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EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.
ETSB BOARD ROOM
101 DU MOULIN, SUITE 205A
MAGOG, QC J1X 6H8

MINUTES

Enhanced Literacy and Numeracy – Dropout Prevention – Physical and Mental Health

PRESENT

Commissioners:	Brenda Bailey	Gordon Barnett
	Gérald Carrière	Peter Channell
	Theodore Creary	Richard Gagnon
	Gary Holliday	Joy Humenuik-Campbell
	Alice McCrory	Michael Murray, <i>chairman</i>
	Larry Smith	Bruno Vanasse

Parent Commissioner: Tina Bilodeau

Director General, Ronald J. Canuel
Assistant Director General & Secretary General, Chantal C. Beaulieu
Director of Complementary Educational Services, Peter Hamilton
Director of Human Resources, Jeffrey Pauw
Director of Pedagogical Services, Gilles Ribaux
Director of Financial Services, André Turcotte
Recording Secretary, Diane Warnholtz

ABSENT WITH REASON

Commissioners: Pierre Bell, Duncan Eastman, Diane Hudson, Diane Jones, Patricia Keenan-Adank, Frank MacGregor, *vice-chairman*, Douglas Sullivan.
Parent Commissioner: Catherine Dolloff

OBSERVERS

Richard Goldfinch (President of ATA), Gail Klinck, Megan Seline and Danuta Wiazowski.

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman, M. Murray, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse to adopt the Agenda of March 23, 2010, as deposited.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26, 2010 MEETING

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner L. Smith to approve the Minutes of the meeting that was held on January 26, 2010, as deposited.

Carried unanimously

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2010 SPECIAL MEETING

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett to approve the Minutes of the Special meeting that was held on February 16, 2010, as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

The President of the ATA requested that all Commissioners record the e-mail address of the Appalachian Teachers Association as follows: ataunion@hotmail.com

He also asked the following questions to the commissioners regarding the CPNCA's *Dépôt Patronal*:

1. The removal of extra resource teachers added in the last contract
2. The removal of an extra \$90 million for special education added in the last contract
3. The elimination of identification code for Special Needs Students
4. The elimination of compensation for oversized classes
5. The changing workload of all teachers based on a 50% plus 1 vote instead of the consensus agreed upon
6. The removal of regular contracts in Adult and Vocational Education

7. Total control by administration of 5 hours of personal presence work time
8. Removal of 35-hour weekly and 8 hour daily timeframe for teacher work
9. Increase workload of part-time teachers for no extra pay
8. Removal of the 50 km limit for re-assignment.

The president of the ATA also mentioned that these are only some of the CPNCA demands and that there are a lot of smaller demands that seem to be designed just to upset teachers; that they have no real basis in the day to day teaching of students. Finally, he said that he was disappointed, but also a little angry with himself for having been naïve enough to believe that they were working towards a better and more stable system that can benefit all students.

5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

This month, the Council of Commissioners and Senior Administrators of the Eastern Townships School Board would like to signal the following:

- Mr. Ronald Canuel has been selected as one of the *Mérite estrien de La Tribune* honourees, in the category of education and health. A jury, overseen by the editor in chief M. Maurice Cloutier, nominated individuals in various categories who have made an outstanding contribution in their field. Mr. Canuel was chosen for his vision and leadership in the implementation of the Enhanced Learning Strategy. We congratulate Mr. Canuel on receiving this honour which was accompanied by an article in La Tribune as well as a short television report on Radio-Canada;
- On February 9th, Vincent Brazeau, from Alexander Galt Regional High School, was the first athlete from that school to be honoured at the *Gala Mérite de L'Estrie* in Sherbrooke. A line backer with the GALT Pipers, Brazeau was named the *Athlete Relève au football*, an award that is handed out annually to the top football prospect in the Estrie. We would like to congratulate Vincent on receiving this honour and wish him continued success in his career as he joins the Champlain Regional College team this fall;
- Over this past weekend, Jessica Howie brought home a bronze medal in alpine skiing at the Quebec Special Olympics Championships. Jessica who attends the Learning Centre, also won a silver medal earlier this year at a league competition held at Owl's Head. We congratulate Jessica on her medal wins and wish her continued success;

The following are some of the accomplishments of our various sports teams that have been brought to our attention:

- The GALT Pipers hockey team won the AAESQ Neil provincial championships this year. This championship marks the sixth time the school has won the provincial title;
- The Massey-Vanier High School junior boys' basketball team walked away as provincial champions by winning the Len Davis tournament;
- On March 13th, Sherbrooke Elementary competed in the *Jeux du Quebec Basketball Finales Regionales*, held at *École secondaire Le Triolet* in Sherbrooke. Competing for the first time in the schools' history both the girls and boys teams won all four of their games taking home the gold medals;

Congratulations to these players and coaches on their championship wins. Their dedication and hard work has definitely paid off.

We would like to take this opportunity to signal all the players and coaches across the ETSB, who put in countless hours towards the various sports programs. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no Business Arising.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Voting Distribution for the 2010 QESBA Annual General Meeting

The Chairman, M. Murray, reviewed the voting distribution document for the 2010 QESBA Annual General meeting.

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-73

Voting Distribution for the 2010 QESBA Annual General Meeting

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell to approve the voting distribution for the 2010 Quebec English School Boards Association Annual General meeting, naming Commissioners Alice McCrory, Gary Holliday, Richard Gagnon and Larry Smith as designated voting delegates.

Carried unanimously

7.2 Signing Officers for Schools/Centres

The Assistant Director General presented the following resolutions regarding signing officers:

7.2.1 Sawyerville Elementary School

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-74

Signing Officers for Schools/Centres – Sawyerille Elementary School

WHEREAS the *Caisse Desjardins des Hauts-Boisés* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Sawyerille Elementary School;

WHEREAS new staff assignments have changed the names of representatives at Sawyerille Elementary School;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that the following changes be made to the individuals authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Sawyerille Elementary School:

Claire Beaubien, Principal (add)
Luc Rodrigue, Principal (remove).

Carried unanimously

7.2.2 Cookshire Elementary School

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-75

Signing Officers for Schools/Centres – Cookshire Elementary School

WHEREAS the *Caisse Desjardins des Hauts-Boisés* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Cookshire Elementary School;

WHEREAS new staff assignments have changed the names of representatives at Cookshire Elementary School;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that the following changes be made to the individuals authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Cookshire Elementary School:

Claire Beaubien, Principal (remove).

Carried unanimously

7.2.3 Pope Memorial Elementary School

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-76

Signing Officers for Schools/Centres – Pope Memorial Elementary School

WHEREAS the *Caisse Desjardins des Hauts-Boisés* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Pope Memorial Elementary School;

WHEREAS new staff assignments have changed the names of representatives at Pope Memorial;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday that the following changes be made to the individuals authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Pope Memorial Elementary School:

Claire Beaubien, Principal (add)
Luc Rodrigue, Principal (remove).

Carried unanimously

7.3 Appointment of Signing Officers

The Director of Financial Services presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-77

Appointment of Signing Officers

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Bailey that, effective April 2, 2010, the following individuals be authorized to sign, on behalf of the Eastern Townships School Board, all banking documents required by the National Bank of Canada:

The Chairman of the Council of Commissioners: Michael Murray

or

The Vice-Chairman of the Council of Commissioners: Francis MacGregor

and

The Director General: Chantal C. Beaulieu

or

The Assistant Director General and Director of
Pedagogical Services:

Gilles Ribaux

or

The Director of Financial Services:

André Turcotte

or

The Coordinator of Financial Services:

André Carignan.

Carried unanimously

7.4 **Banking Services**

Commissioner R. Gagnon presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-78 **Banking Services**

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board's (ETSB) contract for banking services will end during the 2009-2010 school year;

WHEREAS the ETSB is satisfied with the terms and conditions of their agreement with the National Bank;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board wishes to extend its current agreement;

WHEREAS a proposition was received by the National Bank;

WHEREAS the Audit Advisory Committee reviewed all supporting documentation and recommends the appointment of the National Bank to provide banking services for one additional year;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon to appoint the National Bank to provide banking services for the Eastern Townships School Board until June 30, 2011 and that Mr. André Turcotte, Director of Financial Services, be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

7.5 Délégué officiel et substitut à l'Assemblée générale de la Société GRICS

The Chairman presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-79

Délégué officiel et substitut à l'Assemblée générale de la Société GRICS

ATTENDU QUE la Commission scolaire est membre de la Société de gestion du réseau informatique des commissions scolaires (Société GRICS) et que le contrat de participation stipule que la Commission scolaire doit nommer un délégué officiel pour la représenter et agir en son nom;

ATTENDU QUE la présente résolution annule et remplace toute autre résolution ayant pour objet la nomination d'un délégué officiel à l'Assemblée générale de la Société GRICS;

IL EST PROPOSÉ PAR le commissaire L. Smith que André Turcotte soit et est par la présente nommé délégué officiel de la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships à toute Assemblée générale régulière ou spéciale de la Société GRICS et y exerce tous les pouvoirs inhérents;

IL EST DE PLUS PROPOSÉ qu'en cas d'incapacité d'agir du délégué officiel, Chantal C. Beaulieu soit et est par la présente nommée déléguée officielle substitut à toute Assemblée générale ou spéciale de la Société GRICS avec le même mandat.

Adoptée à l'unanimité

7.6 Equal Access to Employment - Law 143. L'intégration des personnes handicapées au programme d'accès d'égalité à l'emploi pour les personnes handicapées

The Director of Human Resources presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-80

Equal Access to Employment - Law 143. L'intégration des personnes handicapées au programme d'accès d'égalité à l'emploi pour les personnes handicapées

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board, as a public institution, must respect the terms and conditions of the *Loi sur l'accès à l'égalité en emploi dans les organismes publics*;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board submitted its plan to address the underrepresentation of minority groups to the *Commission des droits de la personne et droits de la jeunesse* ("Commission") in June 2005;

WHEREAS the *Commission* has requested that the plan now includes handicapped persons;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board has put together a plan to address the underrepresentation of handicapped persons which will be reviewed by the *Commission*;

WHEREAS the plan has been submitted to the *Commission* for review;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that the Eastern Townships School Board approve the plan *L'intégration des personnes handicapées au programme d'accès à l'égalité en emploi des organisme publics* submitted to the *Commission*.

Carried unanimously

7.7 Calendar for the 2010-2011 School Year – Youth Sector Calendar

The Director of Human Resources presented the Youth Sector Calendar for the 2010-2011 school year.

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-81

Calendar for the 2010-2011 School Year – Youth Sector Calendar

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner T. Creary to adopt the Youth Sector Calendar for the 2010-2011 school year as deposited.

Carried unanimously

7.8 Audit Committee Mandate

Commissioner R. Gagnon presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-82

Audit Committee Mandate

WHEREAS the *Education Act*, as amended by law 88, provides that school boards must establish an Audit Committee;

WHEREAS an Audit Committee had been established at the Eastern Townships School Board for a number of years;

WHEREAS the ETSB must confirm the Audit Committee Mandate;

WHEREAS the Audit Committee Mandate was discussed and presented at the Audit Committee on numerous occasions;

WHEREAS the Audit Committee recommends the adoption of the Audit Committee Mandate;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon that the Council of Commissioners approve the Audit Committee Mandate.

Carried unanimously

The Audit Committee mandate is attached to and forms a part of the Official Copy of the Minutes.

7.9 Appeal Committee Recommendation

In-Camera Session for Appeal Committee Recommendation

Commissioner R. Gagnon moved that the meeting be taken in-camera at 8:05 p.m.

Commissioner G. Barnett reviewed the Notes of the Appeal Hearing of March 16, 2010 with all Commissioners.

Out-of-camera

Commissioner R. Gagnon moved that the meeting be taken out-of-camera at 8:24 p.m.

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-83 **Appeal Committee Hearing – March 16, 2010**

WHEREAS Student A (*) sent death threats to another student using Facebook on or around February 18, 2010;

WHEREAS a 5 day suspension was given to Student A as a consequence;

WHEREAS Student A's mother contested the school's decision and the process that was followed;

WHEREAS the Appeal Committee members felt that the duration of the suspension was appropriate considering the gravity of the act;

WHEREAS the Appeal Committee recommends that the decision of the school be maintained;

WHEREAS, as regards to the reintegration process, it was felt that it was adequate given the circumstances: the student was met on her first morning back at school and offered the services of a counselor (these services are still available);

WHEREAS the members of the committee sympathize with the parent who was not informed that her child had been removed from the school premises by the police;

WHEREAS the Appeal Committee further recommends that, unless the police specifically forbid the school to do so, a representative of the school should inform the parents as soon as possible when a student is removed from the premises by the police;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner G. Barnett to maintain the 5 day suspension imposed by the administration of the school to Student A following the incident that occurred on February 18, 2010.

Carried unanimously

**7.10 Doors and Windows Replacement – Ayer’s Cliff Elementary School
Project #02-2009-2010**

The Director General presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-84

**Doors and Windows Replacement – Ayer’s Cliff Elementary School - Project
#02-2009-2010**

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l’Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS)* approved a windows and doors replacement project estimated at \$66 251.00 (taxes included) for Ayer’s Cliff Elementary School, under the measure *50690 Maintien des Bâtiments 2009-2010*;

WHEREAS the actual budget available for this project is in the amount of \$99 022.00, which is composed of a balance of \$ 24 231.00 from a 2008 – 2009 project and the actual 2009 – 2010 budget available in the amount of \$74 791.00;

WHEREAS four firms received the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

WHEREAS three bids were received by *Cimaise-fba* by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$57,904.88 (including taxes), was received by the company *Construction Longer Inc.*;

WHEREAS the architects recommended including alternative price as specified in the project in the amount of \$3 220.00 (including taxes) as the doors might not be salvageable.

WHEREAS the architects recommended including separate price of the addenda as specified in the project in the amount of \$28 200.00 (including taxes) for the emergency exit.

WHEREAS the amount of the lowest bid from the contractor plus the professional fees is \$93 637.69;

WHEREAS the assigned architectural firm of *Cimaise-fba* after reviewing the bids, has recommended the firm of *Construction Longer Inc.* to do the work;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that the firm of *Construction Longer Inc.* be awarded the contract for the replacement of doors and windows at Ayer's Cliff Elementary School;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

7.11 Doors and Windows Replacement – Richmond Regional High School Projects #05-06-15—2009-2010

The Director General presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-85

Doors and Windows Replacement – Richmond Regional High School - Projects #05-06-15—2009-2010

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS)* approved a windows and doors replacements project estimated at \$ 361 920.00 (taxes included) for Richmond Regional High School, under the program *Maintien des bâtiments 2009-2010* (Measure 50710 & 50690);

WHEREAS 8 firms received the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

WHEREAS 7 bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$ 303 868.00 (including taxes), was received by the company *Vitrerie LMT 2000*;

WHEREAS the amount of the lowest bid from the contractor plus the professional fees is \$ 325 052.12;

WHEREAS the assigned architectural firm of *Favreau et Blais* after reviewing the bids, has recommended the firm of *Vitrierie LMT 2000* to do the work;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Bailey that the firm of *Vitrierie LMT 2000* be awarded the contract for the replacement of doors and windows at Richmond Regional High School;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

7.12 School Bus Bids – 2009-2010

Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-86 School Bus Bids – 2009-2010

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board requested bids for the purchase of school buses for the 2009-2010 school year from three (3) suppliers;

WHEREAS bids were received from all three (3) suppliers and opened on March 09, 2010;

WHEREAS the bid from all suppliers conformed to the requirements set out in the call for tenders;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell to accept the bid received from *Autobus Girardin Inc.* for an amount of \$777 970.00 (before taxes) for nine (9) -72 passenger buses and one (1) 54 passenger bus.

Carried unanimously

7.13 Director General and Assistant Director General Specific Working Conditions

The Chairman presented the following resolutions:

7.13.1 Specific Working Conditions for the Director General

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-87
Specific Working Conditions for the Director General

WHEREAS the Director General designate has made a number of requests concerning specific working conditions;

WHEREAS these requests were discussed at Audit Advisory Committee;

WHEREAS Audit Advisory Committee recommends that the specific working conditions mentioned in the confidential document entitled "Working Conditions of the Director General" be approved by the Council of Commissioners;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon to approve the specific working conditions of the Director General.

Carried unanimously

7.13.2 Specific Working Conditions for the Assistant Director General

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-88
Specific Working Conditions for the Assistant Director General

WHEREAS the Assistant Director General designate has made a number of requests concerning specific working conditions;

WHEREAS these requests were discussed at Audit Advisory Committee;

WHEREAS Audit Advisory Committee recommends that the specific working conditions mentioned in the confidential document entitled "Working Conditions of the Assistant Director General" be approved by the Council of Commissioners;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell to approve the specific working conditions of the Assistant Director General.

Carried unanimously

7.14 Discretionary Balance of Remuneration for the Director General

The Chairman presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-03-89**Discretionary Balance of Remuneration for the Director General**

WHEREAS the overall consensus of the evaluation team is that the Director General has performed up to and above expectations in progress toward achieving the objectives of the School Board Success Plan;

WHEREAS the task force is pleased with the responsiveness of the Director General to Council orientations and directives;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon to approve that the full balance of remuneration (6%) be immediately allocated to the Director General, prorated to take into account his leaving on April 1st, 2010.

Carried unanimously

8. DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

The Director General gave a power-point presentation, highlighting his years as Director General of the Eastern Townships School Board.

He also indicated that he is very excited about the scheduled visit next week by the NSBA. He reported that to date, thirty-five (35) delegates will be attending. The Director General and Assistant Director General also presented to a delegation from Burundi.

9. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

There was no report from the Chair.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**10.1 Executive Committee**

The Chairman, M. Murray, stated that there was no report.

10.2 Adult and Vocational Education Advisory Committee

Commissioner G. Holliday, chairman of the Adult and Vocational Education Advisory Committee, reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on February 4, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- The presentation on the Brome Missisquoi Centre was unfortunately postponed. It will be held at the next meeting of the Adult and Vocational Education Advisory Committee on April 8, 2010;

- A document was distributed regarding the engagement criteria for Centre Directors.

10.3 Audit Committee

Commissioner R. Gagnon, chairman of the Audit Committee, reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on February 9, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Audit Committee mandate;
- Banking agreement;
- Working conditions for the Director General.

Commissioner R. Gagnon also reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on March 16, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Buildings and Infrastructure issues;
- Video conferencing;
- Analysis – Car expenses and mileage;
- Working conditions for the Assistant Director General;
- Audit Committee mandate.

10.4 Communications Advisory Committee

Commissioner G. Barnett, chairman of the Communications Advisory Committee, reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on March 17, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Updating of the new ETSB website;
- NSBA site visits;
- School to Board to Commissioner communication;
- Retirement Gala – June 3, 2010;
- Marketing of our schools/centres;
- Film Festival – June 4, 2010 (Show Your Talent);
- Overview of recent items of recognition and media.

10.5 Educational Services Advisory Committee

In the absence of the Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee, D. Sullivan, the Director of Pedagogical Services reviewed the Educational Services Advisory Committee Notes of March 9, 2010, in which the following item was discussed:

- Presentation from the Principal of Richmond Regional High School regarding the characteristics of Professional Learning Community found in her school.

10.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

In the absence of the chairman of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, the Director of Human Resources indicated that the Notes of the meeting of January 14, 2010, were included in the Commissioner kits. These Notes were verbally reviewed at the Council meeting of January 26, 2010 by Commissioner F. MacGregor.

10.7 Planning and Development Advisory Committee

Commissioner M. Murray, chairman of the Planning and Development Advisory Committee, reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on March 15, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Delegation to China – February 22nd – March 8th, 2010 (Director General, Assistant Director General and Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell);
- OLPC 1:1 Conference in Vienna – February 22nd – February 24th, 2010 (Chairman M. Murray and Director of Pedagogical Services);
- Final evaluation of Director General;
- Criteria for selection of a Secretary General;
- Partnership agreement (Ministry and Board).

10.8 Transportation Advisory Committee

Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell, chairman of the Transportation Advisory Committee, indicated that the next meeting would be held on March 25, 2010.

10.9 Parents' Committee

Parent Commissioner T. Bilodeau indicated that the Notes of the meeting that was held on February 3, 2010, were included in the Commissioner kits. She gave a verbal report on the Parents' Committee meeting of March 11, 2010, in which the following points were highlighted:

- The Director General came to visit the parents one last time before his retirement and shared some of the experiences he had working at the ETSB;
- The Director of Human Resources presented the latest draft calendar for the 2010-2011 school year;
- Mr. MacLEAN:
 - distributed the Transportation policy, Student transportation information, and a copy of a letter regarding school bus transportation;
 - ELS is continuing and will be maintaining deployment levels;
 - Parents are informed that teachers were using applications to verify what the students are doing on the laptops during class and verifying history. Parents felt that was not happening;
 - Visit from the NSBA.

- Commissioner G. Holliday informed the Parents' Committee that the Parent Commissioners are able to attend the Quebec English School Board Association's Professional Development Spring Conference, taking place March 26th- 29th, 2010;
- Parent Volunteer Recognition – Please verify that the nomination forms are available and visible to all parents, teachers, staff, etc. The deadline for submissions is April 30th.
- Opinions FCPQ – Due to time constraints, we were asked to answer, on behalf of our respective Governing Boards, to the proposed changes to legislation. The three (3) proposed changes are as follows:

	Our Opinion
1. Able to hold a child back at the end of Cycle 1 Secondary;	Yes
2. Change from 5 day to 7 day week (school on Saturday and Sunday);	No
3. No longer have statutory holidays (school on Christmas, Easter, etc).	No

Our answers will be sent to the FCPQ to lobby the Government on our behalf.

10.10 Special Education Advisory Committee

The Director of Complementary Educational Services stated that the Notes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on January 13, 2010, were included in the Commissioner kits.

11. QUEBEC ENGLISH SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION REPORT

The Chairman, M. Murray gave a verbal report regarding the Quebec English School Board Association:

- Workshops for the 2010 QESBA Annual General Meeting are topical issues;
- Labor negotiations are underway.

12. S.O.F.I.E. REPORT

There was no report.

13. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner R. Gagnon stated that he had been asked to put together a small presentation at the QESBA Annual General Meeting. He thought it would be nice to see samples of projects that our students have done in our schools. Perhaps five minutes could be dedicated at the Board meeting to view these special projects.

Commissioner G. Holliday extended an invitation to a fundraiser for the Richmond Regional High School cafeteria on May 15, 2010.

Commissioner G. Barnett reported that he had attended the following special events:

- “Individual Differences Conference” at Bishops University. Public presentations were done in booths. Information was very well presented with a lot of useful information available;
- Open House at Alexander Galt Regional High School. He indicated that they are doing a great job at publicizing their school;
- Open House at Vocational Education;
- “Celebrations around the World” at Mansonville Elementary School. Very interesting presentations by the students;
- Vocational Education Graduation. Had the honor of presenting some certificates to students along with Commissioner L. Smith.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

15. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner T. Creary at 9:39 p.m.

Secretary General

Chairman

DW
2010-03-24