



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

June 26, 2026

Chairperson's Statement Read at the June 25, 2026 Council of Commissioners Meeting

Before we proceed to the next item on the agenda, I would like to provide some context regarding the public notice being presented this evening.

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has been engaged in long-term planning for several years to ensure that our schools continue to meet the evolving needs of our students and communities. This work has included analyzing enrolment trends, reviewing the use of our facilities, listening to families who have left our school board, and exploring new ways to strengthen and promote our schools across all three regions we serve.

As part of this planning, we have also recognized that each region faces unique realities. In Laval, enrolment has significantly declined by nearly 600 students since 2020. As a result, we must carefully examine how we use our buildings and available space to ensure they continue to serve students effectively and sustainably.

This review includes considering a range of options, including the possible consolidation of schools, while also exploring opportunities to better respond to the needs of students through specialized programs and strategic use of our facilities.

The public notice before Council this evening is not the beginning of this work. Rather, it represents continuation and the next step in a thoughtful planning process that has been underway for some time. While the current financial environment has increased the urgency of these discussions, the need to review our school footprint in Laval had already been identified through our long-range planning.

I also wish to acknowledge that the timing of this notice, at the conclusion of the school year and on the eve of the summer break, is less than ideal. However, the Education Act requires that this notice be published before July 1 to allow sufficient time for analysis, public consultation, and careful consideration before any decision may be taken. Although the notice is being issued now, consultations will take place this fall, and no changes arising from this process would come into effect before July 1, 2027.

We recognize that these conversations are deeply important. Schools are far more than buildings; they are places of learning, belonging, and community. They hold lasting significance for students, families, employees, and neighborhoods alike.

For that reason, I want to be clear, no decisions have been made. The purpose of the consultation process is to present different options, gather feedback, and listen to concerns and different perspectives before making any final decisions.

At the same time, we have a responsibility as stewards of public education to ensure that our resources are managed wisely and that our decisions continue to support the highest quality educational opportunities for both current and future students.



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These are not easy discussions, but they are necessary if we are to build a sustainable future while keeping students at the centre of every decision we make.

We will communicate directly with the families and staff of the schools and centres concerned, while also providing information to all parents and employees across the school board. A dedicated section of our website will serve as a central source of information, including timelines, updates, frequently asked questions, and consultation materials throughout the process.

We also recognize that some families and employees may wish to share their thoughts before the public meetings take place in October. For that reason, a feedback form will be available on our website throughout the summer so that anyone who wishes to contribute ideas, ask questions, or express concerns may do so.

I encourage all members of our school community: parents, students, employees, and community partners to participate in the consultation process this fall. We need to work together to optimize our infrastructure in Laval and maximize services and resources offered to our students, and to shape the future of English public education in Laval.



James Di Sano
Chairperson



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