

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2011
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
Pierre Bell
Daniel Brodie
Richard Gagnon
Diane Hudson
Patricia Keenan-Adank
Alice McCrory
Douglas Sullivan
Jane Wardle

Gordon Barnett
Peter Channell
Jennifer Downing-Bardati
Gary Holliday
Joy Humenuik-Campbell
Frank MacGregor, *vice-chairman*
Larry Smith
Bruno Vanasse

Parent Commissioners: Tina Bilodeau
Paul Laberge

Secretary General, Caroline Dufresne
Director General, Chantal C. Beaulieu
Assistant Director General and Director of Pedagogical Services, Gilles Ribaux
Director of Complementary Educational Services, Peter Hamilton
Director of Human Resources, Jeffrey Pauw
Director of Financial Services and Adult Education and Vocational Training, André Turcotte
Recording Secretary, Diane Warnholtz

ABSENT WITH REASON

Commissioner Gérald Carrière.

OBSERVERS

Serge Béliveau, Principal of AGRHS, Judy Demers, Corrinna Pole, Reporter, The Record, Sharon Priest, Information Officer.

GUEST

Mr. Marc Blanchette, Auditor of Raymond, Chabot, Grant, Thornton.

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

In the temporary absence of the chair, the vice-chairman, F. MacGregor, called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Sullivan to adopt the Agenda of October 25, 2011, with the following changes:

Move Item 10.1 – Expulsion of Student A and Item 10.2 – Financial Statements 2010-2011 after Item 6 – Recognition of Excellence.

Carried unanimously

3. Forms**3.1 Oath of Office, Declaration of Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality of Information Discussed During Meetings for Parent Commissioners**

Parent Commissioners Tina Bilodeau and Paul Laberge read the Oath of Office and signed the relevant documents presented by the Secretary General.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality of Information discussed during Meetings for Parent Commissioners were distributed and signed as well.

3.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Commissioners

The Secretary General distributed the Declaration of Conflict of Interest documentation to the Commissioners as the Code of Ethics, By-law 3, requires renewal of this documentation for the 2011-2012 school year.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett to approve the Minutes of the meeting that was held on September 27, 2011, with the following correction:

Commissioner Patricia Keenan-Adank was present, not absent.

Carried unanimously

5. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

6. RECOGNITION OF EXCELENCE

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

- On October 7th, Butler Elementary School remembered former teacher, Judy Derick, who lost her courageous battle with cancer in November 2010. During the ceremony, former Butler Principal, Renalee Gore, announced that Ms. Derick had been chosen as a recipient of a Certificate of Achievement for the 2010-2011 Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence and Excellence in Early Childhood Education. At the ceremony, Member of Parliament for Brome Missisquoi, Mr. Pierre Jacob, made the official presentation of the certificate to Ms. Derick's husband, Michael Laduke. This was the first time that the award had ever been awarded posthumously;
- Mansonville and Waterloo Elementary schools have recently received grants from the Prizm Income fund under their S`Cool Life Fund. The fund provides grants for DREAMS (Drama, Recreation, Extra-Curricular, Arts, Music, or Sports). The schools were accepted for funding for their robotics programs. Mansonville Elementary received \$906.00 with Waterloo Elementary receiving \$2,200.00. We would like to thank the S`Cool Fund and look forward to hearing more about each school's robotics programs in the future;
- On October 10th, over 350 students from ten (10) elementary schools participated in the annual ETSB Cross Country Run. The students took the opportunity to represent their school and enjoy the camaraderie of a great day outdoors. Thank you to the many different volunteers and staff members that made this event possible and congratulations to the winners;
- A recent report of the graduation and qualification rates by cohort for 2002-2005, shows that the ETSB is on the right track. For the 2005 cohort after 5 years, the ETSB shows the greatest improvement with the highest graduation and qualification rate among the four (4) Estrie school boards as well as posting a rate above the Quebec public and private average. With this increase, we are catching up with our fellow English school boards and are on par with those relative to our size. We would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate Serge Béliveau, Principal of Alexander Galt Regional High School, Tom Hamer, Principal of Massey-Vanier High School and Isabelle Beaulac, Principal of Richmond Regional High School, Velma Sutherland, Principal of the Eastern Townships Learning Centre, as well as their fellow administrators and staff for the excellent work in this dossier. It truly is a testament to the hard work, not only of our high schools, but everyone across our school board in supporting student success.

In-Camera Session

The meeting was moved in-camera on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 7:30 p.m.

10. NEW BUSINESS**10.1 Expulsion of Student A**

The Director of Complementary Educational Services presented the following resolution regarding the expulsion of a student:

**Resolution No. ETSB11-10-10
Expulsion of Student A**

WHEREAS in his past years at School X, Student A has had issues related to substance abuse, low motivation and lack of productivity;

WHEREAS in the past years, meetings with the psychoeducator and the guidance counselor have been held to offer academic help and guidance. Services from the substance abuse professional and from the *Centre Jean-Patrice Chiasson* were offered, but refused;

WHEREAS the offered services from the *Centre Jean-Patrice Chiasson* for substance abuse are still pending;

WHEREAS, on September 19th 2011, Student A was suspended by the school for drug trafficking;

WHEREAS Student A has been suspended in the past for other issues related to substance abuse;

WHEREAS the Director General suspended Student A until the Council meeting and informed Student A and his parents that they were welcome to present their points of view at the Council meeting;

WHEREAS the Secretary General has contacted both parents to assist them for the Council of Commissioners meeting presentation;

WHEREAS the severity of the incident of drug trafficking (uncontested by the student), the chronic low motivation and performance, the refusal of therapeutic interventions for substance abuse, and the age of this student (will be 18 in April 2012) are factors that need to be taken into account;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon that Student A be expelled from School X on a permanent basis, effective immediately;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED by Commissioner R. Gagnon that the services of the Eastern Townships School Board Adult Education Centre be offered to Student A in the hope that Student A could acquire the pre-requisites for a Vocational Educational Program. Strict conditions of entry would be set and remain in effect for the entire time of Student A's attendance if he chooses to attend Adult Education;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED by Commissioner R. Gagnon to include Distance Education and to follow the steps and deadlines in order to have goals to work on.

Carried unanimously

Out-of-Camera

The meeting was taken out-of-camera on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 7:40 p.m.

10.2 Financial Statements 2010-2011

The Director of Financial Services introduced Mr. Marc Blanchette, Auditor of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton. Mr. Blanchette reviewed the summarized Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2011.

Financial Statements for the Year Ending June 30, 2011

The Director General presented the following resolution regarding the 2010-2011 Financial Statements:

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-11

Financial Statements for the Year Ending June 30, 2011

WHEREAS section 286 of the Education Act requires that the financial activities of school boards be audited annually;

WHEREAS the Secretary General gave public notice of the date, time and place of the presentation of the financial statements on October 7, 2011;

WHEREAS the Director General published a summary of the annual financial statements of the School Board in two local newspapers on October 14, 2011;

WHEREAS the external auditors have deposited their report to the School Board;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell that the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2011 be received as tabled.

Carried unanimously

7. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no Business Arising.

8. ELECTION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS/EDUCATION ACT

8.1 Adoption of the Electoral Process

The Secretary General read the Electoral Process.

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-12
Adoption of the Electoral Process

WHEREAS a President of Elections and two Scrutineers shall be chosen by members of the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS if more than the required number of candidates is nominated, election shall be held by secret ballot;

WHEREAS to be elected to a committee a candidate must receive an absolute majority of those voting. After each ballot, the candidate with the least number of votes is dropped and balloting continues until the required number of members is elected;

WHEREAS immediately following the reading of the results, the ballots shall be destroyed;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Sullivan to approve the above procedure for the election of commissioners on the Executive and other various advisory committees.

Carried unanimously

8.2 Appointment of President of Elections and two Scrutineers

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Sullivan that the Secretary General be appointed as President of Elections.

Carried unanimously

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell that the Director of Human Resources and the Director of Complementary Educational Services be appointed as Scrutineers.

Carried unanimously

8.3 Appointment of Members to the Executive Committee

The President of Elections indicated that, according to section 179 of the *Education Act*, the composition of the Executive Committee is from five (5) to seven (7) members entitled to vote, including the Chair, and of any commissioner representing the Parents' Committee. She also indicated that at the last election in November 2009, it was moved that the Vice-chair be appointed as a member of the Executive Committee, which was maintained for the current election.

Nomination of Members to the Executive Committee

The President of Elections asked the following present Executive Committee Members if they were still interested in sitting on the Executive Committee:

Commissioners Gordon Barnett, Gary Holliday, Richard Gagnon, Joy Humenuik-Campbell and Douglas Sullivan. All confirmed their interest in remaining on the Executive Committee.

The President of Elections asked if there were any nominations to the Executive Committee.

Commissioner D. Hudson nominated Commissioner P. Bell, who accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

Ballots were given to the Commissioners in order that the elections be held by secret ballot since there were only 5 positions, and 6 commissioners who were interested in sitting on the Executive Committee. The President of Elections read the names of the elected Commissioners to the Executive Committee.

Gordon Barnett
Pierre Bell
Richard Gagnon
Joy Humenuik-Campbell
Douglas Sullivan

The term of the mandate of the Executive Committee was maintained at two years.

8.4 Election of Members to the Advisory Committees required by the Education Act

8.4.1 Audit Committee (Section 193.1 Education Act)

The President of Elections asked the present Audit Committee members if they were interested in remaining on the Audit Committee. They all indicated that they would like to remain as members. They are as follows:

Pierre Bell
Peter Channell
Richard Gagnon
Joy Humenuik-Campbell
Michael Murray
Larry Smith

The President of Elections asked if there were any nominations to the Audit Committee.

Commissioner D. Brodie nominated Commissioner P. Keenan-Adank, who accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that nominations cease for members on the Audit Committee.

Carried unanimously

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-13

Composition of the Audit Committee

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Brodie that the composition of the Audit Committee be increased to seven (7) members.

Carried unanimously

Appointment of Members to the Audit Committee

The following Commissioners were appointed to the Audit Committee:

Pierre Bell
Peter Channell
Richard Gagnon
Joy Humenuik-Campbell
Patricia Keenan-Adank
Michael Murray
Larry Smith

8.4.2 Governance and Ethics Committee (Section 193.1 Education Act)

The President of Elections indicated that the Governance and Ethics Committee is composed of three (3) regular members and two (2) alternate members.

The President of Elections asked if there were any nominations.

Commissioner R. Gagnon moved that the members to the Governance and Ethics Committee remain the same.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that nominations cease for members on the Governance and Ethics Committee.

The following members were re- appointed to the Governance and Ethics Committee:

Regular Members

Gordon Barnett
Tina Bilodeau
Gary Holliday

Alternate Members

Brenda Bailey
Paul Laberge

8.4.3 Human Resources Committee (Section 193.1 Education Act)

The President of Elections indicated that the Human Resources Committee is composed of seven (7) members.

The President of Elections asked the present members if they were interested in remaining on the Human Resources Committee. All of the Commissioners, except for

Diane Hudson indicated that they would like to remain on the Human Resources Committee.

The President of Elections asked if there were any nominations.

Commissioner D. Hudson nominated Commissioner P. Keenan-Adank, who accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that nominations cease for members on the Human Resources Committee.

Carried unanimously

The following members were appointed to the Human Resources Committee:

Brenda Bailey
Joy Humenuik-Campbell
Patricia Keenan-Adank
Frank MacGregor
Alice McCrory
Larry Smith
Douglas Sullivan

8.4.4 Transportation Committee (Section 188 *Education Act*)

The President of Elections asked the present members of the Transportation Committee if they would be interested in remaining on the committee. They both indicated that they would like to remain on the Transportation Committee as members.

The President of Elections asked if there were any nominations.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

The following members were re-appointed to the Transportation Committee:

Pierre Bell
Gary Holliday

8.4.5 Special Education Advisory Committee (Section 185 *Education Act*)

The President of Elections reviewed the composition of the Special Education Advisory Committee as follows:

18 parents	3 teachers
1 management personnel	3 external agencies
1 professional	1 Director General representative
1 support staff	1 Commissioner

The composition of the Special Education Advisory Committee will remain the same.

8.5 Election of the Members to the Appeal Committee

The President of Elections indicated that it was necessary to appoint four (4) members to the Appeal Committee.

The President of Elections asked if there were any nominations to the Appeal Committee.

Commissioner D. Sullivan nominated Commissioner D. Brodie, who accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

Ballots were given to the Commissioners in order that the elections be held by secret ballot since there were only 6 positions, and 7 commissioners who were interested in sitting on the Appeal Committee. The President of Elections read the names of the elected Commissioners to the Appeal Committee.

The following members were elected to the Appeal Committee:

Regular Members

Tina Bilodeau
Daniel Brodie
Gary Holliday
Paul Laberge

Alternate Members

Larry Smith
Jane Wardle

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-14

Approval of the Nominations to the Executive and the Advisory Committees and Confirmation of a Two-Year Term for Each Committee

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Brodie that all of the nominations to the Executive and Advisory Committees be approved, with a two year term for each committee.

Carried with abstentions
by the appointed members

8.6 Release of the President of Elections and two Scrutineers

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Sullivan to release the President of Elections and Scrutineers from their duties.

Carried unanimously

8.7 Destruction of Ballots

All of the ballots will be destroyed by the Secretary General after this Council meeting.

9. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS ON INTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES (Educational Services, Adult and Vocational Education, Communications, Planning and Development)

The Vice-chairman indicated that it was necessary to appoint commissioners to the internal advisory committees. He asked if there was any interest from the new Commissioners.

Commissioner J. Downing-Bardati indicated that she was interested in sitting on the Educational Services Advisory Committee and the Adult Education and Vocational Training Advisory Committee.

Commissioner D. Brodie indicated his interest in sitting on the Communication Advisory Committee.

Commissioner B. Bailey expressed interest in sitting on the Communications and Adult Education and Vocational Training Advisory Committees.

The vice-chairman indicated that members of the Executive Committee are the official members of the Planning and Development Committee. He also indicated that 1 or 2 commissioners are needed to liaise with the Audit Committee. Commissioner R. Gagnon volunteered to continue to be this liaison person.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Vanasse that appointments cease.

The Vice-chair indicated that the committees' compositions will be modified according to the changes mentioned above.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Items 10.1 and 10.2 were previously discussed after Item 6 – Recognition of Excellence.

8:45 p.m. The Chair, M. Murray, joins the meeting.

In-Camera Session

The meeting was taken in-camera by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 8:50 p.m.

10.3 Appeal Committee Hearing – October 24, 2011

Commissioner G. Barnett presented the following resolution regarding the Appeal Committee hearing that was held on October 24, 2011:

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-15
Appeal Committee Hearing - October 24, 2011

WHEREAS at the beginning of the school year, there was one grade 1 class and one grade 2 class at School A;

WHEREAS in September, because of an increase in enrolment, the Eastern Townships School Board added a third class, creating one class of grade 1, one class of grade 1 & 2, and one class of grade 2;

WHEREAS students from the first two classes were split according to specific criteria, to create a third class, the grade 1 & 2 class;

WHEREAS students A and B, twin brothers, are no longer in the same class since one has stayed in the grade 1 class and the other has been placed in the grade 1 & 2 class;

WHEREAS the parents of the twin boys have contested the school's decision to separate their sons;

WHEREAS the Appeal Committee has heard both parties on October 24, 2011;

WHEREAS the Appeal Committee supports the decision made by the school team and believes it was made in the best interest of the students concerned;

WHEREAS the Appeal Committee takes the concerns of the parents seriously and would recommend that the Pedagogical Services Department closely monitor the progress and well-being of students A and B by being in contact with the school and parents;

WHEREAS should there be any change in the situation of student A and student B at school, the school should react accordingly to continue to ensure the well-being of students A and B;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner G. Barnett to maintain the students A and B in their current situation.

Carried with 1 opposed
- Commissioner B. Vanasse

Out-of-Camera

The meeting was taken out-of-camera by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 9:10 p.m.

10.4 Signing Officers for Schools/Centres

The Director of Financial Services presented the following resolution regarding signing officers for schools/centres:

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-16
Signing Officers for Schools/Centres

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (“ETSB”) appointed the National Bank to provide banking services;

WHEREAS the accepted bid received from the National Bank also includes banking services for ETSB schools and centres;

WHEREAS the National Bank requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of ETSB schools and centres;

WHEREAS a new staff assignment has changed the name of a representative in one school;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner B. Bailey that the following individual be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of their school:

Richmond Regional High School

Wanda Cox (add)
Mona McGee (Remove)

Carried unanimously

11. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Director General stated that due to the numerous items on the Agenda, there was no report.

12. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The chairman, M. Murray, presented his report of October 25, 2011, in which the following points were highlighted:

- Conference in Quebec City – 2nd major consultation on preventing and reducing dropouts. The Minister of Education and Premier Charest cited statistics that showed progress toward goals set for 2020;
- The Minister of Education had a lengthy interview with *Radio-Canada*. Her comments were describing a policy proposal that was being brought to the convention of the Quebec Liberal Party over the weekend;
- The Quebec and Canadian governments are committed to returning to balanced budgeting, therefore, budget compressions are inevitable;
- It appears that the next School Board elections will be held in November 2013, twinned with Municipal elections;
- Thank you to all of the commissioners who gave of their time to attend the annual commissioner’s retreat. Orientations and priorities were discussed, and the focus was on techniques for leading change. One significant orientation will be to

enhance our existing programs for general health and fitness for students and staff of our board.

- Digital textbooks;
- Recommendation of a book entitled, "Mindset" by Carol S. Dweck.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

13.1 Executive Committee

There was nothing new to report from the Executive Committee.

13.2 Adult Education and Vocational Training Advisory Committee

Commissioner G. Barnett, chairman of the Adult and Vocational Education Advisory Committee, indicated that the next meeting would be announced shortly.

13.3 Audit Advisory Committee

Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell, chairman of the Audit Advisory Committee, indicated that the Notes of the meetings of October 4, 2011 and October 18, 2011, were in the Commissioner's kits.

The following resolutions were presented by Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell:

13.3.1 Creation of a Selection Committee for the Analysis of Qualitative Bids

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-17

Creation of a Selection Committee for the Analysis of Qualitative Bids

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Loi sur les contrats des organismes publics*, it is necessary to create a Selection Committee to analyze qualitative bids received in order to grant service contracts or the procurement of goods;

WHEREAS this Committee must be composed of four people, with one to act as secretary;

WHEREAS it was agreed that the Committee will consist of the following individuals: Ms. Caroline Dufresne, Secretary General/Communications Director, Mr. André Turcotte, Director of Financial Services, Mr. Richard Gagnon, Commissioner, and Mr. Roch Tremblay, Coordinator of Material Resources;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell that the selection committee be formed by the members mentioned above.

Carried unanimously

13.3.2 Sale of Land – Township of Ditchfield**Resolution No. ESTB11-10-18****Sale of Land – Township of Ditchfield**

WHEREAS the School Board received a purchase offer for a land owned in the Townships of Ditchfield, Municipality of Frontenac;

WHEREAS the purchase offer was received from Me Mario Mathieu for his client Mr. Jean Patry;

WHEREAS Mr. Patry has been occupying and utilizing the lot for many decades and could proceed by prescription;

WHEREAS after a discussion between the School Board and the Notary, it was agreed that a sum of \$500.00 will be paid by Mr. Jean Patry for the acquisition of the land;

WHEREAS the professional fees will also be covered by Mr. Jean Patry;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell to sell the land to Mr. Patry for the sum of \$500.00;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General be authorized to sign all associated documentation and that, in the absence of the Director General, the Secretary General be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

13.3.3 Statement of School Taxes Remaining Due and Owing 2011-2012**Resolution No. ETSB11-10-19****Statement of School Taxes Remaining Due and Owing 2011-2012**

WHEREAS the Director of Financial Services presented the following summary regarding the statement of the school taxes remaining due and owing by owners;

WHEREAS the payment of the 2nd installment does not come due until December and consequently these amounts are included in the total school taxes not yet collected;

Annual Invoices Issued – June	2011-2012	2010-2011
Total school taxes invoices issued:	17513	17890
Total school taxes to be collected:	\$7,286,590.76	\$7,672,911.60
Invoices Outstanding – November	2011-2012	2010-2011
Total school taxes invoices outstanding:	9212	9621
Total school taxes not yet collected:	\$3,573,363.87	\$3,352,074.05

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell to approve the statement of the school taxes remaining due and owing by owners.

Carried unanimously

13.4 Communication Advisory Committee

Commissioner D. Sullivan, chairman of the Communication Advisory Committee, indicated that the next meeting would be held on November 17, 2011.

13.5 Educational Services Advisory Committee

In the absence of the Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee, Commissioner R. Gagnon, at the last meeting, the Assistant Director General reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on October 11, 2011, in which the following items were discussed:

- Future topics for discussion;
- Pedagogical Services Plan 2011-2012;
- Update & Complementary Services Plan 2011-2012;
- Decision to continue the PLC conversations that occurred two years ago with some principals.

13.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

Commissioner F. MacGregor, Chairman of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, indicated that the next meeting would be held on November 3, 2011. He also presented the Human Resources Strategic Plan included in the September 27th 2011 kit and informed commissioners that this plan will now be put in action.

13.7 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 October 18, 2011, in which the following items were discussed:

Recommendations to the Council of Commissioners:

- Obtain external support in change leadership for Commissioners within existing budget;
- Develop a series of Commissioner visits to schools to listen to what students and staff might wish to communicate about local needs and priorities;
- To appoint Frank MacGregor and Gordon Barnett to participate in discussions at AGRHS concerning the Quit Smoking Program.

13.8 Transportation Committee

Commissioner P. Bell, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, reviewed the Notes of the meeting that was held on October 3, 2011, in which the following items were discussed:

- Out-of-basin fees will increase for the 2012-2013 school year;
- Review of the composition of the Transportation Advisory Committee and the information documents;
- Start-up report for the East and West sectors;
- Transportation Services staffing information.

13.9 Parents' Committee

Parent Commissioner T. Bilodeau gave a verbal report of the Parents' Committee meeting that was held on October 5, 2011, in which the following points were highlighted:

- Guests: ETSB Chairman, Michael Murray, Secretary General, Caroline Dufresne;
- Elections were held: James Sweeny was named Chairman for his second year and both Parent Commissioners were re-elected.

Before the election for Parent Commissioners was held, Mr. Murray explained the responsibilities of the position.

- Parent Commissioner, Elementary – Paul Laberge (Representative from SES);
- Parent Commissioner, Secondary – Tina Bilodeau (Representative from RRHS);
- Transportation Representative, West side – Darren Kotania (Representative from Knowlton);
- Transportation Representative, East side – Ben Rivett (Representative from LES);

Report from the Secretary General, Caroline Dufresne :

- This years' Volunteer Recognition Gala will be held on November 23, 2011, at the Centre d'Art d'Orford. An invitation will be sent to the nominees and participants;
- ETSB will be bringing back the Parents Newsletter this year. They plan to print 2 to 3 issues and to go electronic next year;
- There will be a Governing Board Workshop in November in each region. Hoping to do a parent-teacher joint workshop as both parents and teachers are active members of this committee;

Elections were held:

- Secretary – Renée Campeau (Representative from North Hatley);
- FCPQ: election of 2nd representative to their C.A. – Darren Kotania (Representative from Knowlton);

- 1st representative is Jim Sweeny who is VP of English Affairs for the FCPQ;

New Business:

- Alert Training sessions will be held on November 17th & 18th. This session is open to all parents, teachers, and professionals;

Report from Parent Commissioners:

- On September 30th and October 1st, there was a Commissioners Symposium. There was much discussion as to follow-up with the Vision Meetings with teachers, support staff, bus drivers and parents, as well as the continuation of moving forward with our projects - laptops, Early Intervention, Drop-out Prevention and many others;
- It is important that parents know that Commissioners and Parent Commissioners are a valuable source of information and a contact person for any questions or concerns for the Board Office;
- Highlights from the last Commissioners meeting have been circulated through e-mail.

13.10 Special Education Advisory Committee

The Director of Complementary Educational Services indicated that the Notes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on September 14, 2011, were in the Commissioners' kits.

14. QUEBEC ENGLISH SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Commissioner F. MacGregor indicated that there was nothing new to report. He encouraged everyone to attend the Quebec English School Boards Association Annual General Meeting to be held at the Delta Hotel on October 28 and 29, 2011.

Resolution No. ETSB11-10-20

Votes not Cast at the QESBA Annual General Meeting

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner G. Holliday and **ADOPTED** that all the votes that were not cast at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) held on October 28 & 29, 2011, be carried to the Eastern Townships School Board Vice-Chair, Mr. Frank MacGregor.

Carried with one abstention
- Commissioner R. Gagnon

15. SOFIE REPORT

Commissioner J. Humenuik-Campbell stated that a regular meeting had been held, as well as an Annual General Meeting. The Financial Report was presented.

16. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner J. Wardle stated that she would like to ask the Commissioners if they have any suggestions on how to encourage parent participation on school committees.

Commissioner D. Sullivan wished Commissioner M. Murray luck this weekend at the QESBA elections.

The Secretary General indicated that Commissioners are invited to an Open House at the Brome Missisquoi Centre on Wednesday, October 26, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Ministry giving permission for long-term borrowing. This item will be discussed at the next Audit Committee meeting.

18. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

19. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 10:17 p.m.

Secretary General

Chairman

2011-10-29
DW