

Minutes of the seventh (7th) meeting of the 2008-2009 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday April 2nd, 2009 at 19:30 in the Boardroom of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, 235 Montee Lesage, Rosemere, Quebec.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sarah Fletcher	ARUNDEL ELEMENTARY	Lisa Chartier	OUR LADY OF PEACE ELEM
Lori Rinaldi	GENESIS ELEMENTARY	Kathleen Thompson	PIERRE E TRUDEAU ELEM
Helen Doulos	HILLCREST ACADEMY	Luc Samson	ROSEMERE HIGH
Dean Dugas	JOLIETTE ELEMENTARY	Pablo Carrera	SOUVENIR ELEMENTARY
Helena Muir	JOLIETTE HIGH	Guy Gagnon	ST JUDE ELEMENTARY
Karen MacInnes	LAKE OF TWO MOUNTAINS	Roberto Bomba	ST PAUL ELEMENTARY
Jennifer Boudreault	LAURENTIAN ELEM	Angelo Grasso	ST VINCENT ELEM
Don Beverly	LAURENTIAN REGIONAL	Kim Nymark	STE-ADELE ELEMENTARY
Guy Goffredo	LAVAL JR HIGH	Danielle Gareau	SAINTE-AGATHE ACADEMY
John Colouturos	LAVAL LIBERTY HIGH	Dori Raymond	TWIN OAKS
Jenny Di Biase	MCCAIG ELEMENTARY	Nathalie Riley	SEAC
Andy Simon	MORIN HEIGHTS ELEM		
Mario De Sousa	MOTHER TERESA JR HIGH		
Silva Rehel	MOUNTAINVIEW ELEM		

ALSO PRESENT: Steve Bletas, Chairperson of the Council of Commissioners, Steve Mitchell, Mario Di Domenico, Ed Turchyniak, Commissioners; Deb Kellman, Special Education Consultant, ESD and parents

ABSENT: Crestview elem, Franklin Hill elem, Grenville elem, JF Kennedy, Jules Verne elem, Laurentia elem, Laurier Sr. high, Pinewood elem, Rawdon elem, Terry Fox elem

In the absence of the Chairperson, the vice-Chairperson called the meeting to order at 19:35 hrs

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Thank you to all the parents who attended the SWL Foundation wine and cheese before this meeting. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets for the lottery can call Maxeem Jolin, 621-5600 ext 1385.

The Parents Committee sends prayers out and held a moment of silence for the Genesis community.

PC20090402-01 Pierre E Trudeau Elementary MOVED THAT the agenda is accepted with the noted additions. Seconded by Joliette Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF March 12th, 2009

PC20090402-02 St. Vincent Elementary MOVED THAT the minutes of March 12th, 2009 are accepted as presented. Seconded by Laval Jr High.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Joliette elem, Joliette high, Lake of Two Mountains high, Laval Jr high, Laval Liberty high, McCaig elem, Morin Heights elem, Mother Teresa Jr. high, Our Lady of Peace elem, Pierre E

Trudeau elem, Rosemere high, St. Jude elem, St Vincent elem, SEAC

Abstain: Arundel elem, Genesis elem, Hillcrest elem, Laurentian elem, Laurentian Regional high, Twin Oaks elem, Sainte Adele elem, Sainte-Agathe Acad.

3. CHAIRPERSON'S Report

Will be covered under other items at this meeting

Souvenir Elementary entered the meeting at 19:50 hrs

4. QUESTION Period

No questions

5. PRESENTATION

5.1 Safety and Respect Focus Session – Deb Kellman, ESD

The Parents Committee welcomes Deb Kellman, Special Education Consultant from ESD. At the beginning of this school year the three focus sessions on safety and respect in the schools were held in different locations – Laval, Rosemère and Lachute where various stakeholders from the school communities came together to brainstorm on safety and respect within our schools. At the focus session three questions were asked and the answers were compiled in a very informative power point presentation. Deb was here to give us the presentation on those sessions. Lisa Chartier has a copy of this presentation and will forward it to Silvana to be e-mailed to all members. All stakeholders who were at these sessions will also get copies of this presentation.

Deb was pleased to have so much feedback from everyone and thanks all those who were involved in this. The Parents Committee thanks Deb and Mona for all of their hard work on these sessions.

6. BUSINESS Arising

6.1 Election Parent Alternate Members to SEAC

- Nathalie will forward a new name to Silvana to be brought forward for the next meeting.
- The school board was approached to ask why SEAC members were not receiving notices. All e-mails of members were verified and are now receiving notices for meetings.
- Members are encouraged to continue asking at their schools for names.

6.2 PC Action Plan: update on Communication Pamphlet

- Pretty close to a final copy for reviewing. It will be brought to Anne-Marie Lepage for her input. By the next meeting a draft copy will be ready for the PC to review. Guy Goffredo will make a proper format for distribution.
- All new students coming into the board will receive a copy of this pamphlet and schools will be given templates so that they can add their own information and copy it for their community.

St. Paul Elementary entered the meeting at 20:12 hrs.

Mountainview Elementary entered the meeting at 20:15 hrs.

Steve Mitchell will send information to Guy to put into the pamphlet on what the role of a Commissioner is.

6.3 Enriched/Talented & Gifted Committee update

This will be discussed in Steve Bletas' report.

6.4 2009-2010 School Calendar

- Morin Heights commented that the Christmas break spread over three weeks is a problem in their schools. It is felt that it does not meet the needs of the communities.
- Pierre E Trudeau's community congratulated the calendar committee; they think it is very well done.
- McCaig reported that her Governing Board was disappointed in the Christmas Break as well.

Luc Samson pointed out that this committee and your governing board has the right to make request and changes.

PC20090402-03 Morin Heights Elementary MOVED THAT the 2009-2010 school calendars are not accepted as presented because the Christmas Break does not meet the needs of the communities and should be reconfigured to include December 21st, 22nd, 2009 as holidays and remove January 5th, 2010. Seconded by McCaig Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Arundel elem, Genesis elem, Hillcrest acad, Joliette high, Lake of Two Mountains high, Laurentian elem, Laval Liberty high, McCaig elem, Morin Heights elem, Mother Teresa jr high, Mountainiew elem, Rosemere high, Souvenir elem, St Jude elem, St Vincent elem, Twin Oaks elem, SEAC

Against: Pierre E Trudeau elem, St. Paul elem, Ste-Adele elem, Ste-Agathe acad

Abstain: Joliette elem, Laval jr high, Laurentian Regional high, Our Lady of Peace elem,

6.5 Outstanding Effort Award

This award is offered to the student who shows continuous effort throughout their school life at their graduation. Only ONE recipient per school receives this graduation award. The prize will be a plaque that hangs in the school with a trophy and gift certificate of \$25.00.

It was mentioned that Sainte-Adele Elementary use to chop this award up and give it to 20 children. As stipulated by the Parents Committee it is for one student. Lisa Chartier will follow up on this.

PC20080402-04 Souvenir Elementary MOVED THAT the parents committee will give the Outstanding Effort Award to ONE graduating student per school with a \$25.00 gift certificate for Chapters. Seconded by St. Jude Elementary

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Consultation – Promotion of Arts & Culture in SWL Schools

Please read this consultation and send your comments to Chantal who will compile them with Silvana and bring them back to next months meeting.

7.2 Consultation – Deeds & Three year plan

Please read this consultation document and discuss it with your governing boards and be prepared to vote on it at the next meeting.

8. REPORTS

8.1 School Board's report

Welcome Steve Bletas

- A new elementary school in Duvernay Laval was received. There were questions from parents on rezoning. This process will be done by consultation when it starts.
- Grenville School, the smallest school in our school board will be funded for a 4 year old program next year.
- Secondary 3-4-5 math textbooks or provisional book will be available for next year
- Chemistry and physics books have not been implemented yet as there has been no answer. Thanks to Leo Lafrance who fought hard for these books. There is a possibility of e-books so that there will be no delay. LEARN will get the French copies and translate them.
- Several meetings with all stakeholders for the Talented and Gifted committee. A lot of discussion was held and Steve Bletas read the resolution that was passed at council. A copy of this resolution was given to Lisa to send out to members.
- Voices – a newsletter from ESD on Differentiation learning was passed for viewing
- Exploration lab modules have been installed and pictures were passed around for viewing. The official inauguration will be held on May 25th, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at CDC Pont Viau. The Minister of Education, MNA's, City Councillors of Laval will be there. This is the only type of lab of this kind in Quebec. An open house for parents will be held. Luc Samson went on to say that these labs are very professional and impressive.

- Steve Bletas noted that eventually the northern sectors will get one of these. The alternate PC member from Hillcrest suggested a medical lab with the help of McGill. She will give her coordinates to Steve.
- Tomorrow there is a conference “la persévérance scolaire.” It's a regional conference on student retention and school success. The minister will be there. The various stakeholders will have the opportunity to reflect on the current situation in Laval, share success stories and find innovative strategies to encourage students to stay in school.
 - Questions on schools should be submitted to George Paquette.

Sainte-Adèle Elementary and Sainte-Agathe Academy left from the meeting at 21:35 hrs.

8.2 Treasurers report

- Members should have received their expense cheques this week.
- Silvana will confirm with Silva how many schools there are for the awards.

8.3 Parent Commissioners report

- Complaint management system implemented at the school board where complaints will be tracked. This ties in with Bill 88 on ombudsman.
- School websites – if you need help with your website, call the communications department of the school board, they are available to help you. They are working on a template for all schools to be used. Should schools need help they can contact Elizabeth Thibault 450-621-5600 ext 1426.
- Progress has been made on textbooks so the motion mentioned last month will not be made.

8.4 RCP-3L report

Report was attached in packages

- The issue of the English community leaving the FCPQ has come up again. At the time this committee made a motion supporting dissolving the union. This parents committee received a letter and has been asked to reconsider our decision to leave.
- All of the English school boards will write a letter that supports dissolving and send it to the parents committees to sign. They are sending it to the chairperson.

PC20090402-05 St Vincent Elementary MOVED THAT the parents committee send a letter to Mme. Ouellette, President of FCPQ stating that it was unanimously voted by this committee on April 3rd, 2008 to withdraw from the FCPQ to form an English services committee. Seconded by Joliette High School.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Nathalie Riley, SEAC and Helena Muir, Joliette Elementary will be attending the annual general assembly on May 29th and the convention on May 30th & 31st, 2009. Pablo Carrera, Souvenir Elementary will attend the general assembly on May 29th, 2009.

PC20090402-06 Twin Oaks Elementary MOVED THAT the Parents Committee accept Nathalie Riley's nomination to the position of Vice-President of English Affairs. Seconded by Joliette High.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

PC20090402-07 SEAC MOVED THAT the committee approves Helena Muir's attendance at the Assises Régionales on March 26th, 2009 at a cost of \$50.00. Seconded by Laval Jr. High.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

8.5 SEAC report

PC20090402-08 Mountainview Elementary MOVED THAT Shawn McMahon is approved as an alternate member for SEAC. Seconded by St Jude Elementary

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

- On May 6th, 2009 at 19:00 hrs. SEAC will be hosting a workshop at RHS in conjunction with the school board. There will be 4 workshops to choose from with behaviour consultants given these sessions.

- SEAC pamphlet is nearly ready for publication. A new format will be used this year that will be easily updated. It is hopeful that this will be ready for viewing in June.
- Two new measures were announced. Measure 350 integration of special needs kids in special classes. Measure 359 will give teachers the time to prepare IEP's. These measures will be repeated for the next three years.
- The SEAC member list is now up to date.

9. OPEN DISCUSSION

10. QUESTION Period

No questions

11. CLOSURE of meeting

Next meeting May 7th, 2009

PC20090402-09 Laval Liberty High MOVED THAT the meeting is adjourned at 22:20 hrs. Seconded by McCaig Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan O'Keefe, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved _____, 2009

Chairperson _____ Secretary _____