

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
ETSB BOARD ROOM
340 SAINT-JEAN-BOSCO
MAGOG, QC. J1X 1K9

MINUTES

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

MEMBERS PRESENT (P):

GH = Google Hangout

OBSERVERS

Sharon Priest, Communications Consultant

GUESTS

Megan Seline, Appalachians' Teachers Association (ATA) President, Matthew McCully, The Record, Julie Dubois, TRUSS Association (ATA) President.

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to adopt the Agenda of September 22, 2015, as submitted.

Carried unanimously

– Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 25, 2015

Resolution No. ETSB15-09-07

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 25, 2015

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of August 25, 2015 have been given to each Commissioner at least 6 hours before the opening of the meeting, the Secretary General is excused from reading the Minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett to excuse the Secretary General from reading the Minutes and to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on August 25, 2015 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

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:

- On June 25th the Friends of Massey-Vanier (FMV) held their annual Golf Tournament at the Cowansville Golf Course. This year alone, the tournament raised \$34,349, which is shared by the schools from both the Eastern Townships School Board and *la Commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs*. This year's co-chairs for the tournament were Charles Francis, a former Massey-Vanier student who competed at the London Summer Games in 2012 in swimming and Robert Kay, retired MVHS Physical Education teacher and coach. Long-time tournament organizer Richard Staples celebrated his 25th year with the FMV, over which time approximately \$600,000 has been raised by the organization. Other long-time supporters who have offered both their time and financial support are; Hardy Craft, Douglas Johnston, and Pierre Foisy to mention but a few. At this year's tournament JFS, *Valeurs Mobilières Desjardins*, *l'Équipe Coiteux-Wickham de la Financière Banque Nationale* and Duke CPA Inc., were recognized for their continued long-term support. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize the valuable contribution that the Friends of Massey-Vanier have made and the support of the community members that give so freely of their time and resources;
- We would like to extend our congratulations to the teachers at Pope Memorial Elementary School on being recognized as the number one school in the ETSB with regards to the use of the Reflex Math resources. "Pope Memorial Elementary School has displayed tremendous commitment, dedication and leadership in using Reflex..." expressed Sarah Broadbent, Project Manager Professional Development for ExploreLearning. Reflex is a web-based application that allows students to learn math concepts in a fun and engaging way.

6. DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

The Director General presented verbally his written report in which the following items were highlighted:

- New School Year
- Negotiations

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

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair presented verbally his written report in which the following items were highlighted:

- School boards not forced to merge and share services with other French Estrie school boards;
- MEESR reaction to the Jennings' report;
- Labour negotiations;
- Possible establishment of a joint school in Sawerville;
- Clarenceville school possible reopening;
- Enrolment increase at ETSB.

A copy of the Chair's Report is attached to and forms a part of the official copy of the Minutes.

8. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

9. FORMS

9.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality of Information Discussed during Meetings for Elected 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 2015-2016 school year.

Documents were signed and will be kept in the Commissioners files.

9.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality of Information Discussed during Meetings for Parent Commissioners

The Secretary General distributed the Declaration of Conflict of Interest documentation to the Parent Commissioners as the Code of Ethics, By-law 3, requires renewal of this documentation for the 2015-2016 school year.

Documents were signed and will be kept in the Commissioners files.

10. COMMITTEES

10.1 Modification to the Committees' Structure

WHEREAS, section 193.1 of the *Education Act* requires that the Council of Commissioners must establish the following committees:

- ✓ a Governance and Ethics Committee;
- ✓ an Audit Committee; and
- ✓ a Human Resources Committee.

WHEREAS section 185 of the *Education Act* requires that every school board shall establish an Advisory Committee on Services for Handicapped Students and Students with Social Maladjustments or Learning Disabilities;

WHEREAS section 188 of the *Education Act* requires that every school board which provides student transportation shall establish an Advisory Committee on Transportation the composition, operation and functions of which shall meet the norms established by government regulation;

WHEREAS section 193.1 of the *Education Act* stipulates that the Council of Commissioners may establish other committees to assist it in the exercise of its functions or the examination of specific matters;

WHEREAS following discussions, the Eastern Townships School Board needs to establish one additional committee, the Educational Services Advisory Committee;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to add an Educational Services Advisory Committee.

Carried unanimously

10.2 Adoption of the Electoral Process

The Secretary General read the Electoral Process.

Resolution no. ETSB15-09-08

Adoption of the Electoral Process

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Brodie to approve the following procedure for the election of member as Chair of Educational Services Advisory Committee and as Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee

A President of elections and two scrutineers shall be chosen by members of the Council of Commissioners.

If more than the required number of candidates is nominated, election shall be held by secret ballot.

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.

Immediately following the reading of the results, the ballots shall be destroyed.

10.3 Appointment of President of Elections and Two Scrutineers

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik that the Secretary General, E. Campbell, be appointed as President of elections and that the Director of Finance, S. Leduc, and the Director of Human Resources, J. Pauw, be appointed as Scrutineers.

Carried unanimously

11. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner J. Humenuik nominated Commissioner R. Gagnon who accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday that nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

Resolution No. ETSB15-09-09**Appointment of the Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee**

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner C. Beaubien to appoint Commissioner R. Gagnon as Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee.

Carried unanimously

The Secretary General explained to the Commissioners that because Commissioner R. Gagnon was just elected as Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee, he actually becomes

the Chair of two committees and hence he must resign as the Chair of the Governance and Ethics Advisory Committee.

Therefore, Commissioner R. Gagnon resigned as the Chair of the Governance and Ethics Advisory Committee.

Following his resignation, a new Chair of the Governance and Ethics Advisory Committee must be elected. The Secretary General explained that the same process as for the election of the Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee will be followed to elect the new Chair of the Governance and Ethics Advisory Committee.

12. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

Commissioner F. MacGregor nominated Commissioner G. Barnett who accepted the nomination.

Commissioner P. Laberge nominated Parent-Commissioner K. Waterhouse who accepted the nomination.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. Murray that nominations cease.

Carried unanimously

Ballots were given to the Commissioners to cast their vote.

Resolution No. ETSB15-09-10

Appointment of the Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon to appoint Commissioner G. Barnett as Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee.

Carried unanimously

13. RELEASE OF THE PRESIDENT OF ELECTIONS AND OF THE TWO SCRUTINEERS AND DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS

Resolution No. ETSB15-09-11

Release of the President of Elections and of the two Scrutineers and Destruction of Ballots

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to release the President of elections and the two Scrutineers from their duties and to destroy the ballots.

14. NEW BUSINESS**14.1.1 Finance**

The following resolutions were presented by Commissioner J. Humenuik, the Chairperson of the Audit Committee:

14.1.1.1 Signing Officers for Schools/Centres**Resolution no. ETSB15-09-12
Signing Officers for Schools/Centres**

WHEREAS the CIBC Bank requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of ETSB schools, including: Mansonville Elementary School;

WHEREAS new principal assignments have changed the names of representatives in these schools;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner D. Brodie that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of their respective schools as of September 22nd 2015:

Mansonville Elementary

Sarah Lenz (add)

Carried unanimously

14.1.2 Buildings and Grounds**14.1.2.1 Alexander Galt Regional High School – Gymnasium and Locker Room Renovations (Phase 1)****Resolution no. ETSB15-09-13
Alexander Galt Regional High School – Gymnasium and Locker Room Renovations (Phase 1)**

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche (MEESR)* approved a budget of \$514,860 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien des bâtiments 2015-16 Mesure 50621*;

WHEREAS delays which the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) faces, forces us to present the resolution on a budgetary basis for the amount of \$600,000;

WHEREAS the contract will be granted as soon as the results of the call for tenders will be known;

WHEREAS the contract will be granted in respect of authorization by the MEESR for this project (contract, professional fees & taxes included) and the ETSB's purchase policy and government requirements (laws, policies, rules, etc...);

WHEREAS if additional funds are required to complete the project, monies will be taken from the *MDB – Maintien des bâtiments 2013-14* and/or in the *AMT – Maintien des actifs et transformation fonctionnelle program*;

WHEREAS the contract will be granted according to the recommendations of the professional firm;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to proceed, in conformity with the authorization by the MEESR and the ETSB's purchase policy and government requirements, for the project stated above; **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 Director of Operations can also sign.

Carried unanimously

14.1.2.2 Richmond Regional High School – Brick Pointing

Resolution no. ETSB15-09-14

Richmond Regional High School – Brick Pointing

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche (MEESR)* approved a budget of \$80,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2013-14 Mesure 50621*;

WHEREAS seven (7) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

WHEREAS five (5) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$24,892 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Maçonnerie Bissonnette Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Demers Pelletier Architectes*, has recommended the company *Maçonnerie Bissonnette Inc.*, lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work;

WHEREAS the amount of the lowest bid from the contractor plus the professional fees and taxes is \$42,715.51;

WHEREAS if additional funds are required to complete the project, monies will be taken from: *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2013-14* and/or in the *AMT - Maintien des actifs et transformation fonctionnelle* program;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner T. Bilodeau that the company *Maçonnerie Bissonnette Inc.* be awarded the contract for the project stated above; **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 Director of Operations can also sign.

Carried unanimously

14.1.2.3 Sawyerville Elementary School – Correct Water Infiltration

Resolution no. ETSB15-09-15

Sawyerville Elementary School – Correct Water Infiltration

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) dedicated a budget of \$100,000 for the project stated above, under the program *AMT - Maintien des actifs et transformation fonctionnelle 2015-16*;

WHEREAS delays which the ETSB faces, forces us to present the resolution on a budgetary basis for the amount of \$100,000;

WHEREAS the contract will be granted as soon as the results of the call for tenders will be known;

WHEREAS the contract will be granted in respect of budget dedicated by the ETSB for this project (contract, professional fees & taxes included) and the ETSB's purchase policy and government requirements (laws, policies, rules, etc....);

WHEREAS if additional funds are required to complete the project, monies will be taken from the *AMT - Maintien des actifs et transformation fonctionnelle* ;

WHEREAS the contract will be granted according to the recommendations of the professional firm;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M.E. Kirby to proceed, in conformity with the authorization by the MEESR and the ETSB's purchase policy and government requirements, for the project stated above; **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 Director of Operations can also sign.

Carried unanimously

14.2 Composition of the Governing Boards – Ayers' Cliff Elementary School and Cookshire Elementary School

This resolution was presented by the Secretary-General:

Resolution No. ETSB15-09-16

Composition of Governing Boards for Ayers' Cliff Elementary School and Cookshire Elementary School

WHEREAS a request has been received to modify the composition of Ayers' Cliff Elementary School and Cookshire Elementary School Governing Boards;

WHEREAS it is necessary to change the composition of the Governing Board of Ayer's Cliff Elementary School and Cookshire Elementary School in order to better reflect the school's community and enrollment;

WHEREAS the *Education Act* stipulates that the school boards determine the composition of the Governing Board;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, on a motion by Commissioner C. Beaubien that the composition of the Governing Board for each of the schools listed below be established as follows:

Schools	Parents	School Staff	Childcare Services	Community Representatives*	Total
Ayers' Cliff Elementary	4	3	1	2	10
Cookshire Elementary	4	3	1	2	10

- As required by the *Education Act* section 42(5)

Carried unanimously

15. REPORTS**15.1 Parents' Committee**

The Chair of the Parents' Committee mentioned that there was nothing to report as there were no meetings. He also informed the Council that the first meeting of the 2015-2016 school year is scheduled on October 14, 2015.

15.2 Student Advisory Committee

From the Student Advisory Committee (SAC), Commissioner J. Humenuik informed the Council that the first meeting of the school year will be held on September 23, 2015.

15.3 QUEBEC ENGLISH SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION REPORT (QESBA)**15.3.1 Nomination for the Position of President for QESBA****Resolution No. ETSB15-09-17****Nomination for the Position of President for QESBA**

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners support the nomination of the President of the Eastern Townships School Board, Commissioner M. Murray, for the Position of President of the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA);

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon to send a resolution to the QESBA to this effect.

Carried unanimously

15.4 S.O.F.I.E. REPORT

Commissioner J. Humenuik mentioned that the next SOFIE meeting will take place on October 2, 2015.

16. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner G. Barnett reported that he heard on the radio that in the light of government intentions to abolish school board elections experiences from other school boards with appointed administrators were negative.

The Secretary General mentioned that the *Fondation Christian Vachon* run will take place on September 26 at the *École secondaire La Ruche*, in Magog. The Eastern Townships School Board will be represented by 212 students. For the first time, the ETSB will have a team composed of 6 runners and will run around the Memphremagog Lake. Apples will be distributed to all runners and all ETSB students who participated to the cross-country run. These apples were graciously offered by *Vergers Thomson*, located in Saint-Paul-d'Abbotsford.

Commissioner P. Laberge mentioned that the Sherbrooke Elementary School will inaugurate its playground this Monday September 28, at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner T. Bilodeau mentioned that the *Courir pour Apprendre* run will take place on Saturday, September 26, 2015 at Asbestos-Danville-Shipton Elementary School in collaboration with the Fondation Christian Vachon as well.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

No items of correspondence were received.

18. QUESTION PERIOD

Megan Seline

Q: With the present offer on the table from the government to increase the maximum class size at the Cycle I and II elementary and cycle I secondary, and with removal of the weighting of some special needs categories, does the School Board know how it will be able to address student needs?

R: *M. Murray replied that we do not know what the final text will look like and therefore cannot speculate. Until that time, we will continue to focus on student needs.*

Q: Does the Council realize that teachers are willing to give up 6 days of pay in protest of the government offers and negotiations?

R: *M. Murray replied that yes, we were aware that the other unions had voted in favour of 6 days, therefore it was expected that the ATA would follow suit.*

19. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 8:20 p.m.

Éric Campbell
Secretary General
/EC

Michael Murray
Chairman

2015-09-23