

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Inauguration of the new English elementary school in Saint-Lin-Laurentides

Saint-Lin-Laurentides, May 12, 2025 - Today, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) inaugurated its new elementary school located on 9th Avenue in Saint-Lin-Laurentides.

The event brought together several dignitaries, including Minister of Education, Bernard Drainville, Member for Rousseau, Louis-Charles Thouin, Warden of MRC Montcalm, Patrick Massé, Mayor of Saint-Lin-Laurentides, Mathieu Maisonneuve, as well as several municipally elected officials. Students, staff members, partners, and collaborators were also present to mark this important event.

This project, representing a total investment of more than \$35M, includes the construction and furnishing of 16 modern classrooms, adjacent collaboration rooms, two multi-sensory rooms, a double gymnasium, a library/multipurpose room and a daycare service.

The school, which currently serves 272 students from Saint-Lin-Laurentides, Sainte-Sophie, La Plaine, Sainte-Annedes-Plaines, Sainte-Julienne, Saint-Esprit, Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan and Saint-Calixte, can accommodate up to 384 students. This state-of-the-art establishment, designed to meet today's educational needs and pedagogical requirements, is a concrete response to the region's demographic growth. For the next school year, more than 300 students have already enrolled.

"I am happy to be in Saint-Lin–Laurentides for the inauguration of the new Heritage Elementary School. Opening a new school is always a meaningful moment for a community. I am proud that our government invested over \$35.5 million in this project, which meets the needs of local families and students. Modern, well-adapted schools like this one are essential to providing young people with an environment that encourages learning, perseverance, and the achievement of their full potential. Congratulations to everyone who contributed to this wonderful project, which will truly make a difference for the youth of this community."

- Bernard Drainville, Minister of Education

"The construction and inauguration of a new school are always meaningful milestones in a community. I feel very fortunate to take part in the inauguration of Heritage Elementary School and to celebrate this achievement with you. The new school is beautiful. Students from my community will benefit from bright collaborative spaces and classrooms adapted to their evolving needs. I would like to congratulate everyone who contributed to the success of this project. What an accomplishment!"

 Louis-Charles Thouin, MNA for Rousseau and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister Responsible for Infrastructure

"Our school board is immensely proud to inaugurate Heritage Elementary School in Saint-Lin-Laurentides. Located in an environment conducive to learning, this new elementary school answers a real need for the growing anglophone communities in the Lanaudière and Laurentides regions. This school helps reduce overcapacity in several of our elementary schools. We sincerely thank the Ministère de l'Éducation for its financial support, which made the realization of this project possible. With our modern and well-adapted facilities, we offer our staff and students a safe and stimulating environment where they can thrive."

- James Di Sano, Chairperson of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

« Every new school that opens is a promise we make to our young people: the promise to give them every opportunity to grow, learn, and dream. As the most populous city in MRC Montcalm, Saint-Lin-Laurentides has a regional role to play in the development of educational infrastructures. The opening of Heritage Elementary School answers a real

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need, and we continue our efforts to support the growth of our community, for the benefit of local families and those of the surrounding area. » Mathieu Maisonneuve, Mayor of Saint-Lin-Laurentides.

The new Heritage Elementary School is the 27th elementary school of the SWLSB. This new anglophone school was built according to the parameters prescribed in the *Guide de planification immobilière pour les établissements scolaires primaires* from the MEQ, which aims to build beautiful, functional, distinctive, adaptable and durable schools.

With a workforce of more than 2,000 employees, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is the third-largest English school board in Québec and boasts a graduation rate of 83.9%. Its territory comprises the administrative regions of Laval, Lanaudière and the Laurentides. It provides preschool, elementary, secondary, adult, and vocational education services to over 14,000 students in 36 schools and 4 centres. The school board also offers business training services (Service aux entreprises).

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