

OBSERVERS

Richard Goldfinch, President of ATA and Sharon Priest, Communications Consultant

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman, M. Murray, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon to adopt the Agenda of September 21, 2010, as deposited.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 24, 2010

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett to approve the Minutes of the meeting that was held on August 24, 2010, as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

5. NOMINATION OF A COMMISSIONER FOR WARD 4 – MANSONVILLE

The Vice-chairman presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-147**Nomination of a Commissioner for Ward 4 – Mansonville**

WHEREAS Ms. Diane Michalski informed the chair of the Council of Commissioners on August 2nd of her resignation from her position as school commissioner of Mansonville, effective August 24th, 2010;

WHEREAS Bill 86 defers the general school elections that was to be held on November 6th, 2011, to a date to be set by the Government;

WHEREAS despite the second paragraph of section 199 and sections 200 and 200.1 of the Act respecting school elections, until the date of the next general school election is set by the Government, any vacancy in the office of commissioner is to be filled by the Council of Commissioners in the manner set out in the first paragraph of section 199 of that Act;

WHEREAS a search committee had been formed to identify the next commissioner of Ward 4 – Mansonville, in respect of section 199 of the Act respecting school elections;

WHEREAS candidates were interviewed by the members of the search committee on September 17th, 2010;

WHEREAS the selection committee unanimously recommends this person to the Council of commissioners;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner F. MacGregor to appoint Ms. Jane Wardle as the Commissioner for Ward 4 - Mansonville, effective September 21st, 2010.

Carried unanimously

5.1 Oath of Office

The Secretary General administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Jane Wardle, Commissioner of Ward 4 – Mansonville.

6. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

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

- Sherbrooke Elementary School held its annual Peace March on September 13th. The march involved close to 500 people, comprised of students, teachers, support staff and community members, walking around the block surrounding the school while chanting a peaceful message. The march is organized as part of Pacific Path Programme that promotes self-esteem, social skills, a sense of community and the peaceful resolution of conflicts;
- Congratulations to Mansonville Elementary School for being chosen as a recipient of the S’Cool Life Fund. The school received \$2200.00 to use towards their sports programme, specifically new soccer equipment. The S’Cool Fund is a non-profit organization that provides funding to support extracurricular activities in publicly funded elementary schools across Canada;
- The first Complementary Educational Services Symposium was held on Friday September 17th. Over 140 people, including teachers, special education technicians, handicap student assistants, pedagogical professionals and principals attended. The theme for this year was “Branching Out”, and covered individual disorders, substance abuse, assisted technologies and prevention, to name but a few. Congratulations to the organizing committee on a very successful symposium;

- On September 18th, the Townshippers' Association held its annual Townshippers' Day in Danville on the grounds of ADS Elementary School. We would like to thank and recognize the following ETSB bus drivers who volunteered their time to shuttle participants around throughout the day: Barry Morrill, Trenholm Morin, Richard Elson and Raymond Morency;
- Ms. Meghan Allen, a teacher at the Eastern Townships Learning Centre, has arranged for all students of the centre to attend a Tim Horton's camp from October 4th – 6th, 2010. The excursion, funded completely by Tim Horton's, includes transportation, leadership facilitators, programming, and meals and lodging for the three days. This is an excellent opportunity for the students of the centre and we would like to thank Ms. Allen for her initiative and Tim Horton's for their generosity.

7. BUSINESS ARISING

7.1 Signing Officers for Schools/Centres

The Director of Financial Services presented the following resolution regarding signing officers for Lennoxville Elementary School:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-148 Signing Officers for Schools/Centres

WHEREAS the CIBC Bank requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of Lennoxville Elementary School;

WHEREAS new staff assignments have changed the names of representatives in this school;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday that the following individual be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of their respective schools:

Lennoxville Elementary School

Kim Fessenden (remove)
Jennifer Luce (add)

Carried unanimously

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Request for the Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred Through the Management of the Influenza A (H1N1) Pandemic

The Director of Complementary Educational Services presented the following resolution:

Request for the Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred Through the Management of the Influenza A (H1N1) Pandemic

WHEREAS given the situation of the H1N1 influenza pandemic experienced throughout the province of Quebec during the fall of 2009;

WHEREAS Quebec school boards have contributed to the prevention campaign as well as to the management of operations related to the H1N1 influenza pandemic throughout the province of Quebec;

WHEREAS supplemental costs were incurred by the school boards in remuneration and operational fees relative to the influenza pandemic;

WHEREAS the *Ministère de la Sécurité publique* has asked all ministries and organisms to calculate the costs relative to this dossier;

IT IS MOVED BY Commissioner _____ that the Eastern Townships School Board ask the Government of Quebec, and more specifically, Ms. Line Beauchamp, *Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport*, to reimburse the Eastern Townships School Board the additional costs associated with remuneration and operational fees relative to the H1N1 influenza pandemic, and this, so that all sums given to the school boards may be used to provide the students with educational services;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the *Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport* and to all Anglophone Québec School Boards.

Commissioner R. Gagnon requested that the resolution be amended as to mention the total amount of the additional costs in the resolution and emphasizes that the school board allocations go toward educational services to our students.

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-149

Request for the Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred Through the Management of the Influenza A (H1N1) Pandemic

WHEREAS given the situation of the H1N1 influenza pandemic experienced throughout the province of Quebec during the fall of 2009;

WHEREAS Quebec school boards have contributed to the prevention campaign as well as to the management of operations related to the H1N1 influenza pandemic throughout the province of Quebec;

WHEREAS supplemental costs were incurred by the school boards in remuneration and operational fees relative to the influenza pandemic;

WHEREAS the *Ministère de la Sécurité publique* has asked all ministries and organisms to calculate the costs relative to this dossier;

IT IS MOVED BY Commissioner P. Bell and **ADOPTED** that the Eastern Townships School Board ask the Government of Quebec, and more specifically, Ms. Line Beauchamp, *Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport*, to reimburse the Eastern Townships School Board the additional cost of \$ 89 237 associated with remuneration and operational fees relative to the H1N1 influenza pandemic, and this, so that all sums given to the school boards may be used to provide the best possible educational services to our students;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the *Ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport* and to all Anglophone Québec School Boards.

Carried unanimously

8.2 Criteria for the Enrolment of Students in Schools of the Eastern Townships School Board for the 2011-2012 School Year (Section 239 of the *Education Act*)

The Assistant Director General presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-150

Criteria for the Enrolment of Students in Schools of the Eastern Townships School Board for the 2011-2012 School Year (Section 239 of the *Education Act*)

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board has not modified its Criteria for the Enrolment of Students;

WHEREAS the Management Table of the Eastern Townships School Board has been consulted on these criteria;

WHEREAS the Central Parents Committee has been consulted on these criteria;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that the Eastern Townships School Board approve the Criteria for the Enrolment of Students in Schools of the Eastern Townships School Board for the 2011-2012 School Year (Section 239 of the *Education Act*).

Carried unanimously

8.3 Thank you Letters – Dropout Prevention

The Secretary General presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-151

Thank you Letters – Dropout Prevention

WHEREAS recently various municipalities have recognized the efforts of students that have obtained their diploma or qualification by giving attestations of recognition and bursaries;

WHEREAS other organizations are also recognizing the efforts of our students and contributing to encourage students to pursue their education;

WHEREAS different studies illustrate that the communities that mobilize themselves can play a role in dropout prevention;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board believes in the importance of all the actions that are taking place for dropout prevention;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell to send a thank you letter to the municipalities and organizations for their actions;

IT IS FURTHER MOVED THAT when events or efforts from the community are brought to our attention, we send a letter of our appreciation for the joint efforts in dropout prevention to our collaborators.

Carried unanimously

8.4 Representative on S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors

The Secretary General brought forward the following resolution:

Representative on S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board had two seats on the Board of Directors of S.O.F.I.E.;

WHEREAS the S.O.F.I.E. has proposed that we maintain one seat for the school year 2010-2011;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner
_____ that Commissioner
_____ be appointed representative of the Eastern Townships School Board on the S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors for the school year 2010-2011;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED BY Commissioner _____ that Commissioner _____ be named as the substitute for the S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors for the school year 2010-2011.

After discussion, the Council of commissioners expressed that they felt it was important to maintain their two seats on the S.O.F.I.E. board of directors. The resolution was amended as follows:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-152
Representative on S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board had two seats on the Board of Directors of S.O.F.I.E.;

WHEREAS the S.O.F.I.E. has proposed that we maintain one seat for the school year 2010-2011;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners finds it important to maintain two seats on the Board of Directors of S.O.F.I.E.;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon that two Directors be appointed as members to the S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 school year;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell that a Commissioner and an Administrator be appointed to the S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 school year;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Hudson that Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell be appointed one of the two seats for the 2010-2011 school year;

IT WAS SUGGESTED by Commissioner A. McCrory that André Turcotte be appointed as the Administrator to the S.O.F.I.E. Board of Directors, but that the directors committee make the final decision on their representative on the Board of Directors of S.O.F.I.E. for the next school year.

Carried unanimously

8.5 Plan de réduction des dépenses de fonctionnement de nature administrative et de la taille du personnel (Projet de Loi 100)

The Director of Financial Services presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-153**Plan de réduction des dépenses de fonctionnement de nature administrative et de la taille du personnel (Projet de Loi 100)**

ATTENDU QUE l'Assemblée nationale du Québec, le 11 juin 2010, adoptait la Loi mettant en œuvre certaines dispositions du discours sur le budget du 30 mars 2010 en visant le retour à l'équilibre budgétaire 2013-2014 et la réduction de la dette;

ATTENDU QU' en vertu de l'article 11 de cette Loi, les organismes du réseau de l'éducation doivent, au terme de l'exercice débutant en 2013, avoir réduit leurs dépenses de fonctionnement de nature administrative d'au moins 10 % par rapport aux dépenses de fonctionnement de même nature engagées pendant l'exercice débutant en 2009;

ATTENDU QUE les organismes du réseau de l'éducation doivent notamment prendre les mesures nécessaires afin que, au terme de leur exercice débutant en 2010, la somme de leurs dépenses de publicité, de formation et de déplacement ait été réduite de 25 % par rapport à la somme de ces dépenses de l'exercice précédent;

ATTENDU QU' en vertu de l'article 12 de cette Loi, afin de contribuer à la réduction des dépenses de fonctionnement, la taille des effectifs du personnel d'encadrement et du personnel administratif des organismes du réseau de l'éducation doit être réduite en privilégiant l'attrition. Cette réduction se poursuit jusqu'au terme de l'exercice débutant en 2013, même si les dépenses de fonctionnement ont été réduites conformément à l'article 11;

ATTENDU QU' en vertu de l'article 13 de cette Loi, chaque organisme du réseau de l'éducation doit, avant le 30 septembre 2010, soumettre à la ministre de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) un plan de réduction de la taille des ses effectifs et de ses dépenses de fonctionnement de nature administrative;

ATTENDU QUE le MELS doit modifier le logiciel TRAFICS afin que l'on puisse identifier, pour l'année scolaire 2009-2010, les dépenses de publicité qui serviront à l'application de cette Loi et qui sont au rapport financier annuel;

ATTENDU QUE le rapport financier annuel de la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships ne sera complété qu'en octobre seulement et que ce rapport devra être acheminé au MELS avant le 29 octobre 2010;

ATTENDU QUE plusieurs consultations et analyses doivent être effectuées par la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships en lien avec l'application de cette Loi;

ATTENDU QUE la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships veut s'assurer que le plan déposé soit le plus réaliste possible et qu'il se fasse en collaboration avec ses différentes instances;

IL EST PROPOSÉ PAR le commissaire R. Gagnon de reporter le dépôt du plan d'action au MELS, le temps d'obtenir et de rassembler toutes les informations nécessaires à l'application de cette Loi et de mener les consultations nécessaires auprès des instances appropriées;

IL EST ÉGALEMENT PROPOSÉ PAR le commissaire R. Gagnon de transmettre, dès que possible au MELS, le plan d'action en lien avec l'application de cette Loi, suite à la réception de toutes les informations nécessaires et au terme de la consultation menée par la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships.

Adoptée à l'unanimité

8.6 Exceptional Expenditure

The Assistant Director General presented the following resolution regarding exceptional expenditure:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-154 **Exceptional Expenditure**

WHEREAS a compulsory workshop for all ETSB teachers involved in Early Intervention was held at the Auberge Estrimont on August 27, 2010;

WHEREAS the designated parking spaces at the Auberge Estrimont were full beyond capacity;

WHEREAS at least two dozen cars had to be parked along what was believed to be an access road to the Estrimont and not a major roadway;

WHEREAS police officers from the Memphrémagog Police proceeded to hand out tickets to the vehicles without having asked the hotel management to have the cars moved;

WHEREAS seven school board employees were amongst those ticketed;

WHEREAS the hotel management has agreed to share half the cost of the tickets;

WHEREAS the total cost for seven tickets is \$364; (\$52 per ticket)

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner T. Creary that the Eastern Townships School Board exceptionally pay for half the cost of the parking tickets which were issued to its employees on August 27, 2010.

Carried with 2 opposed

- Commissioner L. Smith, Commissioner P. Bell

8.7 Confirmation of Administrative Position

The Director General presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-155

Confirmation of Administrative Position

WHEREAS the following individual was appointed to an existing administrative position for the 2009-2010 school year:

Ms. Linda Brault, Administrative Assistant, Distance Education;

WHEREAS the performance appraisal of the individual indicated high success;

WHEREAS the Senior Administrative team unanimously recommends this person to the Council of Commissioners;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner P. Bell that Ms. Linda Brault be confirmed as Administrative Assistant, Distance Education.

Carried unanimously

8.8 Recommendation for Appointment of Administration Officer, Local Project Manager for the Community Learning Centre – 40%

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-156

Recommendation for Appointment of Administration Officer, Local Project Manager for the Community Learning Centre – 40%

WHEREAS the position of Administration Officer, Local Project Manager for the Community Learning Centre (CLC) – 40%, had been vacant;

WHEREAS the position of Administration Officer, Local Project Manager for the CLC – 40%, had been advertised throughout the ETSB territory through the internal posting procedures;

WHEREAS the candidate selected retains the qualifications and experience that respond to the designated criteria;

WHEREAS the Senior Administrative team unanimously recommends this person to the Council of Commissioners;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner T. Creary that the appointment of Ms. Pervana Mladenof to the position of Administration Officer, Local Project Manager for the CLC – 40%, be approved, effective September 22, 2010.

Carried unanimously

8.9 Représentant autorisé des services électroniques Clic Revenu

The Director of Financial Services presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. ETSB10-09-157

Représentant autorisé des services électroniques Clic Revenu

ATTENDU QUE la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships a adhéré aux services électroniques Clic Revenu;

ATTENDU QUE la commission scolaire veut apporter des changements au représentant autorisé des services électroniques;

IL EST PROPOSÉ PAR le commissaire P. Bell de révoquer le représentant autorisé actuel des services électroniques à Clic Revenu;

IL EST ÉGALEMENT PROPOSÉ par le commissaire P. Bell de nommer André Turcotte, directeur du Service des finances et de la paie, représentant autorisé des services électroniques à Clic Revenu pour la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships.

Carried unanimously

9. DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

The Director General gave her report in which the following points were highlighted:

- Congratulations to our principals and centre directors as well as their staff for making the start of the 2010-2011 school year so pleasant and interesting for our students;
- Tour of the ETSB schools and centres by the Assistant Director General and Director General;
- Pedagogical Services organized an excellent Relaunch of our Early Intervention Initiative on August 27th, where all our K to 2 teachers had a chance to exchange with their colleagues and further strengthen their skills in this area;
- On September 17th, Complementary Services organized a first at the ETSB: a Symposium for all personnel dealing with our special needs students;
- In an effort to further engage our schools and centres, consultation documents will be going out shortly requesting feedback on a number of questions related to our Enhanced Learning Strategy.

A copy of the Director General's Report is attached to and forms a part of the Official Copy of the Minutes.

10. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman, M. Murray, gave a verbal report in which the following items were discussed:

- Welcome to our new Commissioner representing Ward 4, Ms. Jane Wardle;
- Presentation to the Senate committee on official languages;
- Townshippers' event was held at ADS this year. Congratulations to staff and volunteers of ADS;
- Press conference on Sept. 15th with *Partenaires Brome-Missisquoi Partners* regarding initiatives for drop-out prevention.

A copy of the Chairman's Report is attached to and forms a part of the Official Copy of the Minutes.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Executive Committee

The Chairman, M. Murray, indicated that the Executive Committee had approved the Personnel/Staffing Report of September 21, 2010.

11.2 Adult and Vocational Education Advisory Committee

Commissioner G. Holliday, chairman of the Adult and Vocational Education Advisory Committee stated that a meeting had not yet been held.

11.3 Audit Committee

Commissioner R. Gagnon, chairman of the Audit Committee, gave a verbal report of the meeting that was held on September 20, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Bill 100;
- Parking tickets for some staff attending the Early Intervention Symposium;
- Clic Revenu;
- Foundations and fundraising;
- Discussion with Director General – source funding;
- Tax situation – fluctuation in percentage for different school boards;
- Renovations status and status of Board office.

11.4 Communications Advisory Committee

The chairman of the Communications Advisory Committee, Commissioner G. Barnett, indicated that a date for the next meeting would be announced.

11.5 Educational Services Advisory Committee

In the absence of the chairman of the Educational Services Advisory Committee, the Assistant Director General reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on September 7, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Reflection on the year's work of the committee (2009-2010);
- 2009-2010 Pedagogical Services annual report;
- Results from the "Tell Them From Me" survey;
- Topics for the 2010-2011 Agenda;
- Mandate of Educational Services Advisory Committee.

11.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

Commissioner F. Macgregor, chairman of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on September 16, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Staffing update;
- Negotiations update;
- Human Resources Development Plan;
- Criteria for hiring senior personnel;
- Performance appraisals.

11.7 Planning and Development Advisory Committee

The chairman of the Planning and Development Advisory Committee, Commissioner M. Murray, gave a verbal report of the meeting that was held on September 14, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Update on International Program (2 groups);
- Budget;
- Host families for international students;
- Update on Enhanced Learning Strategy (ELS);
- Challenges of Bill 100.

11.8 Transportation Committee

The chairman of the Transportation Committee, Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell, indicated that a meeting had not been held as they are waiting for parent representatives.

11.9 Parents' Committee

Parent Commissioner C. Dolloff indicated that there was no quorum at the last Parents' Committee meeting. For information purposes, the following items were discussed:

- New procedure to reduce the number for quorum;
- New Commissioner for Ward 4 – Mansonville;
- Enrolment for 2010-2011.

11.10 Special Education Advisory Committee

The Director of Complementary Educational Services indicated that the Notes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of June 9, 2010, were included in the Commissioners' kits.

12. QUEBEC ENGLISH SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION REPORT

Commissioner F. MacGregor gave a verbal report of the Quebec English School Board Association meeting of September 17, 2010, in which the following items were discussed:

- Bill 103;
- Concern about Bill 104;
- Fall Planning and Development and Annual General Meeting – Nov. 2010;
- Possibility of video-conferencing;
- QESBA are hosts for Canadian School Board Association in 2012;
- Debbie Horrocks still with QESBA and working with LEARN;
- Education commission presented a resolution on kindergarten for four-year olds;
- Go-public campaign will be coming in the Fall.

13. S.O.F.I.E. Report

The Chairman indicated that there was no report.

14. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner G. Holliday stated that he had visited St. Francis Elementary School. The staff had appreciated the visit of the Director General and Assistant Director General. He indicated that a lot of renovations were still taking place and expressed concern regarding the driveway. He stated that the start-up had gone very well.

Commissioner Gérald Carrière expressed his congratulations to Parkview Passe-Partout who have thirty-eight (38) students enrolled in their program this year. He also stated that the cafeteria at Parkview Elementary School is reopening. The clean-up of the cafeteria was done by the members of the Parent Participation Organization.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman indicated that there was no correspondence.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

The President of the ATA asked if the School Board had any protocol regarding international students. He stated that teachers are finding the in and out situation with these students to be very disruptive to their class.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 8:34 p.m.

Secretary General

Chairman

2010-09-22
DW