

Minutes of the second (2nd) meeting of the 2009-2010 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday November 5th, 2009 at 19:30hrs in the Boardroom of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, 235 Montee Lesage, Rosemere, Quebec.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Silvana Di Medio	CRESTVIEW ELEMENTARY	Andrew Simon	MORIN HEIGHTS ELEM
Roger Desormeaux	GENESIS ELEMENTARY	Angelo Grasso	MOTHER TERESA JR HIGH
Violet Selby	GRENVILLE ELEMENTARY	Lisa Chartier	OUR LADY OF PEACE ELEM
Patricia Saputo	HILLCREST ACADEMY	Cathal Marlow	PINEWOOD ELEMENTARY
Jennifer Maccarone	JOHN F KENNEDY ELEM	Amber Lawrence	RAWDON ELEM & MIDDLE
Helena Muir	JOLIETTE HIGH	Luc Samson	ROSEMERE HIGH
Janice Eddy	LAKE OF TWO MOUNTAINS	Guy Gagnon	ST JUDE ELEMENTARY
Andrew Sproule	LAURENTIA ELEM	Roberto Bomba	ST PAUL ELEMENTARY
Jennifer Boudreault	LAURENTIAN ELEMENTARY	Felicia Schiro	ST VINCENT ELEMENTARY
Stephen Clark	LAURENTIAN REGIONAL	Antoinette Noviello	TERRY FOX ELEM
Natasha Fontes	Laurier SR High	Dori Raymond	TWIN OAKS ELEMENTARY
Morton Jaquays	LAVAL JR HIGH		
John Colotouros	LAVAL LIBERTY HIGH		
Serge Duval	MCCAIG ELEMENTARY		

ALSO PRESENT: Alain Guay, Assistant Director General; Steve Bletas, Chairman of the Council of Commissioners, George Paquette Director school Organization, Steve Mitchell, Mario Di Domenico, Grace Nesi, Mike Pizzola, Steve Kmec, Nick Milas Commissioners.

ABSENT: Arundel elem, Franklin Hill elem, Joliette elem, Jules Verne elem, Mountainview elem, Pierre Elliott Trudeau elem, Souvenir, elem, Ste-Adele elem, Ste-Agathe Academy, SEAC

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 19:31 hrs

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PC20091105-01 Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT the agenda is accepted as presented. Seconded by Twin Oaks Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 1st, 2009

PC20091105-02 Morin Heights Elementary MOVED THAT the minutes of October 1st, 2009 are accepted as presented. Seconded by Laurentian Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Crestview elem, Grenville elem, John F Kennedy elem, Joliette high, Laurentia elem, Laurentian elem, Laurentian Regional high, Laurier Sr. high, Laval Jr. high, Laval Liberty High, McCaig elem, Morin Heights elem, Mother Teresa Jr high, Our Lady of Peace elem, Rawdon Elem & Middle, St Jude elem, Sr Paul elem, St Vincent elem, Terry Fox elem,
Abstain: Rosemere high, Twin Oaks elem, Lake of Two Mountains high, Pinewood elem

3. CHAIRPERSON'S Message :

- Chairperson explained the rules of the meeting and the "Raison d'Être" of this committee. She explained that we are here to work cooperatively with the school board on a variety of issues and we need to work well and communicate with each other. Bad mouthing the school board or others will not be tolerated and directing your concerns to the right source is strongly encouraged.
- A letter was sent in June 2009 to Madame Courschene regarding the cut-backs and was signed by several Parent Committee delegates. MELs took this as a representation from the parents committee, which was not so. The committee's official representative is the Chairperson (or in his/her absence the Vice-chair). Please do not use your Parents Committee title on any letter you may send out.

- Laurier News is a paper bring put together by the school board with news from our schools and various committees. This news paper will be published 4 times a year. A picture of our Parents Committee will be in the first edition along with an article from the Chairperson.
- There are concerns at the time length of our meetings. At the last meeting a member was caught in a lengthy traffic jam which caused him to stop and stay at a hotel. We need a timekeeper in order to keep the meetings at a reasonable time, and we also need look at the content of the meeting.

PC20091105-03 McCaig Elementary MOVED THAT after 22:30hrs. any items left on the agenda will be tabled to the next meeting and put into new business. Seconded by Laurentian Regional high.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

4. **PRESENTATION: REZONING,**

Mr. Paquette explained the process of the consultation of the re-zoning, including long term sustainability. Time line was described for all the schools being rezoned. The school organization standing committee will be looking at all the recommendations at the December meeting. All commissioners will be welcome to attend this meeting. A recommendation will then go forward to Executive and then Council.

Joliette consultation: An open house was held last evening which had many kiosks to visit to showcase the school. Commissioners and several members from the Directorate attended the open house. The school board arranged to have a school bus available from Rawdon to Joliette in order to allow everyone to attend a spaghetti dinner. .

St-Vincent consultation: The community understands the need to create more space. The Government understanding the situation gave us a school in the area, Gordon school. The 2 scenarios are:

- 1) 1 school 2 buildings; or
- 2) Create 2 separate schools with 2 zones.

Souvenir/Terry Fox\JFK consultation: Terry Fox and Souvenir are over capacity and are using every square inch of the building. JFK is underutilised and the Government understanding the situation has given us a school in Fabreville, Marcelle Gauvreau. The 4 scenarios are:

- 1) Combination of students from all 4 would attend Marcelle Gauvreau; or
- 2) Souvenir /Terry Fox to attend Marcelle Gauvreau; or
- 3) Souvenir to be excluded and the other school to Marcelle Gauvreau and some Souvenir students to JFK; or
- 4) Rezone all 4 schools to redistribute students

Met with all 4 Governing Boards and held Assemblies where school organization presented the consultation.

St-Vincent Elementary entered at 7:48pm.

Laval Junior high school entered at 7:52pm.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

5.1 **Update – “Who do I talk to” pamphlet**

Our Lady of Peace elementary just received the pamphlet today and would like the sub-Committee to get together so that we can make necessary changes before coming to back to PC next month

5.2 **Governing Board training session feedback**

Mother Teresa Jr High attended and found that the training session was good. Rawdon found that it was very confusing, hard to follow, and suggested they should have more examples especially for a first time GB member. It was a good session and lots of information was given out. A suggestion brought forward to have sessions for “newbies”. It was difficult to find the CLC as there were no signs to indicate the location. Perhaps have Leadership core direct the parents .It was good video conferencing. The Secretary General asked PC members if they would like a mini parent committee training session. Members are to get back to the Chairperson on this.

5.3 Focus session feedback

Patricia Saputo, Hillcrest Academy, Angelo Grasso, Mother Teresa Jr High, Kathleen Thompson, Rosemere high Alternate, Lisa Chartier, Our Lady of Peace Elementary and Silvana DiMedio, Crestview attended. The general consensus is that we have a great school board that works well together. Flow of discussion was good and it was felt that all stakeholders were well represented. The focus session was on communication and we worked on the top 7 goals. At the end of the 2 days we even had strategies in place for the top 7 goals. The results will be computed and sent to Mr. Bletas/Mme Lepage and then it will be brought to PC.

5.4 Election of delegates to SEAC

PC20091105-04 Mother Teresa Jr High MOVED THAT Ingrid Caddeo, Crestview is nominated for the remainder of a term and Christina Benko, Souvenir is nominated as the ninth delegate on SEAC. Seconded by McGaig Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

PC20091105-05 Mother Teresa Jr High MOVED THAT Shaun McMahon, Crestview; Elana Iamónico, JFK; Bonnie Young, Joliette HS; Elias Skotidakis, Hillcrest; Erin Traynor, Laurentia; Morena Pallidini, MTJHS; Francesco DeCotis, MTJHS; Samar El Dakh, MTJHS; Laura Cirilli, St-Vincent; Katherine Vithoukers, St-Vincent; William Wettlaufer, St-Vincent; Johanne Dion Calderone, Terry Fox; Shawn Robert, Terry Fox; Elizabeth Doucette, Twin Oaks and Luigi Renda, Hillcrest be recommended for alternate positions and that the SEAC will decide who shall be the alternates for their committee. Seconded by McGaig Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

5.5 PC Internal rules & procedures 2009-2010

Amendments to the internal Rules of Procedure made to reflect membership to the EPCA.

PC20091105-06 Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT that the EPCA amendments are accepted as presented. Seconded by St-Jude Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Crestview elem, Grenville elem, John F Kennedy elem, Joliette high, Laurentia elem, Laurentian elem, Laurentian Regional high, Laurier Sr. high, Laval Jr. high, Laval Liberty High, McCaig elem, Morin Heights elem, Mother Teresa Jr high, Our Lady of Peace elem, Rawdon Elem & Middle, St Jude elem, Sr Paul elem, St Vincent elem, Terry Fox elem, Rosemere high, Twin Oaks elem

Abstain: Lake of Two Mountains high, Pinewood elem

5.6 PC Internal Financial policy 2009-2010

Amendments to the internal financial policy made to reflect expenses related to the EPCA.

PC20091105-07 John F. Kennedy Elementary MOVED THAT the EPCA amendments be accepted as presented. Seconded by Rawdon.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Crestview elem, Grenville elem, John F Kennedy elem, Joliette high, Laurentia elem, Laurentian elem, Laurentian Regional high, Laurier Sr. high, Laval Jr. high, Laval Liberty High, McCaig elem, Morin Heights elem, Mother Teresa Jr high, Our Lady of Peace elem, Rawdon Elem & Middle, St Jude elem, Sr Paul elem, St Vincent elem, Terry Fox elem, Rosemere high, Twin Oaks elem

Abstain: Lake of Two Mountains high, Pinewood elem

5.7 Election of Director and delegate to EPCA

Morton Jaquays, Laval Jr High and Amber Lawrence, Rawdon Elementary and Middle both nominated themselves for the position of Director to the EPCA. Both candidates spoke a little about the reasons why they want this role.

PC20091105-08 Rosemere High MOVED THAT Commissioners Milas and Nesi are elected as scrutineers. Seconded by St-Jude Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Congratulations Morton Jaquays, Laval Jr High.

PC20091105-09 Our Lady or Peace Elementary MOVED THAT Amber Lawrence, Rawdon and Helena Muir, Joliette High are nominated as delegates for the EPCA. Seconded by St-Jude Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

PC20091105-10 St-Jude Elementary MOVED THAT the ballots be destroyed. Seconded by Mother Teresa Jr High.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 SWL Foundation Gala January 14th, 2010

McCaig Elementary spoke for the foundation. They have identified that many people still do not know who the foundation is. Simply, they are about looking for creative ways to help bring in revenues to help fund school based needs. The foundation needs to identify potential new partners. Every school in our board has benefited from the foundation and all stakeholders need to continue to make this grow. Please bring this back to your schools and should you want to have further information any member of our team can come to explain the foundation. Any donations are welcome. If your school has a specific request send it to Mme Lepage, and the foundation will look into it.

PC20091105-11 John F. Kennedy Elementary MOVED THAT the committee purchase 2 tickets @ \$225ea for the Foundation January Gala and two names be picked at random at the December meeting. Members who attended the October, November and December meetings will have their names put in the draw. Seconded by Laurentia Elementary.

This motion was CARRIED on the following division:

For: Crestview elem, Grenville elem, John F Kennedy elem, Joliette high, Laurentia elem, Laurentian elem, Laurentian Regional high, Laurier Sr. high, Laval Jr. high, Laval Liberty High, McCaig elem, Morin Heights elem, Mother Teresa Jr high, Our Lady of Peace elem, Rawdon Elem & Middle, St Jude elem, Sr Paul elem, St Vincent elem, Terry Fox elem, Rosemere high, Twin Oaks elem, Lake of Two Mountains high
Abstain: Pinewood elem

6.2 2010-2011 Enrolment Criteria

Look them over and come back prepared to be vote at the December meeting.

7. REPORTS

7.1 School Board's Report

- Informal meeting between the PC and Commissioners will be held on Nov. 26th at the school board at 19:30hrs. This will be an open forum.
- We received an English copy of the Government action plan. As soon as an electronic version is available, PC will be e-mailed a copy.
- Accelerated learning program: There will not be a Secondary 2 group as we did not have enough students. However Secondary 1 will have 60-64 students. The exams, which were written by over 100 students, are being corrected presently by teachers.
- Choices: is another program which includes students who are having difficulties in High school. This program addresses these students individually. There are 8-12 students maximum in a group. They deal with academics as well as social skills, pressure, substance abuse and behaviour. This program deals with on the spot situations.

- A suggestion was made from Pinewood to Alain Guay regarding the possibility of same sex classes. Mr. Guay was very open to the idea.
- H1N1: It is here. The SB needs to inform the Government about absenteeism of 10% or more. We have 10-13 schools that report absenteeism of 10%-25% with flu like symptoms, but we do not know if they are H1N1. Information changes daily and as the SB gets the information the schools receive it also.
 - Laval Liberty was asking if the schools have isolation rooms. Alain Guay responded that a lot schools do not have the luxury of extra space and at any rate transmission of the germ has already occurred at that point.
 - Franklin Hill asked why teachers and students are not being a priority for the Government.
 - Mother Teresa Jr. High asked if a child tests positive for H1N1 are the classes informed. Alain Guay said that the Government has told the School Board not to send a letter to parents. By law, H1N1 is not a virus that parents have to report.
 - Mother Teresa Jr High asked about the school buses. Alain Guay, replied that students would have already been exposed to the virus.

The government makes the decision, not individual school boards. The Government changes rules daily and sometimes twice a day.

Mr. Bletas and Mr. Guay left the meeting at 21:40hrs.

7.2 Treasurer's Report

Only 2 expense claims were sent in last month. The treasurer encourages the members to hand them in right after each meeting. There will have an up to date report next month.

7.3 Parents Commissioners' Report

Most was covered by Mr. Bletas and Mr. Guay. The parent commissioners went to Joliette High on Wednesday to their open house. The students showed their school with pride and they enjoyed it.

7.4 RCP-3L Report

Report forwarded to all members. As per Bill 88, a student ombudsman who will be a non-School Board employee will be hired to help represent the complainant. The parent committee must be consulted on the hiring of the ombudsman. The School Board has an obligation to inform the students and parents who this person is and how to contact them. The School Board can share the ombudsman with other school boards.

PC20091105-12 Laval Jr High MOVED THAT the meeting is extended by 30 minutes until 22:30hrs. Seconded by St. Paul Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

7.5 SEAC Report

No Report. The Chairperson will contact SEAC to see who their representative will be this year.

8. VARIA

8.1 Bank Accounts

Hillcrest Academy wanted to know about Home and School Bank Accounts. Which schools have Home and Schools, they will contact each other to discuss how bank accounts for Home and school work.

9. QUESTION Period

No questions

10. CLOSURE OF MEETING

PC20091105-13 Rawdon Elementary MOVED THAT meeting is closed at 22:02 hrs. Seconded by St, Vincent Elementary.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by:
Lisa Chartier, Parent Commissioner and,
Susan O'Keefe, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved _____, 2009

Chairperson _____ Secretary _____