

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

**TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016 – 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):

Commissioners		Parent Commissioners	
Gordon Barnett	P	Mary Gilman	P
Claire Beaubien	P	Paul Laberge, Member	P
Daniel Brodie	P	Cindy Véronneau	GH
Richard Gagnon	P	Kenneth Waterhouse	P
Gary Holliday	P		
Joy Humenuik, Vice-Chairman	P	Administrators	
Mary-Ellen Kirby	P	Secretary General, Éric Campbell	P
Frank MacGregor	Absent	Director General, Christian Provencher	<i>Arrival at 7 :30 p.m.</i>
Alice McCrory	Absent	Assistant Director General and Director of Pedagogical Services, Kandy Mackey	P
Michael Murray, Chairman	P	Director of Human Resources, Jeffrey Pauw	P
Tina Pezzi-Bilodeau	P	Director of Financial Services, Sophie Leduc	P
Gregg Thomson	Absent	Director of Operations, Michel Soucy	P

GH = Google Hangout

OBSERVERS

Sharon Priest, Communications Consultant

GUESTS

Megan Seline, President of the Appalachian Teachers' Association (ATA) and Matthew McCully, The Record.

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Parent-Commissioner C. Véronneau to adopt the Agenda of March 29, 2016 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

3. Confirmation of Executive Committee Resolution – Director General Appointment

The Chairman presented the following resolution, which was adopted at the last Executive Committee Meeting of February 25, 2016

Resolution No. ETSB16-03-51

Confirmation of Appointment of Director General

WHEREAS the post of Director General of the Eastern Townships School Board is vacant following the resignation of André Turcotte;

WHEREAS the vacancy was posted both internally and externally for a period of ten (10) working days;

WHEREAS the Search Committee struck by the Council of Commissioners received several applications, studied written materials and conducted interviews;

WHEREAS the Search Committee unanimously recommends one candidate;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik and adopted unanimously to appoint Christian Provencher to the post of Director General of the Eastern Townships School Board, effective March 29, 2016 with compensation and working conditions as established by the document "*Certain Conditions of Employment of Senior Executives of School Boards and of the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal*".

Carried unanimously

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 23, 2016

Resolution No. ETSB16-03-52

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 23, 2016

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of February 23, 2016 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 February 23, 2016 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

5. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline

On behalf of Appalachian Teachers' Association, Ms. Seline welcomed Mr. Christian Provencher as the new ETSB Director General.

6. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

- The official launch of the Eastern Townships School Board's two new Community Learning Centre's (CLC) took place this past month. Asbestos-Danville-Shipton (ADS) Elementary School and Drummondville Elementary School (DES) held press conferences to introduce the CLC approach and concept to their communities. Both schools are now officially extended model CLC schools that are linked with the Richmond Regional CLC. Staff and students from the two elementary schools proudly greeted invited guests who included representatives from the local MNA's office, the Mayor and /or his designate and various community partners and members. We would like to extend our congratulations to each of the school principals and their school communities as well as CLC Coordinator Julie Corriveau-Wilson on the very successful launches. We look forward to hearing more in the coming months about the exciting initiatives and projects taking place with these new CLCs;
- Drummondville Elementary School (DES) teacher Steve Rutherford is currently working on the third feature length film for the School. Not only do DES students act in the blockbuster but also they are involved in helping with the sets, costumes, lighting, directing and producing! With some of the script writing integrated into classroom work, the rest of it is done outside of class hours, during recess, after school and even on weekends. This year's production titled "Guardian Angels" is set to wrap up in May with a June release date. Its' two predecessors, "Diamond Souls" in 2012 and "Space Movie" in 2015, were both acclaimed blockbusters...according to sources at the school. We look forward to the release of this year's film. We are fortunate enough tonight to have a short trailer from "Space Movie" to peak your interest for the new release.

7. DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

The new Director General, Christian Provencher shared his vision, his goals and expectations for the balance of the school year, including an Action Plan for the last three months of the current school year (April-June 2016).

8. CHAIRS' REPORT

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

- The presentation of the Estrie Boards brief at the Bill 86 hearings, by the Chairmen of the four Estrie School Boards.
- Meeting to take place with the Chairmen of the Estrie School Boards and the Estrie Liberal Caucus, on May 31st.

9. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Youth Sector 2016-2017 School Year Calendar

The Director of Human Resources presented the 2016-2017 Youth Sector Calendar.

Resolution No. ETSB16-03-53 2016-2017 School Year Calendar

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to approve the 2016-2017 school year calendar, as deposited.

Carried unanimously

11. REPORT

11.1 Executive Committee

The Chair of the Executive Committee mentioned that the following items were discussed at the Executive Committee:

- Staffing
- Youth Calendar

10.2. Audit Advisory Committee**10.2.1.1 Building and Grounds**

The Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee presented the following resolutions:

10.2.1.1 Lennoxville Elementary School – Windows Replacement**Resolution No. ETSB16-03-54****Lennoxville Elementary School – Windows Replacement**

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur* (MEES) approved a budget of \$375,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2012-13 Mesure: 50621* and under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2015-16 Mesure: 50621*;

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

WHEREAS six (6) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$304,715 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Les Constructions Yves Lessard inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *François Parenteau Architecte*, has recommended the company *Les Constructions Yves Lessard 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 \$372,593 (*conservative estimate of \$15,000 professional fee – exact amount to be obtained*);

WHEREAS if additional funds are required to complete the project, monies will be taken from: *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2012-13 program* and/or in the *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2015-16 program* and/or in the *AMT - Maintien des actifs et transformation fonctionnelle program*;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett that the Company *Les Construction Yves Lessard 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

11.2.2.2 Lennoxville Elementary School – Bathroom Renovation (Phase 2)**Resolution No. ETSB16-03-55****Lennoxville Elementary School – Bathroom Renovation (Phase 2)**

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES)* approved a budget of \$200,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2014-15 Mesure 50621*;

WHEREAS the *Commission scolaire régionale de Sherbrooke* is entitled to contribute at the level of \$100,000 under their own program;

WHEREAS it was moved by resolution #ETSB15-04-107, on April 28, 2015, that the contract for the project stated above be awarded, respecting the budgetary basis resolution, in the amount of \$275,000;

WHEREAS the amount of the lowest bid in conformity was from *Grondin Marois inc.* for \$330,986.41 including contract, professional fees and taxes;

WHEREAS during the project some modifications and additional work needed to be done for an amount of \$24,807.87 including taxes;

WHEREAS the total amount for the contract including all modification orders, additional work, and professional fees (including taxes), adds up to \$355,794.28;

WHEREAS an amount of \$80,794.28 in addition to the existing resolution(s) is required to complete the project to respect the modification orders, additional work and professional fees (including taxes);

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2014-15* program and/or in the *AMT - Maintien des actifs et transformation fonctionnelle* program;

IT WAS MOVED BY Parent Commissioner C. Véronneau that the modification and/or additional work be awarded in order to complete the work 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

11.2.2 Finance**Resolution No ETSB16-03-56****Appointment of Signing Officers**

WHEREAS changes in the Board Office personnel changed the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the Eastern Townships School Board;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner T. Pezzi-Bilodeau that, effective March 29th 2016, only the individuals listed below be authorized to sign, on behalf of the Eastern Townships School Board, all banking documents required by the National Bank of Canada;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the previous resolution, approved on November 25 2014, appointing signing officers, be rendered null and void;

The Chairman of the Council of Commissioners: Michael Murray
or
The Vice-Chairman of the Council of Commissioners: Joy Humenuik
and
The Director General: Christian Provencher
or
The Director of Financial Services: Sophie Leduc

Carried unanimously

12. Parents' Committee

The Chair of the Parents' Committee informed the Commissioners that the highlights of the March 9, 2016 Parents' Committee meeting were included in the Commissioners' kits. He also informed the Council that the next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2016.

The CPC brought forward two motions; one asking for classification about who is taking the leadership in the Volunteer Recognition event, the Board or the CPC ?

The Secretary General answered that it is clearly a Board event and that the School Board will take the leadership role in this dossier as it always has.

The other motion was regarding the implementation of an Ethics Review Committee at the School Board level in order to review all surveys that our students are involved in. *The Chairman replied that this topic will be discussed at the Governance and Ethics Committee.*

13. Special Education Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee highlighted the following topics that were discussed at their last meeting:

- Criteria for Honorary Members
- Bill 86
- New Members (1 East, 1 West).

14. Student Advisory Committee

Commissioner J. Humenuik mentioned that there was nothing to report, as there has been no meeting since the last Council meeting. She also informed the Council that the next meeting is scheduled on April 6, 2016.

15. QUEBEC ENGLISH SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION REPORT (QESBA)

The Chairman brought up the following points:

- QESBA will hold the Spring Conference on May 12-13-14, 2016 in St- Sauveur;
- The Association has been preoccupied with Bill 86
- The QESBA offices will be moving to the West Island.

16. S.O.F.I.E. REPORT

Commissioner J. Humenuik informed the Council that the following topics were discussed at the February 26, 2016 SOFIE meeting:

- Training for Pharmaceutical Technicians;
- Financial reports.

17. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

C. Beaubien attended two Governing Board Meetings, where she learned that New Horizons had put in place a Breakfast Club. She mentioned that it is a popular addition.

The Bedford Fire Department in collaboration with The Guardian Angels Program, an initiative that was founded by the Economical Insurance Company (formerly Missisquoi Insurance Company), distributed smoke detectors in many schools in the Brome-Missisquoi MRC. Farnham Elementary School has been visited; Butler Elementary School and Sutton Elementary School will be visited this week.

Commissioner T. Pezzi-Bilodeau mentioned that the Community Learning Centre (CLC) Extended Models that was launched last week at Asbestos-Danville-Shipton Elementary School and at Drummondville Elementary School is being met with much enthusiasm and excitement in each of these two schools. They are modeling their CLCs based on, and to meet their community's individual and unique needs, which is great.

Parent-Commissioner P. Laberge mentioned that Sherbrooke Elementary School basketball teams (boys and girls) won a gold medal at the regional level.

Commissioner G. Barnett attended the Lennoxville Elementary School Governing Board meeting where a discussed ensued about the school fees that some parents are not paying. The members also discussed the need to have the parking area repaved as well as more room for parking due to the increases in staff members due to the rental of space to CSRS and St. Antoine. A cafeteria survey was done in order to better know the preferences of the students.

Chairman M. Murray informed the Council that students from Knowlton Academy had won the Optimists Club's public speaking contest at the sectorial level and were moving onto the regional levels.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman invited all Commissioners to clarify what he heard from a Parent-Commissioner about the rumour concerning the closing of Farnham Elementary School. The Council has not had any discussions about closing this school, and wants to put the rumours to rest.

19. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline:

What is the opinion of SOFIE regarding legally qualified teachers teaching 'formation'?

We will verify with SOFIE and will get back to you.

M. Seline:

What is the process, protocol, or procedures regarding *ententes* between the *Commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs* and Eastern Townships School Board?

The current process is undefined. Changes at the Senior Management level of both organizations impeded communication regarding the Entente, although we must keep in mind that in spite of this we still share premises, bussing, etc., and students continue to be well served.

20. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon 9:00 p.m.

Éric Campbell
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

/EC
2016-03-30