

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD HELD ON 2013-11-27

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, 2013-11-27.

Present: Commissioners Nick Milas, Chairman; Nazario Facchino, Vice-Chairman; Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson (via telephone), William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, and Edward Turchyniak; Parent Commissioner Angela Martorana; and Stephanie Vucko, Director General.

Also present were: Eileen Kelly, Assistant Director General; Johanne Brabant, Secretary General; Gaëlle Absolonne, Director of School Organization; Robin Bennett, Director of Information Technology; France D'Aoust, Director of Financial Resources; Frédéric Greschner, Director of Complementary Services; Richard Greschner, Director of Human Resources; Heather Halman, Director of Adult Education & Vocational Training; Tina Korb, Director of Educational Services; Tina Russo, Interim Assistant Director of Material Resources; and Jocelyne Thompson-Ness, Administrative Assistant. Several other persons were also in the audience.

Absent: Commissioners Robert Dixon, Albina Pace, Mike Pizzola and Parent Commissioner Roberto Bomba.

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

**TIME: 19:33 hours**

The Chairman asked everyone present, Commissioners, Directors and audience members, to please either turn their cell phones off or put them on vibrate and if they need to take a call to please exit the Council room.

**1.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin advised that item 6.2 is to be removed from the agenda as the Selection Committee is still reviewing the results of the interviews.

Concerns were raised about various groups that had submitted statements for this evening's question period and the Chairman indicated that item 3.0 is a question period not a venue for statements or opinions on an issue that has not yet been authorized for consultation. Only questions would be entertained.

The following correction to the agenda was proposed:

- ~~6.2 Human Resources:~~
- ~~6.2.1 Engagement – Director of Material Resources..... RES~~

**CC-131127-CA-0045**

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT the agenda be approved as amended in document #SWLSB-2013/11/27-CA-001.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Guy Gagnon, Elio Lattanzio

## 2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### CC-131127-CA-0046

Commissioner Grace Nesi MOVED THAT the minutes of the REGULAR meeting of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board held on 2013-10-30 having been received by all members prior to this meeting, be approved as written.

**Carried unanimously**

## 3.0 QUESTION PERIOD

The Chairman advised that the questions received this evening pertain to a recommendation of the Executive Committee to the Council of Commissioners at its November 18, 2013 meeting that was published on the school board's Web site as part of the Executive Committee highlights, a recap of resolutions adopted or approved or recommended at the meeting. He indicated that it is not correct to entertain questions on a subject yet to be discussed or authorized for consultation by the Council of Commissioners.

In response to several objections from Commissioners and the audience, the Director General indicated that questions cannot be answered if the Council has not yet received the presentation of the Directorate on the issue of the Laval high schools.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Edward Turchyniak indicated that there is no reason why the questions cannot be asked prior to the presentation.

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin suggested that item 3.0 be moved to immediately after the presentation by the Director General on the Laval high schools under item 6.1.2. The Council agreed.

## 4.0 REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

### 4.1 *Chairman's Report:*

The Chairman presented his monthly report noting:

- a recent meeting with Nicole Léger, Minister of Families, who announced 1 800 000\$ of investment for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board infrastructure for seven (7) of its schools;
- a meeting with the Director General of the Ville de Laval to discuss infrastructure projects for the next 4 years and community partnerships; and
- the book signing "Dear Bully of Mine" by Vicky Fraser, a teacher at McCaig Elementary School.

### 4.2 *Director General's Report:*

The Director General expressed her appreciation to all of the staff who ensured that the students got to school safely this morning given the inclement weather. The school board was proactive and made an e-push last evening to advise parents of the procedures in case of bad weather. The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Facebook page received 7 000 hits this morning. Laval schools were opened while north of Laval everything was closed.

She went on to provide the Council with a detailed account of the "sexting" issue in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's Laval high schools last week noting that:

- A number of students were arrested;
- The school board was aware of the “sexting” but was not made aware that these arrests were going to be made;
- The issue of “sexting” was being addressed and the school board continues to be proactive in ensuring that everything is being done to inform the students of the dangers and lasting implications of entertaining this type of behaviour;
- The school board was in communication with the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) as “sexting” is an act of intimidation and bullying;
- The case is out of the school boards hands as the police are involved but the school board has been proactive by supporting with the students and their parents;
- For the parents the school board was planning workshops on parenting a 21<sup>st</sup> century teen as part of the Strategic Plan for the new year but the presentation was moved up to Monday, November 18, 2013 with a repeat of the session on Wednesday, November 20, 2013. This session will help parents who fear that their children would not tell them if they were involved in something like this;
- The school board has made sure that all schools have their Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence plan in place;
- Principals were provided with support and a letter to all parents and staff was sent to reassure everyone and to provide links to helpful Web sites on this issue;
- The support received from the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) was very much appreciated and, in turn, they congratulated the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board on the quick and efficient handling of the incident; and
- The partnership with the Police de Laval is also very much appreciated as the school board was kept up to date on what was occurring.

She also noted meetings have been held with developers in Laval to promote the school board, the science fair at St-Vincent Elementary School, electrical experiments at Arundel Elementary School and workshops on 21<sup>st</sup> century parenting.

The Assistant Director General reported on her Remembrance Day visit to Ottawa with students and staff of Laval Liberty High School to celebrate Chris Karigiannis, a former student of the school, killed in Afghanistan. His mother was named the National Silver Cross Mother for 2013 and laid a wreath at the ceremony for all mothers who have lost loved ones while in service to Canada. It was a very moving event.

## **5.0 BUSINESS ARISING:**

There was no business arising.

## **6.0 DECISION ITEMS:**

### **6.1 SCHOOL ORGANIZATION & TRANSPORTATION**

#### **6.1.1 Grandfather Clause – Terry Fox ES:**

The Director General advised the Executive Committee that after reviewing projections it is the recommendation of the Directorate that siblings of students living in the transition zone and entering kindergarten in 2014-2015 school year be grandfathered to Terry Fox Elementary School up to and including the 2015-2016 school year.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to a question from Commissioner Merle Parkinson, the Director of School Organization & Transportation advised that projections show 25 groups for Terry Fox Elementary School for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. The ideal number of groups is 23 but groups of 25 can be accommodated in the school for the next 2 years.

**CC-131127-TS-0047**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-130123-TS-0111, approving the use of Terry Fox and St-Paul Elementary Schools;

WHEREAS resolution #CC-130123-TS-0111 also includes that, for 2013-2014, the incoming kindergarten siblings of the students currently attending Terry Fox Elementary School living in the rezoned area and returning to that school, be grandfathered;

WHEREAS the creation of a transitional zone had positive results by decreasing enrolment at Terry Fox Elementary school and increasing enrolment at St-Paul Elementary School;

WHEREAS projected enrolment for Terry Fox Elementary School will continue to decrease as per the enrolment forecast of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) and the AMERESCO Demographics Analysis & Registration Trends, allowing for the continued registration of incoming kindergarten siblings in the rezoned area for the upcoming two(2) years;

WHEREAS the projected number of groups for the 2014-2015 school year at Terry Fox Elementary School is at 25;

Commissioner Steve Bletas MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve that resolution #CC-130123-TS-0111 be amended by changing the last paragraph to read:

- *Grandfather, up to and including 2015-2016, the incoming kindergarten siblings of the students currently attending Terry Fox Elementary School living in the rezoned area and returning to that school.*

AND THAT the grandfather clause does not hinder the objective to gradually decrease the number of groups at Terry Fox Elementary school to never exceed 25.

**Carried unanimously**

### **6.1.2 Consultation on Laval HS:**

The Director General gave the following presentation advising the Council that information garnered from the Corporate and Pedagogical Committees and the Executive Committee has been included:

#### **The Facts:**

- 2 buildings (4 schools), 800m apart;
- Long history in the community;
- Solid enrolment;
- Variety of programs;
- Compulsory transfers (high schools) - 42 students for 2012-2013 & 77 students for 2013-2014
- Anticipate over 100 transfers for 2014-2015;
- Imbalance requests to attend in the two Junior Schools;
- Diverse perceptions;
- Importance of peers;
- Oversized classes in an oversized building;

#### **The Solution:**

- Sell/trade one of our schools – Commission scolaire de Laval has been approached to switch buildings but they have declined;
- Open a school in Laval East;
- Restructure our current schools;

**The Pre-Consultation:**

- Conversations were held with the Laval High School Ad Hoc Committee, Laval High School Principals, ESD/CSD Consultants, Laval High School Teachers and the ALT Team;

**The Needs:**

NEEDS EXPRESSED	ADRESSED BY
End imbalance requests and enrolment between the two junior schools	Ensure that everyone can have their first choice.
Enable SWLSB to keep growing by keeping its student population between gr. 6 and sec. 1	
Enable SWLSB to attract new students that would like to be in a specific program	Create space within our current schools to enable new registrations.
Allow SWLSB to have program placement exams for specific programs at the same time as the private schools	
Align programs to give equal opportunities to all students.	Offer equivalent programs by grade level to ensure all students have the same accessibility.
Facilitate transition/articulation process between sec. 2 and sec. 3.	Keep cycles 1 and 2 as part of the same structure, vision (1 pedagogical leader).
Facilitate continuity of programs between sec. 2 and sec. 3	
Keep small groups and small cohorts	Respect class ratios by avoiding oversized classes
Have all necessary resources and equipment in all schools (sharing and purchasing).	A plan is being finalized to ensure adequate distribution of resources and equipment in both the Souvenir & Daniel-Johnson building. This also includes the organization of educational & complementary services for all students.
Keep stability for all students.	
Keep stability for students with special needs.	
Scheduling and time tabling the school for all students.	An analysis was conducted and regardless of the model selected, students will fit within the space of either the Souvenir or Daniel-Johnson buildings.
Ensure safety and well-being of all students.	
Offer a wide variety of programs with a 21st century vision	By having a greater number of students within a specific school, it will enable a greater choice of programs by, at least, maintaining the current programs.
Stability of employment	All regular full-time employees have security of employment throughout their different unions and associations.
During the transition, maintain summer school	Alternate location, if needed.

**The Proposed Models:**

	CURRENTLY Four High Schools Two Juniors   2 seniors	MODEL 1 One High School Two Campuses	MODEL 2 One Junior High School One Senior High School
Principals	4	1	2
Vice-Principals	4	5	4
Additional Vice-Principal		1	
Governing Board	LJHS LLHS MTJH LSHS 1 1 1 1	1	2
PPO	LJHS LLHS MTJH LSHS 1 1 1 1	1	2



**Comparison of ratio students per V-P:**

2013-2014      ►      Mother Teresa Junior High School      ►      1 V-P: 679 students

Proposed two models    ►      Gr. 7 V-P: 593 grade 7 students  
    ►      Gr. 8 V-P: 551 grade 8 students

**The Advantages:**

- Will provide access to all Laval students to their choice of school;
- Will not require the application of the enrolment criteria, and compulsory transfers;
- Will allow all students to remain with their peers;
- Will allow the students access to all programs available, no need to choose the school;
- Will facilitate timetabling and use of building premises;
- Will provide access to all aspects of the building for all students (labs, etc.);
- Will reduce salary costs as groups will be able to be scheduled and filled more completely;
- Reduce oversized class groups;
- Enable SWLSB to have space to attract new students;
- One drop-off and one place to pick-up students at the end of the day for transportation;
- Reduce length of time on school bus. No need to pick-up twice at the end of the day

**The Enrolment Projections:**

	ACTUAL	MELS DEMOGRAPHICS						CAPACITY
LEVEL	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
SEC 1	593	557	591	622	598	589	578	
SEC 2	551	602	566	599	632	608	600	
<b>SUB - TOTAL</b>	<b>1144</b>	<b>1159</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>1221</b>	<b>1230</b>	<b>1197</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>1698<sup>2</sup></b>
SEC 3	563	578	623	584	618	653	631	
SEC 4	582	577	592	636	598	635	666	
SEC 5	634	540	517	530	568	535	569	
<b>SUB - TOTAL</b>	<b>1779</b>	<b>1695</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>1750</b>	<b>1784</b>	<b>1823</b>	<b>1866</b>	<b>1920<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2923</b>	<b>2854</b>	<b>2889</b>	<b>2971</b>	<b>3014</b>	<b>3020</b>	<b>3044</b>	<b>3618</b>

- Concern that at one point students may have to move between buildings. Advised that there will most probably be no need to move students until 2020. The plan is to have contained groups housed at 2323 boulevard Daniel-Johnson, so if student movement became necessary the contained groups could be moved as they are a group that needs to remain together;
- By projecting that by 2020 the senior campus will be close to capacity provides the necessary information to apply to the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) for a new school in Laval;

**The Preferred Model - One High School Two Campuses:****Implementation (Two phases)**

**PHASE 1:** Enables either of the two models for consultation to take place for the 2014-2015 school year:

## September 2014      ►      Change Deeds

- Changing the Deeds of the 4 high schools would allow for the regrouping of the two Junior schools in one building and the two Senior schools in the other building;
- Allow time to develop strong and successful phase 2 (Program development, team building, etc.);
- No need to have compulsory transfers;
- Allow possibility to combine workloads between the two schools in the same building;
- Sufficient time to adapt use of rooms in each building (specialized rooms);
- Students remain with their friends.

**The Timeline:**

November 27, 2013 (Regular Council)	Resolution to authorize consultation - Deeds & 3 year plan
December 18, 2013 (Special Council)	Approve:      Deeds & 3 –Year Plan Enrolment Criteria
March 27-June 3, 2014	<b>Official public consultation</b>
June 25, 2014	Council decision on model to be adopted for 2015-16
August 2014	<b>PHASE 1:</b> 4 schools, 2 Junior in one building—2 Senior in other building
August 2015	<b>PHASE 2:</b> Implementation of new model

- Phase 2 of the plan would be to go to public consultation to close the four (4) schools and reopen them under the model to be selected;
- The name of the school or schools would be determined by a policy on the naming of a school or building that will be developed;
- “One’s vision is a roadmap not a compass”; and
- The school board understands that people are passionate about the schools but it is in the best interests of the students to come to a final resolution for the registration imbalances and, no doubt, here will be those who are not pleased with this final decision.

The Director General acknowledged that this is a complex situation and that it has been discussed in detail by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Laval High Schools as well as at the Corporate and Pedagogical Committees. That given, it must be remembered that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Laval High Schools was part of the information gathering groups. The pre-consultation was for information gathering. Public consultation is the consultation process under the law.

**QUESTION PERIOD BEGAN:**

The Chairman informed those present that the first question period is to ask questions received in writing prior to a Council meeting, not a venue to make statements. Any persons who wish to ask a question and did not submit one in writing prior to the meeting may ask their question in the second question period later in the meeting.

In response to questions from Tracy Friedman, a parent from Laval Junior High School, the Director General advised that all the data needed to make an informed decision will be included in the consultation package to be prepared to accompany the official consultation when approved. Once the Council authorizes for consultation a model for resolving the registration imbalances in the Laval high schools the information will be sent as per the regular consultation process and will also be posted on the school board’s Web site.

The Chairman reminded everyone that the official consultation period has not yet been approved and that previous conversations were for information gathering only. There is a misconception in the community that the school board has already concluded its consultation and that is not the case.

With respect to letters from the Laurier Teachers Union to the Governing Board Chairs of the four (4) Laval high schools and the letter from the school board in response to the distribution of said letter the Chairman indicated that some follow-up would be conducted.

The Director General noted that the Ad Hoc Committee was part of the first step towards resolving the registration imbalances and that it was the decision of the Directorate to seek the assistance of AMERESCO so that additional data would be available.

In response to a question from Jennifer Maccarone, Chair of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board Parents Committee, the Director General noted that it was not part of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Laval High Schools to make a recommendation but to assist with the information gathering for the Directorate to use in making a recommendation to the Council to resolve the registration imbalances in Laval high schools.

The Chairman noted that Phase I of the plan is to have Laval Junior and Laurier Senior change buildings and Phase II is to put out a public consultation on the model authorized for consultation.

The Director General advised that the tradition of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has been to adopt the deeds of establishment and three-year plan after the enrolment criteria. After seeking legal counsel it was noted that the more proper process is that the deeds of establishment and three-year plan be approved prior to the enrolment criteria.

The President of the Laurier Teachers Union (LTU), Sebastien Joly, attempted to make a statement only to be advised by the Chairman that this was a question period and that LTU would have its chance to respond to the consultation in due time and to please respect this agenda item.

Mr. Joly continued and the Chairman asked him politely on several occasions to please ask his question as this was a question period. Mr. Joly refused and the Chairman indicated that the security guards would be called in to escort him from the room should he not ask his question. Mr. Joly again refused therefore, the Chairman called for the security guards. Upon the entry of the security guards, Mr. Joly posed his question.

In response to a question from Sebastien Joly, President of the Laurier Teachers Union (LTU), the Director General indicated that the one (1) model came as a recommendation from the Directorate to the Executive Committee as it is the model that the is recommended as the best solution to resolve the registration imbalances in the Laval high schools.

In response to a question from Mary Raffaele, a parent, the Chairman noted that the Council has yet to authorize anything for consultation purposes with respect to the Laval high schools so any opposition is moot until such a time that a model is authorized for consultation purposes.

#### **QUESTION PERIOD CONCLUDED**

*WHEREAS the issues of registration imbalances and public perception of the Laval high schools has been a preoccupation for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for some time;*

*WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-120627-CA-0197, mandating the Director General to look at the registration imbalances in the Laval high schools and prepare a report;*

*WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-121212-TS-0079 & #CC-121212-TS-0091 establishing a Committee on the Future of Laval High Schools to examine the report of the Director General and provide a recommendation on a viable solution taking into consideration the optimization of the success of students ensuring that the resources of the school board namely the human, material and financial resources are used in the most effective manner;*

*WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-130424-TS-0146, dissolving the Committee on the Future of Laval High Schools;*

*WHEREAS, in order to continue the process to resolve the registration imbalances of the Laval high schools, the Council of Commissioners approved resolution #CC-130424-TS-0147, which established the Laval High Schools Ad Hoc Committee;*

*WHEREAS discussions with various stakeholders were held in preparation for a recommendation to resolve the issue;*

*WHEREAS the Director General presented the recommendation of the Directorate, based on the information gathered and analyzed, to the Corporate & Pedagogical Committees where it was discussed at length;*

*WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #EC-131118-TS-0034, recommending that the model of one (1) school, two (2) campuses be submitted to the Council of Commissioners for its consideration, for consultation purposes;*

*Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorizes the consultation for the model of one (1) school, two (2) campuses to resolve the registration imbalances and public perception of the Laval high schools, and to provide a long term solution and stability for the Laval community.*

Commissioner George Benoit proposed that the upcoming resolution be amended by adding a second model of two (2) high schools, one (1) junior and one (1) senior, each with its own Principal and Governing Board. Commissioner Nazario Facchino accepted this amendment.

The Council entered into discussion.

Commissioner Steve Mitchell stated that the timing of this issue is unfortunate as the new Executive Committee was unable to weigh in on it, although it did try to call a special meeting to address this matter, and, were not supported in their request. If it had been able to do so, the decision taken by the previous Executive Committee would have been amended to have 2 models for consultation purposes.

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico indicated that he was pleased that there was an amendment to have two (2) models authorized for consultation but one of them really should be the status quo with feeder schools. Need to have a true consultation which would entail all models from the pre-consultation being authorized for consultation.

He went on to request that the upcoming resolution be amended by adding a third model of "status quo with feeder schools". Commissioner Nazario Facchino did not accept this amendment.

Commissioner Steve Kmec argued that if status quo with feeder schools was authorized and consulted upon and accepted as the solution the school board would be in the exact same position as it is now with parents fighting to be in what they perceive to be the right feeder school in order to get into their choice of high school at a later date. The Directorate has provided detailed information this evening on what it is proposing and how it sees the future and that is what the community needs to keep in mind, the future.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Mario Di Domenico asked that his amendment be voted upon.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Peter MacLaurin asked that the motion be repeated.

The Chairman advised that Commissioner George Benoit made an amendment to have a second model of "two (2) high schools, one (1) junior and one (1) senior, each with its own Principal and Governing Boards added to the original resolution, which was accepted by Commissioner Nazario Facchino. Commissioner Facchino did not accept the amendment proposed by Commissioner Di Domenico for status quo with feeder schools, so it must go to a vote.

**CC-131127-TS-0048**

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT the proposed resolution be amended by adding a third model of “status quo with feeder schools”.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS DEFEATED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Guy Gagnon, Steve Mitchell
<b>Commissioners voting NAY:</b>	Georges Benoit, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak

**CC-131127-TS-0049**

WHEREAS the issues of registration imbalances and public perception of the Laval high schools has been a preoccupation for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for some time;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-120627-CA-0197, mandating the Director General to look at the registration imbalances in the Laval high schools and prepare a report;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-121212-TS-0079 & #CC-121212-TS-0091 establishing a Committee on the Future of Laval High Schools to examine the report of the Director General and provide a recommendation on a viable solution taking into consideration the optimization of the success of students ensuring that the resources of the school board namely the human, material and financial resources are used in the most effective manner;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners adopted resolution #CC-130424-TS-0146, dissolving the Committee on the Future of Laval High Schools;

WHEREAS, in order to continue the process to resolve the registration imbalances of the Laval high schools, the Council of Commissioners approved resolution #CC-130424-TS-0147, which established the Laval High Schools Ad Hoc Committee;

WHEREAS discussions with various stakeholders were held in preparation for a recommendation to resolve the issue;

WHEREAS the Director General presented the recommendation of the Directorate, based on the information gathered and analyzed, to the Corporate & Pedagogical Committees where it was discussed at length;

WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approved resolution #EC-131118-TS-0034, recommending that the model of one (1) school, two (2) campuses be submitted to the Council of Commissioners for its consideration, for consultation purposes;

Commissioner Nazario Facchino MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorizes the consultation for the **following models** to resolve the registration imbalances and public perception of the Laval high schools, and to provide a long term solution and stability for the Laval community:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Model 1: | One (1) high school, two (2) campuses: one (1) junior, one (1) senior  |
| Model 2: | Two (2) high schools, one (1) junior and one (1) senior with two (2) Principals and two (2) Governing Boards |

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Steve Mitchell, Grace Nesi, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
<b>Commissioners ABSTAINING:</b>	Merle Parkinson

In response to a question from Commissioner Steve Bletas, the Director General drew attention to the timeline which indicates all aspects of the consultation period.

#### **CC-131127-TS-0050**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution #CC-131127-TS-0049, authorizing for consultation purposes, two (2) models as follows to alleviate the registration imbalances and public perception of the Laval high schools and to provide a long term solution and stability for the Laval community:

Model 1:	One (1) high school, two (2) campuses: one (1) junior, one (1) senior
Model 2:	Two (2) high schools, one (1) junior and one (1) senior with two (2) Principals and two (2) Governing Boards

WHEREAS a public consultation on this issue must be prepared, as per section 212 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) and policy #2007-TS-02: Policy Concerning the Continued Operation or Closure of Schools and Any Modifications Pertaining to Educational Services;

Commissioner Nancy Rupnik MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board mandate the Director General to prepare a public consultation, as per policy #2007-TS-02: Policy Concerning the Continued Operation or Closure of Schools and Any Modifications Pertaining to Educational Services, to begin on March 27, 2014 and end on June 3, 2014.

**Carried unanimously**

#### **6.1.3 2014-2015 Deeds of Establishment & Three-Year Plan:**

The Director General presented and commented on the proposed 2014-2015 Deeds of Establishment & Three-Year Plan.

The Council entered into discussion.

In response to several questions the Director General noted the following:

- The adoption of the 2014-2015 Deeds of Establishment & Three-Year Plan is time sensitive in order for parents of student entering grade 7 to know where their child will be going to high school;
- Tabling the 2014-2015 Deeds of Establishment & Three-Year Plan will mean that Phase 1 cannot be implemented so the enrolment criteria will have to be applied for next year;
- Two (2) models will be going out to consultation before April 1, 2014;
- Cannot change the registration dates because in order to enrol students in a proper manner significant time needs to be allowed for re-registration followed by regular registration;
- Phase I needs to take place in order to entertain Phase II as the school board needs to know what space is available in the two (2) buildings so the consultation on Phase II can be organized;
- There are requirements to be met under the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) with respect to the enrolment criteria and the deeds and three-year plan; and

Commissioners Grace Nesi and Edward Turchyniak left the meeting. **TIME: 21:24 hours**

- For the 2014-2015, if the deeds and three-year plan are accepted with the proposed changes, the schools will continue to operate as separate entities just at different addresses for two of them.

On a "point of order", Commissioner Mario Di Domenico suggested that the deeds of establishment and three-year plan be adopted without the four schools in question. This was not retained.

The Director General advised that phase II of the plan will be subject to a minimum of 60-days of consultation and with the projected timeline the consultation will actually be 71-days in order to give additional time for feedback. Once the feedback has been received it will be examined and a recommendation will be made to the Council for a long term solution to resolve the registration imbalances in the Laval high schools, reduce the need to apply the enrolment criteria at this level, and to give piece of mind to parents as to where their child will attend high school in Laval.

#### CC-131127-TS-0051

WHEREAS section 211 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-13.3) requires the school board each year to establish a three-year plan of allocation and destination of its immovables;

WHEREAS section 211 also requires the school board to draw up, in accordance with the plan, a list of its schools and of its vocational training and adult education centres and issue a deed of establishment to them;

Commissioner William Pollock MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation proposed policy #2014-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment and Three Year Plan for Allocation and Destination of Immovables.

AND THAT the Deeds of this proposed policy be subject to a consultation beginning on November 28, 2013 and ending on December 18, 2013.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
<b>Commissioners voting YEA:</b>	<b>Georges Benoit, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Grace Nesi, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak</b>
<b>Commissioners voting NAY:</b>	<b>Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Steve Mitchell</b>

The Chairman called for a 5 minutes recess. **TIME: 21:31 hours**

Commissioners Steve Mitchell and Grace Nesi excused themselves for the evening. **TIME: 21:31 hours**

The meeting resumed. **TIME: 21:38 hours**

#### CC-131127-TS-0052

WHEREAS section 211 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., chapter I-13.3) requires the school board each year to establish a three-year plan of allocation and destination of its immovables;

WHEREAS section 211 also requires the school board to draw up, in accordance with the plan, a list of its schools and of its vocational training and adult education centres and issue a deed of establishment to them;

Commissioner Merle Parkinson MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board authorize for consultation proposed policy #2014-CA-02: Deeds of Establishment and Three Year Plan for Allocation and Destination of Immovables.

AND THAT the Three Year Plan for Allocation and Destination of Immovables of this proposed policy be subject to a consultation beginning on November 28, 2013 and ending on December 18, 2013.

THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, Merle Parkinson, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners ABSTAINING:	Guy Gagnon

## 6.2 HUMAN RESOURCES

### 6.2.1 *Engagement - Director of Material Resources:*

Removed from the agenda.

## 6.3 COMPLEMENTARY SERVICES

### 6.3.1 *Purchase Order – Peter Hall School:*

The Director of Complementary Services noted that these are annual purchase orders that require approval from the Council.

#### CC-131127-ED-0053

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board uses the services of the Peter Hall School for the education of some of its students;

WHEREAS the Peter Hall School invoices the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for these services;

Commissioner Peter MacLaurin MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director of Complementary Services, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the invoice received from the **Peter Hall School** for educational services to be provided to students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2013-2014 school year, in the amount of 562 230,00\$, all taxes included.

**Carried unanimously**

### 6.3.2 *Purchase Order – Summit School:*

#### CC-131127-ED-0054

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board uses the services of the Summit School for the education of some of its students;

WHEREAS the Summit School invoices the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for these services;

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Director of Complementary Services, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the payment of the invoice received from the **Summit School** for educational services to be provided to students of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board for the 2013-2014 school year, in the amount of 510 203,00\$, all taxes included.

**Carried unanimously**

**6.4 MATERIAL RESOURCES**

**6.4.1 Change Orders – Decontamination – Crestview ES:**

The Interim Assistant Director of Material Resources drew the Council’s attention to the list of change orders contained in the meeting package.

**CC-131127-MR-0055**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board adopted resolution # CC-130626-MR-0193, awarding the contract for the decontamination and repaving of the school yard at Crestview Elementary School to **Les Paysagistes Damiano Inc.**, for a total cost of 919 389,60\$, before taxes, (1 057 068,19\$, all taxes included);

WHEREAS, during the decontamination and repaving of the school yard, change orders occurred to address specific issues, amounting to 151 553,23\$, before taxes (174 248,34\$, taxes included);

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Interim Director of Material Resources, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the change orders in the amount of 151 553,23\$, before taxes (174 248,34\$, taxes included)

AND THAT the total cost of the project, including the change orders, be increased to 1 070 942,83\$, before taxes (1 231 316,53\$, taxes included).

FURTHER THAT, the Chairman, and in his absence or with his knowledge the Vice-Chairman, as well as the Director General, and in her absence or with her knowledge the Assistant Director General, be authorized to sign all documentation concerning these change orders.

**Carried unanimously**

**6.4.2 Engagement of Professionals – Measure 30850 & 50621:**

**CC-131127-MR-0056**

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board has resolved to undertake renovation projects at McCaig, Ste-Adèle and St-Vincent (St-Jacques Centre) Elementary Schools, Rosemere High School;

WHEREAS the Ministère de l’Éducation, du Loisir et du sport (MELS) has adopted the measures listed below to assist school boards with the repair and maintenance of its buildings:

<b>MEASURE 30850</b>	(Improvement of handicap accessibility) "Amélioration de l’accessibilité des immeubles aux personnes handicapées" (MELS)
<b>MEASURE 50621</b>	Repair and maintenance of buildings "Maintien des bâtiments" (MELS)

Commissioner Emilio Migliozi MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Interim Director of Material Resources, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the engagement of the following professionals to prepare the drawings, plans and tender specifications for the projects listed below:

SCHOOL	\$	PROJECT	MEASURE	PROFESSIONALS
McCaig Elementary School	\$325,000.	Drainage & School Yard Paving	50621	Beudoin Hurens
St-Vincent Elementary School	\$553,000.	Exterior Walls	50621	Anis Nazar

Ste-Adèle Elementary School	\$300,000.	Exterior Walls	50621	Arcand-Laporte Architectes
Rosemère High School	\$220,000.	Elevator & Washrooms	30850	UN Architecte

AND THAT the cost of these services be paid in accordance with the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du sport (MELS) remuneration scale for professionals.

FURTHER THAT, upon receipt of the completed drawings, plans and tender specifications, public tenders be called for the services of contractors.

<b>THIS MOTION WAS CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING DIVISION:</b>	
Commissioners voting YEA:	Georges Benoit, Steve Bletas, Mario Di Domenico, Nazario Facchino, Guy Gagnon, Steve Kmec, Elio Lattanzio, Peter MacLaurin, Emilio Migliozi, Nick Milas, William Pollock, Nancy Rupnik, Edward Turchyniak
Commissioners voting NAY:	Merle Parkinson

## **6.5 COMMUNICATIONS & CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

### **6.5.1 Student Ombudsman – Extension & Posting:**

The Secretary General advised the Council that the contract of the Student Ombudsman concludes at the end of November 2013. The Corporate Committee, at its November 13, 2013 meeting, recommended the renewal of the partnership with the English Montreal School Board to share the services of a Student Ombudsman as well as extending the contract of the current Student Ombudsman until a replacement is named.

In response to several questions, the Secretary General indicated that:

- a recommendation is anticipated for the January 2014 meeting of Council;
- the Selection Committee will be named at the December Council meeting; and
- if a case were to be deposited with the Student Ombudsman and treatment of it undertaken but not concluded prior to a replacement is named, the case would be transferred to the new Student Ombudsman to conclude.

#### **CC-131127-CA-0057**

WHEREAS section 220.2 of the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3) requires that a school board designate a Student Ombudsman to handle the examination of complaints from students or their parents who are dissatisfied with the handling of a complaint by the school board;

WHEREAS the Governance & Ethics Committee had developed the criteria for the hiring of a Student Ombudsman and no revisions are foreseen at this time;

WHEREAS the Parents Committee had been consulted on the selection criteria;

WHEREAS the contract of the current Student Ombudsman concludes on November 30, 2013;

WHEREAS the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the English Montreal School Board presently share the services of the Student Ombudsman through the said contract;

WHEREAS the Corporate Committee, which includes the Governance & Ethics Committee, has recommended to the Council of Commissioners that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board continue its partnership with the English Montreal School Board for the shared services of a Student Ombudsman and the Governance & Ethics Committee of the English Montreal School Board will also be making the same recommendation, AND THAT a new Student Ombudsman be designated;

Commissioner Elio Lattanzio MOVED THAT, on the recommendation of the Corporate Committee, the Council of Commissioners of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board approve the continued partnership with the English Montreal School Board for the shared services of a Student Ombudsman.

AND THAT the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the English Montreal School Board proceed with the selection of a Student Ombudsman via invitation;

AND THAT the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, in collaboration with the English Montreal School Board, establish a Selection Committee to interview the candidates and make a recommendation to their respective Council of Commissioners;

AND THAT the remuneration of the Student Ombudsman be a fixed amount and be prorated between the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board and the English Montreal School Board in accordance with the student population of each school board;

FURTHER THAT the contract of the current Student Ombudsman be extended until a replacement is named.

**Carried unanimously**

## **7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **7.1 SWL Foundation:**

Commissioner Edward Turchyniak introduced and welcomed Christian Frechette, President of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation, to the meeting. He went on to advise that a press conference was held earlier today to launch the January Gala to be held on January 23, 2014 and the theme is "Viva Las Vegas" and the entertainment that evening will be an Elvis impersonator. Tickets are 225\$ for this event and tax receipts will be issued for 112,50\$. The Foundation is also considering a bike rally and spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the spring of 2014.

He further noted that the Foundation has set aside 25 000\$ to be contributed to the schools for projects aligned with their MESA. The deadline for the submission of projects is December 11, 2013.

### **7.2 Parent Commissioners Report**

Parent Commissioner Angela Martorana drew attention to the report in the package and also advised that she had been present at the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation press conference noting that it will be a worthwhile event.

She further noted that the school board had held workshops on 21<sup>st</sup> Century parenting on November 18, 2013 and November 20, 2013. The feedback received on this workshop has been that it was well received and reassured many parents given the recent incident involving young teens of this school board. Parents were very pleased with the quick response of the school board on this serious manner. Many parents have expressed that a follow up workshop would be very much appreciated.

### **7.3 Report of the QESBA:**

The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the information contained in the meeting package.

## **8.0 QUESTION PERIOD:**

In response to a question from a Laval Junior High School parent, the Chairman noted that the Council is obligated to consult the Parents Committee on certain things as per the Education Act (R.S.Q., Chapter I-13.3). He also indicated that the registration imbalances have existed for many years and the school board is now in a position to resolve the issue with a solid plan of action based on the information presented earlier in the meeting. He also explained the process used to arrive at the model presented this evening.

The Director General advised that it is the purview of the Council to take the decision to send the deeds and three-year plan for consultation at this time as well as Phase II of the model at a future date. The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Laval High Schools was to get a perspective on what the community was thinking but it is not an official consultative body under the law. She stated that the input from everyone to date has been taken into consideration and was very much appreciated and apologized if the community feels that the process taken was seen as being disrespectful. Her mandate is to now consult on two (2) models.

In response to a question for a parent from Crestview Elementary School, the Interim Assistant Director of Material Resources noted that the final report on the decontamination has not yet been received but a copy will be sent to the Principal when received.

In response to her additional questions, the Chairman indicated that at this time there has only been information gathering not a consultation. He also assured her that the Commissioners are in touch with their respective constituents on pertinent matters of the school board.

He further stated that the Council is always transparent and always has the best interest of the students in mind when making decisions whether easy or difficult.

In response to questions from a parent, the Chairman noted that the models for the Laval high schools have been proposed in order to resolve the registration imbalances in the schools so that the enrolment criteria does not have to be applied, while financial savings or repercussions are being examined.

In response to a question from Sergio De Marco, a parent from Terry Fox Elementary School, the Chairman advised that the resolution concerning the grandfathering of the siblings of Terry Fox Elementary School students who are entering kindergarten in 2014-2015 from the transition zone will be in the highlights that are posted on the school board's Web site.

In response to an additional question from Mr. De Marco, the Director of School Organization & Transportation advised that projections show a decrease in the school's enrolment over the next few years so it is expected that the groups can be kept at 25 unless there is an unforeseen spike in enrolment.

In response to questions from parents, the Director General advised that:

- the teachers of the high schools had been asked during the pre-consultation to provide feedback to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Laval High Schools as part of the needs assessment;
- there is also Ad Hoc Committees for the Laval Elementary Schools as this is another area that needs to be examined due to overcrowding in some schools;
- status quo for the Laval high schools is not an option;
- parents can be involved by attending Governing Board meetings, as they are public meetings
- as the consultation on the Laval high schools is public everyone is welcome to submit a response within the consultation period;
- the Council makes the final decision on the resolution of the registration imbalances in the Laval high schools and if the community is unhappy with the final decision they have the right to voice their opinion; and
- all minutes of the Executive Committee and the Council of Commissioners are available on the school board's Web site, once approved.

In response to a comment from Parent Commissioner Angela Martorana, the Chairman advised that any correspondence received to date concerning the Laval high schools in order to be acknowledged for the consultation, would have to be resubmitted during the official consultation period.

With the permission of the Chairman, Carla Scarpato, a parent from Laval Junior High School, informed those present noting that some of the statistics presented in a report from the teachers were based on 20-year old data and, although she respects the fact that they do not favour a large school, this should not have been used as it is misleading when society and schools have changed since then. She asked that the school board ensure that proper data is supplied for the consultation.

In response to concerns expressed by Angelo Grasso, a parent from Laurier Senior High School, the Chairman advised that question period is for questions not for making statements and that he would see that all of the Commissioners received any correspondence received from the schools in the past week. He also noted that all the information concerning the schools and programs will be included as part of the consultation.

**TIME: 22:30 hours**

**CC-131127-CA-0058**

Commissioner Mario Di Domenico MOVED THAT the meeting be extended until the completion of the agenda.

**Carried unanimously**

In response to another request from Mr. Grasso, the Chairman assured him that the school board will be transparent and provide all information and data at its disposal for the official consultation process on the two (2) models.

In response to a statement from a parent from Laurier Senior High School, the Chairman indicated that his points would be taken into consideration and stated that the school board has no hidden agendas on the issue of the registration imbalances in Laval or in any other area of the school board.

In response to a question from another parent of Laurier Senior High School, the Director General assured him that all information available will be imparted as part of the consultation process. She also indicated that either herself or the Assistant Director General are present at the monthly Parents Committee meetings to answer parent questions and invited him to attend the next meeting which will be held on the first Thursday of December.

With the permission of the Chairman, Lisa Chartier, a parent from Laval Liberty High School, stated that parents want to be respected and to have their voices heard and asked that the school board consider creating an open forum on its Web site for parents to post their concerns and opinions as a gesture of transparency. This would be seen as a positive gesture and would allow the parents to share.

The Chairman noted that would be taken under advisement and reminded everyone that the Parents Committee is also a forum for the parents to be heard.

With the permission of the Chairman, Commissioner Elio Lattanzio stated to the audience that if Governing Boards want to have Commissioners present at their respective meeting an invitation needs to be made and they need to ensure that the parents who are not members of the Governing Board and who want to be heard are also present. The Commissioners are listening to what is being said but it also needs to know why the elementary school community hasn't weighed in on the issue of the registration imbalances as it affects them also.

## **9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Chairman drew attention to correspondence in the package.

## **10.0 VARIA:**

There was no varia.

**11.0 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:**

The Chairman thanked everyone for being present this evening and reassured everyone that their concerns have been heard.

Commissioner Steve Kmec MOVED adjournment of the meeting.

**Carried unanimously**

**TIME: 22:40 hours**

**NEXT MEETING ⇨ REGULAR ⇨ 2013-12-11**

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**Johanne Brabant, Secretary General**

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**Nick Milas, Chairman**