initiate a conversation to the teacher through Mozaik. It is email based.
- Can the PC make a recommendation or a statement to the teachers that if parents feel it is a good tool that we highly encourage them to use it? This can be a conversation for a future meeting. As a PC we do not have the authorization to impose change.
- The delegate from Rosemere High confirmed that at the school level the principals do encourage their teachers and give them training on how to use Mozaik. There are also mentor teachers who work with not so tech savvy teachers.

Proud moments

- Developing Love of Reading - Laurentian Elementary. Congratulations to Jenny Svetec, Interim Principal for leading this.
- Developing leaders - Franklin Hill uses ANSC facilities. A great opportunity to learn outside the classroom.
- March 9 and 10 - powerful anti-bullying speaker at LSA. His conference is geared towards the age of the audience.

Opportunities

- March 11 - Commemoration Day – COVID 19
- SEAC – Next meeting March 15.
- Several April training opportunities - Customized training services for businesses with Qualificaction
→ REGISTER HERE <https://qualificationformation.ca/formulaire/Laval/2022/Anglais/printemps/>
- April 11 – Legal Secretary course begins at CDC Pont-Viau
- Looking for talent to perform at the Laurier Gala in May. If your child is interested please submit a video audition. A panel of judges will review them and choose students to come in for a live audition.
- Spring ahead this Saturday.
- COVID protocols in schools: What are the school boards directives to the schools with regards to parents in school volunteering. The Director General responded that things are slowly reopening. The head office receives a guide from the ministry and give it to administrators. EACs reopen March 12. Parents who wish to volunteer – the door is opening more and more. The directives come from the guide.
- The chairperson went on to say that each school has their own different protocols concerning volunteers in. The Director General responded that, what we do provide is to err on the side of caution when in doubt. We want to give the flexibility to schools who know their staff and their community. If there are concern, please speak with the school administrator to share them. Transition can be different from one community to another.

9.2 PC Chairperson

Spoke on the role of the PC, the importance of positive posture and fostering collaboration in your various committees.

9.3 Vice-Chairperson

Nothing to report

9.4 Secretary

Nothing to report.

9.5 Treasurer

Budget was reported verbally to members.

9.6 Facebook Sub-committee

Report in members' package.

Please like and share the FB page.

9.7 Parent Commissioners

In members' package.

9.8 EPCA (English Parents Committee Association)

February meeting was cancelled.

9.9 RCP-3L

Meeting this Friday.

Special needs focus meeting coming up.

The chairperson of RCP3L has accepted an invitation to present to us in April.

9.10 SEAC

In members' package.

9.11 Transportation Advisory

Nothing to report this month

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 PC Graduation Awards

- Graduation awards are issued to all graduating students in the form of a plaque.
- This award is given to a student who demonstrates exceptional effort.
- If members would like to attach a monetary award, they may, but it would not be sustainable when meeting begin to be held in person.
- The chairperson suggested forming a subcommittee to discuss expenses.

Pierre E. Trudeau Elementary left the meeting at 9:18
Crestview Elementary left the meeting at 9:21

PC20220310-03 Arundel Elementary MOVED THAT the PC graduation awards are approved for the 2021-2022 year at an approximate cost of \$900. Seconded by SEAC.

Carried UNANMOUSLY

10.2 SEAC Membership Approval

PC20220310-04 Hillcrest Academy MOVED THAT Desirée Ramacieri, Laurentia Elementary be named as an alternate member to the SEAC. Seconded by Laurentia Elementary.

Carried UNANMOUSLY

11. VARIA

11.1 Laurier Gala Awards

Last year PC offered \$100 per category for the Laurier Gala – Academics, Arts, Citizenship, School Perseverance and Sports.

PC20220310-05 Laval Senior Academy MOVED THAT the PC will offer a \$100 per category bursary at the Laurier Gala evening on May 26. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

This motion was CARRIED by the following division:

For: Arundel Elementary, Genesis Elementary, Hillcrest Academy, Joliette Elementary, Jules-Verne Elementary, Laurentia Elementary, Laurentian Elementary, McCaig Elementary, Morin-Heights Elementary, Rawdon Elementary, Souvenir Elementary, St Jude Elementary, St Paul Elementary, St Vincent Elementary, Ste-Adele Elementary, Ste-Agathe Academy, Terry Fox Elementary, Twin Oaks Elementary, Joliette High, Lake of Two Mountains High, Laurentian Regional High, Laval Junior Academy, Laval Senior Academy, Rosemere High, SEAC

Abstain: Pinewood Elementary
(25-0-1)

11.2 Anti-bullying conference

A very powerful conference was given last night by Alain Pelletier at Laval Senior Academy.

Would the PC like to invite M. Pelletier, and host an evening with him in partnership with SEAC?

The committee entered into discussion on the date, finances, location and marketing of the conference. The cost is expensive given the limited budget of both PC and SEAC and the committee wants to ensure maximum participation from families.

Sainte Agathe Academy left the meeting at 9:50
Rosemere High and Joliette High left the meeting at 9:59
Jules Verne Elementary left the meeting at 10:02

The Director General offered to help to pay for the speaker if the SEAC and PC do not have enough money.

PC20220310-06 Souvenir Elementary MOVED THAT the PC meeting be extended until 10:30 p.m. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy

Carried UNANMOUSLY

PC20220310-07 Laval Senior Academy MOVED THAT the PC engage the services of Alain Pelletier for an anti-bullying conference with the option to partner with SEAC. Seconded by Laval Junior Academy.

Carried UNANMOUSLY

PC20220310-08 Joliette Elementary MOVED THAT a subcommittee be created to help plan the evening with Alain Pelletier; date, venue selection and marketing. Seconded by Laurentia Elementary.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

Planning committee: Joliette Elementary, Souvenir Elementary, Hillcrest Academy, McCaig Elementary, Lake of Two Mountains High
The chairperson will leave room on the organizing committee for SEAC members should they wish to be part of it.

12. CORRESPONDANCE

None

13. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

No questions.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Parents Committee Thursday APRIL 7, 2022, at 7:15pm (hybrid from LSA and ZOOM)

SEAC Tuesday MARCH 15, 2022, at 7:00pm (Zoom)

PC20220310-09 McCaig Elementary MOVED THAT the meeting be closed at 10:19 p.m. Seconded by Ste-Adele Elementary.

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

Minutes approved _____, 2022

Chairperson

Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O'Keeffe, Recording Secretary