

## Ground-breaking ceremony for a new English elementary school in Saint-Lin-Laurentides

**Rosemère, April 24, 2023** – This afternoon, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) held a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the beginning of the construction of its new English elementary school in Saint-Lin-Laurentides.



This project represents a major investment of 35.7 million dollars by the Government of Québec.

This new school will be built in accordance with the parameters prescribed in the [\*Guide de planification immobilière pour les établissements scolaires primaires\*](#) from the MEQ, which aims to build schools that are: beautiful, functional, distinctive, progressive, and long-lasting.

Located on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Saint-Lin-Laurentides, the school will have 16 modern homeroom classrooms and two specialty classrooms (music and arts) with adjacent collaboration rooms, two sensory rooms, a double gymnasium, a library/multi-purpose room, daycare services, and a playground and a playground that will allow for various activities. It will have a capacity of 384 students and is scheduled to open in September 2024.

The ceremony was attended by school board officials as well as municipal and provincial elected dignitaries, including Mr. Christopher Skeete, Member for Sainte-Rose, Minister for the Economy, Minister Responsible for the Fight Against Racism, Minister Responsible for the Laval Region and Mr. Louis-Charles Thouin, MNA for Rousseau and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for Infrastructure.

Education Minister, Mr. Bernard Drainville, is excited about the beginning of the construction work. "Not only will the new school fulfill the space requirements of families in Lanaudière and the lower Laurentides, but it will also be modern and designed to meet the needs of the students. As I often say, schools are places of learning, and also places to socialize. It is crucial that students feel comfortable in their environment to ensure their academic success. This announcement is truly fantastic news!"

"I am delighted about this ceremony here in Saint-Lin-Laurentides. This announcement clearly demonstrates that our government prioritizes education, and the construction of a school for Quebecers who speak English shows that our community is in good health. This new school will serve several surrounding municipalities and enable students to thrive in a stimulating environment." said Christopher Skeete.

The Mayor of Saint-Lin-Laurentides, Mr. Mathieu Maisonneuve, was also present and accompanied by his city counselors. He spoke about the importance of the new English school for the growing community of his town. "The future belongs to our children, and they hold the key to a better world. Today's ground-breaking ceremony represents a concrete step forward, and I could not be prouder." stated Mayor Maisonneuve.

"I am very excited to announce the construction of a new English school on our territory which covers the regions of Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière. This is not only a significant milestone for our school board, but it also speaks to the growth and vitality of the English-speaking community. Our community has been waiting a long time for this school. We are confident that our students will receive the education they deserve and be well-prepared for the future in this state-of-the-art school." said Chairperson Paolo Galati.

Families will be informed of the progression of the new school through communications from the school board. Stakeholders can also visit the school board website at [www.swlauriersb.qc.ca](http://www.swlauriersb.qc.ca) or the SWLSB Facebook page to stay up to date on the progression.

With a workforce of more than 2,000 employees, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is the third largest English school board in the Province of Québec and boasts a graduation rate of 88.1%. Its territory comprises the administrative regions of Laval, Laurentides and Lanaudière. The school board provides preschool, elementary, secondary, adult education, and vocational training services to over 14,000 students in 35 schools and 4 centres, as well as business training services.



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Source: Maxeen Jolin  
Communications Coordinator  
[mjolin@swlauriersb.qc.ca](mailto:mjolin@swlauriersb.qc.ca)  
450 621-5600, ext. 1385