

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON FEBRUARY 22, 2017

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, Rosemere, QC on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 19:30 hours, at which were present:

Present: Jennifer Maccarone, Chair; Commissioner Dean Dugas, Vice-Chair; Commissioners Robert Dixon, Guy Gagnon, Paolo Galati, Vicky Kaliozakis, Peter MacLaurin and Parent Commissioners Sergio Di Marco, Stéphane Henley and Bob Pellerin; and Paul Lamoureux, Director General.

Also present were: Frédéric Greschner, Assistant Director General; Johanne Brabant, Secretary General; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; Richard Blondin, Director of Financial Resources; Jérôme Dionne, Director of Material Resources; Richard Greschner, Director of Human Resources; Tina Korb, Director of Educational Services; Stephanie Krenn, Director of Schools & Interim Director of School Organization & Transportation; Silvia Patella, Interim Director of Complementary Services; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administration Officer.

Absent: Commissioners Anne McMullon, Emilio Migliozi, and Ailsa Pehi.

The Chair called the meeting to order.

TIME: 19:34 hours

1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

The following additions to the agenda were proposed:

10.0 VARIA:

- 10.1 *March Break*.....INFO
- 10.2 *Foundation*INFO
- 10.3 *STL Estimates*.....INFO

CC-170222-CA-0056

Parent Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as amended in document #SWLSB-2017/02/22-CA-001.

Carried unanimously

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

CC-170222-CA-0057

Commissioner Vicky Kaliozakis MOVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on January 25, 2017 having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as presented.

| | |
|--|---|
| THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION: | |
| Commissioners & Parent Commissioners voting YEA: | Sergio Di Marco, Robert Dixon, Dean Dugas, Vicky Kaliozakis, Bob Pellerin |

| | |
|--|--|
| Commissioners & Parent Commissioners ABSTAINING: | Guy Gagnon, Stéphane Henley, Peter MacLaurin |
|--|--|

CC-170222-CA-0058

Parent Commissioner Bob Pellerin MOVED THAT the minutes of the special meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on February 8, 2017 having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as presented.

| | |
|--|--|
| THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION: | |
| Commissioners & Parent Commissioners voting YEA: | Sergio Di Marco, Dean Dugas, Guy Gagnon, Stéphane Henley, Vicky Kaliozakis, Bob Pellerin |
| Commissioners & Parent Commissioners ABSTAINING: | Robert Dixon, Peter MacLaurin |

3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

Commissioner Paolo Galati entered the meeting.

TIME: 19:37 hours

4.0 REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR & DG**4.1 Chair's Report:**

The Chair presented her monthly report noting:

- the success of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation Gala held on January 26, 2017;
- the L'Or du roi, the French version of the Golden Touch, will be taking place this year and 40 students from this school board will be taking part along with students from other school boards and local Greek schools for a cast of approximately 450. These students will have the opportunity to perform at Parliament Hill, Fête Saint-Jean, and the Hôtel de Ville de Montréal;

Commissioner Robert Dixon left the meeting.

TIME: 19:40 hours

- attended an event where Randy Lewis, an advocate for special needs, was a keynote speaker on autism and what needs to be done to support the special needs community to help them integrate into the labour market;
- Hooked on School Days, the annual event in support of school perseverance;

Commissioner Robert Dixon returned to the meeting.

TIME: 19:42 hours

- the Crestview Elementary School Music Therapy program. This program was created through fundraising by parents;
- various meetings concerning the first steps for the implementation of certain sections of Bill 105.

4.2 Director General's Report:

The Director General presented his monthly report noting:

- the advantages of being an equal partner with the French school boards, ex. Hooked on School Days;

- various school activities and fundraisers for community causes
- congratulations to Mary Lazaris, Principal of Twin Oaks Elementary School, on being honoured as one of Canada's Outstanding Principals' for 2016;
- the abolition and creation of new committees at the level of the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (the Ministère);
- awaiting information on the 2017-2018 budget rules and transportation grants;
- career meetings are underway as part of the 2017-2018 staffing process.

4.3 Elections 2018:

The Director General advised the Corporate Committee that the next school elections are scheduled for November 4, 2018, although the Ministère may decide to defer the elections and extend the current term. That being said, the school board will continue to follow the timelines laid out in the law and, as Director General, he is the acting President of Elections until someone is engaged to take the role as school elections draw closer.

He went on to note that the division of the territory was discussed briefly at the last Corporate Committee meeting and that remaining with the status quo of nine electoral divisions is acceptable. The electors in electoral divisions 1 and 2 will have to be redistributed to meet the +/- 25% rule. The options will be discussed in further detail with the Commissioners of those two electoral divisions in order to meet the obligations under the law prior to December 2017.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 Engagement of Principal – Joliette HS:

The Director General advised the Council that a decision was taken to replace the Principal at Joliette High School on an interim basis for the balance of the school year in order to maintain continuity at the school.

6.0 DECISION ITEMS:

6.1 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

6.1.1 Budget Building 2017-2018:

The Director of Financial Resources presented and reviewed the budget building process for 2017-2018 noting that the document has received some updates since last year to make it easier to comprehend and to have it relate more towards the actual costs to the schools.

In response to a question from the Vice-Chair, the Director of Financial Resources explained that the results of the questionnaire would be divided by region when the consultation feedback is presented in the spring.

CC-170222-FR-0059

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is commencing its budget building process for the 2017-2018 school year;

WHEREAS section 275 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) requires that a school board make public the objectives and principles governing budget allocations;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has drafted its "Budgetary Process 2017-2018";

Commissioner Dean Dugas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation the "Budgetary Process 2017-2018", as contained in document #SWLSB-2017/02/22-FR-001;

AND THAT the consultation begins on February 23, 2017 and ends on April 10, 2017.

Carried unanimously

6.1.2 Authorization to Borrow:

The Director of Financial Resources explained that the bank has requested a resolution because one of the amounts authorized by the Ministère is above the bank's current borrowing amount for the school board.

CC-170222-FR-0060

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board received a letter from the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, dated December 19, 2016, authorizing the amounts that the school board can contract as short-term borrowings between January 1, 2017 and June 30, 2017;

WHEREAS the Caisse Desjardins Thérèse-De Blainville has requested a resolution from the school board in order to update said borrowing limits;

Commissioner Guy Gagnon MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners authorize the Caisse Desjardins Thérèse-De Blainville to update the borrowing amounts as contained in the letter received from the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, dated December 19, 2016.

Carried unanimously

6.2 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

6.2.1 Entente policière - Blainville:

The Secretary General presented and reviewed the Entente policière with the Blainville Police noting that this is the second entente to be signed as the first was with the Police de Laval.

The Council entered into discussion and the Secretary answered questions as follows:

- this school board will be obliged to sign ententes with the police of the municipalities where it has schools located;

- this school board has schools in municipalities that are covered by the Sûreté du Québec (SQ) and the SQ is currently waiting for the province to redirect the responsibility for the creation of regional ententes to the local level;
- the deadline for these ententes to be in place is March 31, 2017. The school board has done its due diligence by contacting local police forces involved to initiate the process of negotiating an entente without much success therefore, the school board will be unable to meet the deadline of the Ministère with some of its municipalities;
- the obligation is to have these ententes as part of the anti-violence and anti-bullying legislation and once concluded, work will begin on similar ententes with the health sector;
- the ententes are for all police interventions whether it be students, staff, parents or stakeholder.

CC-170222-CA-0061

WHEREAS the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) adopted the *"Regulation respecting agreements entered into by school boards with respect to collaboration with police forces for prevention and investigation purposes and interventions by police officers in an emergency or when an act of bullying or violence is reported"*;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the Service de Police de la Ville de Blainville endorse the "Frame of Reference – Police Presence in Educational Institutions: Provincial Consultation on Violence, Youth and the School Environment" currently in effect and have included several of its provisions in this mutually negotiated agreement and have agreed to refer to them as needed;

Commissioner Vicky Kaliozakis MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the "Agreement Pertaining to Police Intervention from the Blainville Police in the Educational Institutions of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board";

AND THAT, the Chair and the Director General, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Assistant Director General, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning this entente.

Carried unanimously

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 **Bill 105 – Resource Allocation Committee:**

The Director General advised Council that the first step in the implementation of Law 105 is the Resource Allocation Committee and that this committee must be in place for the 2017-2018 school year.

7.2 **SWL Foundation:**

Commissioner Paolo Galati provided an update on the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation noting:

- congratulations to Commissioner Ailsa Pehi on being named Vice-President of the Foundation;
- the January Gala raised \$45,338 and these funds will be used to purchase sensory products;
- a promotional brochure will be produced highlighting the accomplishments of the Foundation and how the funds raised have been used;
- the 6th Annual Laurier Gala & Star Fest will be held on May 31, 2017;
- the Lobster Gala is scheduled for June 8, 2017.

7.3 Parent Commissioners Report:

Bob Pellerin presented and reviewed the monthly report of the Parent Commissioners noting that at its last meeting the Parents Committee received an informative presentation by the English Parents Committee Association (EPCA) on the new History curriculum with concerns expressed about the omission of the contributions of Québec's minorities to the province's history. The EPCA will be lobbying the Ministère to have changes made to the new History curriculum to include various minorities and asked for the support of the Parents Committee. The Parents Committee declined to present a resolution, as it wishes to have feedback from the school communities before responding.

7.4 Report of QESBA:

The Chair advised everyone that the keynote speakers have been confirmed for the AAESQ – QESBA Spring Conference. Commissioners who wish to attend and have not already registered and booked a hotel should do so as soon as possible, as there are not a lot of rooms left at the hotel.

She further noted that she would be a keynote speaker at the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference in Denver, Colorado in March 2017 and a presenter at the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) Conference in Whistler, British Columbia in July 2017.

8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:

There were no questions.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

The Chair drew the Council's attention to the items contained in the package.

10.0 VARIA:

10.1 March Break:

In response to a concern expressed by Commissioner Robert Dixon, the Director of Human Resources advised that in the teachers' local arrangements it is determined that the spring break begins on the first Monday in March. The Collective Agreement assigns the negotiation of this clause to the local level.

Discussion ensued and it was agreed that having a more flexible spring break would be brought to the table when the next negotiations are undertaken for the teachers' local arrangements. It must be remembered that those schools transported by either Commission scolaire des Laurentides or Commission scolaire des Samares are obligated to take the spring break indicated in those two school board calendars. When the school calendars were consulted upon for the 2016-2017 school year the placement of the spring break was not raised as an issue.

10.2 Foundation:

In response to concerns expressed by Commissioner Peter MacLaurin, the Chair indicated that protocol was followed with respect to his concerns about Adult Education & Vocational Training, Qualification and the International Student Program and that she does not believe that there is any conflict of interest.

10.3 STL Estimates:

As follow-up to a question from Commissioner Peter MacLaurin at the February 16, 2017 meeting of the Corporate Committee, the Director General advised that part of the process, when determining what is in the best interests of the school board, is the undertaking of an analysis of a proposal. That being said, providing the exact amount spent on the research done on the Société de transport de Laval (STL) versus yellow school buses would be difficult.

He also noted that the exercise allowed for validation that the school board is being efficient and to show that negotiations are being conducted in good faith given that the transportation rules for 2017-2018 are not yet known. The majority of school boards only have one option for transportation so it is nice to know that this school board has an additional option.

The Director of Schools & Interim Director of School Organization & Transportation noted that the estimated cost of the research for STL versus yellow school buses would be in the neighborhood of 130 hours or \$5,000. The research was completed by the Coordinator of Transportation, the Administrative Technician and the School Transportation Technician.

The Director General advised the Council of Commissioners that this evening was the last Council of Commissioners meeting for the Secretary General before her retirement. He thanked Johanne Brabant for her work over many years and wished her all the best in her future endeavours.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

Parent Commissioner Stéphane Henley MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

Carried unanimously

TIME: 20:30 hours

NEXT MEETING ⇒ REGULAR ⇒ April 26, 2017

Johanne Brabant, Secretary General

Jennifer Maccarone, Chair