

**PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC**  
**Ville de Rosemère**

**A regular meeting** of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board was held in the boardroom of the Administration Centre, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec, on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, and via videoconference at 19:30, at which were:

**Present:** James Di Sano, Chairperson; Commissioners Heather Appleby, Barbara Barrasso, Anick Brunet, Noémia Onofre de Lima, and Désirée Ramacieri; Parent Commissioners Chloée Alary, Tara Anderson, and Elena Ferrato; and Russell Copeman, Director General.

**Also present:** Selena Mell, Assistant Director General; Anna Sollazzo, Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Resources; Lynda DaSilveira, Director of Pedagogical Services; Florence Delorme, Director of School Affairs and School Organization; Michel Dufour, Director of Material Resources and Transportation; Daniel Harvey, Director of Financial Resources; Anne-Marie Lavoie, Director of Human Resources; Maxeen Jolin, Coordinator of Communications; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer.

**Absent:** Commissioner Donna Anber, Vice-Chairperson; commissioners Benny Catania, Bob Pellerin and Melissa Wall; and Student Representatives to Council, Maya Lavictoire and Andressa Reginato.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order welcoming everyone who is viewing the meeting online and verified quorum with the Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department. Quorum has been achieved.

**TIME: 19:30**

**0.0 Opening of Meeting**

**0.1 Acknowledgement of the Land**

*I would like to honour the existence of the First Peoples by acknowledging that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is on the traditional land 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.*

*In the spirit of truth, reconciliation, and collaboration, we honour our relationship with the Indigenous Community and respect the history, culture, and language of Canada's original peoples.*

**1.0 Approval of the Agenda**

Approval of the Agenda

**CC-250528-CA-0093**

Commissioner Anick Brunet MOVED THAT the May 28, 2025, agenda of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board be approved as presented in document no. CC-SWLSB-2025/05/28-CA-001.

Seconded by Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson.

**Carried unanimously**

## 2.0 Approval of Minutes – April 30, 2025

Approval of Minutes

April 30, 2025

CC-250528-CA-0094

Commissioner Désirée Ramacieri MOVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on April 30, 2025, having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written and exempt from public reading by the Secretary General.

Seconded by Commissioner Anick Brunet.

**Carried unanimously**

## 3.0 Question Period

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department explained the parameters of the two question periods of 20 minutes each and drew attention to where people online can type in their questions for the second question period.

She noted that the second question period is for questions related to agenda items only. Question period is not a platform for debate.

She also noted that there were no questions submitted for the first question period, but that there was a question in the online chat concerning eligibility that has been directed to School Affairs and School Organization.

## 4.0 Report from the Chairperson

The Chairperson advised that a bilingual copy of his full report is available to the public.

He went on to quote Arnold Palmer:

*“Always make a total effort, even when the odds are against you.”*

He also noted that this is the perfect lead-in to the first proud moment of the evening, the inauguration of Heritage Elementary School.

On May 12, 2025, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) inaugurated Heritage Elementary School, its newest school in Saint-Lin-Laurentides. The school board was deeply honoured that the Ministre de l'Éducation, Bernard Drainville, as well as local dignitaries and community leaders were all able to be present for this special event.

The many participants in this project are to be congratulated for their role in making this school a reality.

- The commissioners for believing in the project;
- The General Directorate for its leadership and guidance;
- The Department Directors and their teams who worked hard to ensure that this new school would be fully operational;
- The dedicated Material Resources and Transportation Director and team who, even when faced with many challenges, rose to the occasion and made sure that a safe and secure learning environment was delivered for the students and staff;
- The unions and association leaders for the support and collaboration;

- The Principal, Chantal Roberge, her staff and students for the warm welcome and for their patience while the project was completed; and
- The Communications team for ensuring that this inauguration was a flawless moment in the SWLSB's history.
- Proud Moments
  - A Raize Craze event was organized by Ascend Leadership and Pink in the City. Several SWLSB schools participated and the students and staff were excited to be a part of such an important cause. The leaders of Pink in the City are to be commended for raising cancer awareness as well as funds for the cause;
  - Model the Way Honours, held on May 13, 2025, saw 200 SWLSB students honoured. Congratulations to all recipients and a special thank you to Senator Tony Loffreda for his continued support as a mentor to the students. He attended the event with Commissioner Barbara Barrasso and the Director General;
  - More Proud moments can be found on the Facebook pages of the school board, schools and centres.
- School and Centre Events
  - May 2, 2025 – Attended the Spring Market at Souvenir Elementary School with Commissioner Benny Catania;
  - May 3, 2025 – Terry Fox Elementary School Grade 6 students held a car wash to raise money for their graduation. He attended the event with Commissioners Barbara Barrasso and Benny Catania;
  - May 4, 2025 – Attended the Laval Senior Academy Spring Market with Commissioners Barbara Barrasso and Benny Catania;
  - May 22, 2025 – Attended the Saint-Paul Elementary School musical production of the *School of Rock*.

He congratulated everyone involved in the organization of these events noting that they should all be proud of their events and the work that went into making them happen.

- Events
  - May 9, 2025 – Attended the National Congress of Italian Canadians Gala;
  - May 22, 2025 – Attended a networking event for Laval business leaders organized by the Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Laval (CCIL).
- Visits to Schools and Centres
  - He has completed visits to the schools in the Laurentides and Lanaudière and will visit the Laval schools and the Adult Education and Vocational Training Centres during the 2025-2026 school year. Visiting the schools has offered greater insights into the daily realities faced by the staff.
- Statements/Remarks/Highlights
  - On May 1, 2025, *Principal Appreciation Day* was celebrated and, on behalf of the Council of Commissioners, he thanked the administrators for their leadership, resilience, and commitment to making a difference every day in the schools and the community;

- May 7, 2025, was *National Child and Youth Mental Health Day*. The school board works very hard to ensure that every student feels seen, supported, and safe;
- May 17, 2025, was the *International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia*. The school board reaffirmed its commitment to fostering safe, inclusive, and respectful environments for all stakeholders as there is no place for discrimination in the SWLSB schools, centres and communities.
- AAESQ – QESBA Spring Conference 2025
  - A full report from him and the other commissioners who attended will be available for the June meeting.

#### 4.1 Community Highlights from Commissioners

- Commissioner Désirée Ramacieri congratulated Heritage Elementary School on its Art Show which was a stunning exhibition of creativity. The school staff and principal are to be congratulated on the organization of this event;
- Commissioner Barbara Barrasso advised that the Parents Participation Organization at Laval Senior Academy had organized a Zumbathon and that it was an evening full of smiles and laughter;
- Parent Commissioner Chloée Alary advised that on May 8, 2025, Laurentian Regional High School held its annual dance show and it was a lovely evening with an array of beautiful costumes. Besides the dance show, the school also displayed student art and the graduating class held a bake sale.

#### 5.0 Report from the Director General

The Director General presented his monthly report noting the following:

- Visits to schools and centres: Forty-seven visits have been completed to date by the Assistant Director General and himself;
- Attended the following meetings: English school boards, Management, Parents' Committee, Forum des DG, the AAESQ–QESBA Spring Conference, career meetings with in-school/centre administrators, and a special General Assembly of the ADGSQ;
- An information session for future administrators was held on May 7, 2025. There was a good turnout of people interested in becoming leaders in education;
- The Joliette High School Golf Tournament was held on May 24, 2025. The day was enjoyable and it was nice to see former students come out to help raise money for school activities;
- The enrolment numbers have shown a modest decline over the past few years, but things are starting to improve. As of May 21, 2025, enrolment stands at 12,647 students in the youth sector which is only 34 fewer students when compared to 2024-2025.

The targeted registration campaign which allowed Communications to use data from the Canadian Census was a success. This campaign helped recruit 60 new students so this registration strategy will be repeated.

A closer look at leavers will be undertaken in order to collect data as to why they leave the SWLSB between elementary and high school.

- Administrative assignments for 2025-2026
  - The selection process for the position of principal at Crestview Elementary School is underway;
  - Recruitment of two vice-principals at Rosemère High School and a one-year principal replacement at Saint-Vincent Elementary School are also in progress;
  - The General Directorate is looking to have stability in the schools and centres therefore, no additional permanent assignment changes are expected in 2025-2026.
- 2025-2026 Budget
  - The MEQ budget parameter package has not yet been received so the school board has no funding information for the coming school year. Initial documents have been received with respect to teacher staffing and salaries and it is hoped that the remainder of the budget parameter package will follow shortly;
  - As the budget parameters have not been received, the 2025-2026 budget will not be presented to Council until its September meeting;
  - Challenging financial times are anticipated.
- Proud Moments
  - Inauguration of Heritage Elementary School. It was an honour to have the Ministre de l'Éducation, Bernard Drainville, present at the event. M. Drainville was very friendly, charismatic, and very good with the students with whom he spoke at length;
  - Model the Way. The SWLSB extends its gratitude to Senator Tony Loffreda, an exceptional role model for the leadership group, who generously took the time to mentor them.
- Upcoming Events
  - On May 29, 2025, the annual Laurier Gala and Star Fest will take place, and the performances are sure to be spectacular;
  - On June 5, 2025, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation's annual Lobster Gala will take place.
- Vocational Training
  - On September 1, 2025, the *Stationary Engine Mechanics* DVS program will begin and run until January 22, 2027;
  - In September 2025, a Skills Training Certificate in *Support for Assistive Services in Health and Social Service Institutions* will begin.

## 6.0 Business Arising

There were no items for business arising.

## 7.0 Decision Items

### 7.1 Legal Corporate and Communications

#### 7.1.1 By-Law Establishing Procedure for the Examination of Complaints Related to the Functions of the School Board

By-Law Establishing Procedure for the Examination of Complaints Related to the Functions of the School Board

**CC-250528-CA-0095**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. CC-250326-CA-0071, authorizing for consultation by-law no. BL2024-CA-29: *By-Law Establishing Procedure for the Examination of Complaints Related to the Functions of the School Board*;

WHEREAS a consultation was held from March 27, 2025, to May 16, 2025;

WHEREAS the Governing Boards, the Parents' Committee, the Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association, the Laurier Teachers' Union, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Professionals' Union (*representing professional staff*), the Workers Union of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board – CSN (*representing maintenance staff*), and the SEPB-Québec, section locale 577 (*representing support staff*), were consulted on the by-law, and feedback was received and taken into consideration;

Commissioner Elena Ferrato MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve by-law no. BL2024-CA-29: *By-Law Establishing Procedure for the Examination of Complaints Related to the Functions of the School Board*, as contained in document no. CC-SWLSB-2025/05/28-CA-002;

AND THAT this by-law becomes effective upon the publication of a public notice to that effect, in accordance with section 394 of the *Education Act*.

Seconded by Commissioner Anick Brunet.

**Carried unanimously**

#### 7.1.2 Amendments to the Policy on Safe, Caring Schools and Centres

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department presented the final version of the policy noting that the feedback received was appreciated and that certain elements of the feedback were retained and integrated into the policy.

She went on to note that, going forward, it is the school board's objective to uphold this policy to ensure that the schools and centres offer safe, caring, and civil environments. This will be done through notes to parents and promotional videos.

Amendments to the Policy on Safe, Caring Schools and Centres

**CC-250528-CA-0096**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution no. CC-250326-CA-0072, authorizing for consultation amendments to policy no. 2018-CA-25: *Policy on Safe, Caring Schools and Centres*;

WHEREAS a consultation was held from March 27, 2025, to May 16, 2025;

WHEREAS the Governing Boards, the Parents' Committee, the Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – Sir Wilfrid Laurier Section, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Administrators' Association, the Laurier Teachers' Union, the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Professionals' Union (*representing professional staff*), the Workers Union of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board – CSN (*representing maintenance staff*), and the SEPB-Québec, section locale 577 (*representing support staff*), were consulted on the policy, and feedback was received and taken into consideration;

Commissioner Noémia Onofre de Lima MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee – Student Success, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the amendments to policy no. 2018-CA-25, now entitled: *Policy on Civility, Safety, and Respect in Schools and Centres*, as contained in document no. CC-SWLSB-2025/05/28-CA-003.

Seconded by Commissioner Anick Brunet.

**Carried unanimously**

## **8.0 Information Items**

### **8.1 SWL Foundation Report**

There was no report for this item.

### **8.2 Parent Commissioners' Reports**

#### **8.2.1 Parents' Committee**

The report of the Parents' Committee is available in the meeting package.

Parent Commissioner Tara Anderson advised that the June 12, 2025, meeting of the Parents' Committee is the final one of the 2024-2025 school year and will begin at 19:30 that evening, as there will be a pot luck gathering prior to the meeting. Everyone is invited to attend.

#### **8.2.2 SEAC**

The report of SEAC is available in the meeting package.

### **8.3 QESBA Report**

There is no report for this item.

### **8.4 Central Students' Committee Report**

The report of the Central Students' Committee is available in the meeting package.

## **9.0 Question Period (20 minutes)**

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department noted that, as explained earlier in the meeting, the second question period is for questions related to agenda items only and there is no debate.

The Secretary General and Director of the Legal, Corporate and Communications Department advised that there are questions on the online chat and invited the member of the public with these questions to contact the school board directly for clarification on said questions which were not related to agenda items.

There were no other questions.

**10.0 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**11.0 Varia**

There are no items for varia.

**12.0 Adjournment of Meeting**

Adjournment of Meeting

The Chairperson MOVED THAT the meeting be adjourned.

**CC-250528-CA-0097**

Seconded by Commissioner Anick Brunet

**Carried unanimously**

**TIME: 20:04**

**NEXT MEETING → REGULAR → June 25, 2025**