

Highlights

Council of Commissioners' meeting of
Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Recognition of Excellence

This month the Council of Commissioners and Senior Administrators recognized the following:

- ✓ Alexander Galt student receives bursary from ADIGECS;
- ✓ Campus Brome-Missisquoi welding & fitting student takes home gold medals;
- ✓ McGill University bestows excellence award on ETSB Speech & Language Pathologist;
- ✓ The 4th annual 'Mathletics' competition was held on April 30th;
- ✓ On May 4th, Waterloo Elementary hosted the 29th Annual Grade 3 Math Competition.

- ◆ The Council approved the schedule of commissioners' meetings for the 2018-2019 school year:
 - August 28, 2018
 - September 25, 2018
 - October 23, 2018
 - November 27, 2018
 - January 22, 2019
 - February 26, 2019
 - March 26, 2019
 - April 23, 2019
 - May 28, 2019
 - June 25, 2019

- ◆ The Council unanimously approved two administrative appointments:
 - Ms. Nicole Carrière as Principal 100% of Sherbrooke Elementary School, effective July 1, 2018. Ms. Carrière is currently the principal at Parkview Elementary School, a position she has held for the last four years;
 - Ms. Catherine Zahra as Principal 100% of Princess Elizabeth Elementary School, effective July 1, 2018. Ms. Zahra is currently the principal at Ayer's Cliff Elementary since 2015 as well as North Hatley Elementary in 2016;

We would like to congratulate both on their new appointments and wish them continued success in their new schools;



Resolutions

- Schedule of the Council of Commissioners' Meetings for the 2018-2019 school year;
- Request for an alcohol permit – North Hatley Elementary School;
- Appointment of Principals 100% at Princess Elizabeth and Sherbrooke Elementary Schools;
- Objectives and Principals Governing the Allocation of Resources;
- Gym Renovations for Richmond Regional H.S & Mansonville Elementary;
- Waterloo Elementary – Light Fixtures Update;
- Princess Elizabeth Elementary – Foundation Repair;
- Pope Memorial Elementary – Washroom Renovation

Director General's Report:
See the attached report

Chair's Report:
Verbal report:

- ✓ Class action suit;
- ✓ Challenges of receiving grant monies at this time of year.

Dates to Remember...

June 1st

Annual Retirement Gala;

June 8th

Converted to a regular school day!

June 26th

Council of Commissioners' meeting;

Recognition of Excellence May 22, 2018

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

- On May 10th at the annual ADIGECS 2018 conference held in Bromont this year, Meagan Murphy from Alexander Galt Regional High School was awarded a scholarship recognizing her positive contribution to the school, her leadership as student council president and her overall perseverance and academic success. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Meagan on receiving this award and wish her continued success in her future studies;
- We would also like to congratulate Charles-Éric Quirion, a student in the welding and fitting program at the Campus Brome-Missisquoi Vocational Training Centre, who recently took home 2 gold medals at the *Olympiades provinciales*. Representing the Montérégie at the competition he captured gold at both the regional and provincial levels. We would also like to congratulate the team of teachers who have worked with and guided him through his studies;
- Each year McGill University students are invited to nominate individuals for the Excellence in Clinical Education Award. This year Ms. Manon Daisomont, Speech and Language Pathologist, was one of 20 nominees and on May 13th was presented with the award for the 2017-2018 school year. Going above and beyond, providing a safe and comfortable learning environment, and allowing students to gain both assessment and intervention experience, were just some of the glowing comments students made in their nominations forms. We would like to congratulate Ms. Daisomont on this well deserved recognition;
- On Monday April 30th the 4th Annual Athletics Finals were held at the School Board offices here in Magog. The top 3 teams were invited to compete in the finals, which were live streamed! After a grueling 3 hours of amazing teamwork, the results were tallied and the Parkview Elementary grade 6 team came out on top! Thank you to all the students and teachers who submitted videos and congratulations to the semi-finalists and the winning team from Parkview Elementary: Benjamin Maheu, Charles Landry, Thomas Languay, and Emile Harel– teachers Tina Gagné and Marc-Olivier Toussignant. Kudos goes out to our team of professionals, who bring this all together...making math more fun than ever!
- On Friday, May 4th Waterloo Elementary hosted the 29th Annual Grade 3 Math Competition for all Grade 3 students across the ETSB. This event is a fun day where teams of 3rd graders come together to solve a variety of math problems that get them thinking outside of the box. This year 17 teams of 4 students each competed for both the Roxton Award, awarded for the highest point total for the day and the World's Finest Teamwork Award, given to the team who scored the highest on the group work sections. The Roxton Award was awarded to the Sherbrooke Elementary Math Sparks. For the second award of the competition, the World's Finest Problem Solvers Teamwork Cup, the Sherbrooke Elementary Math Sparks again came out on top. We would like to congratulate the Sherbrooke team on their success as well as all the teams that competed. A big thank you goes out to the organizers at Waterloo Elementary, and specifically teachers Ashley Lawrence and Kim Graveline





May 22, 2018

Director General's Report...

*We, at the ETSB, are...
Passionate people
moving ahead together
to make our school
board a great place to
learn and the best
place to work.
Anywhere.*

Our Four Pillars:

*Pedagogical
Leadership*

*Attachment-based
developmental
approach*

*Professional
Learning Community*

Student Engagement

It is rare that I refer to articles read in the media but, this evening, I find myself doing just that. It all began a few weeks ago, when spontaneously a person mentioned her surprise in regards to the awful state of education in the province of Quebec. Quite stunned by the comment, I asked for details and I was referred to the media story on Quebec having the lowest graduation rate in the country. I could not fathom what data was now being addressed so I quickly hung up to look it up. I finally found the May 2nd article entitled “[Décrochage scolaire: le Québec fait figure de cancre au Canada](#)” that provided readers with a comparison of graduation rates between provinces, including boys and girls. This text definitely prompted a reaction in me and I intentionally called that same person back to explain the differences between Quebec and the other provinces, and to caution that we cannot compare apples & oranges. For instance, the need to consider all facts, such as the pass mark of 50% in other provinces vs the 60% in Quebec, the actual course content and graduation/qualification requirements from each province, the international assessment results of Quebec vs the other provinces, etc. would provide a different portrait. After I had completed my spiel, she stated I should write to the journalist to share these details. I simply laughed and commented that we need to be careful what we read & hear to ensure we have all the facts before making a judgment – easier said than done, I know, and we left it at that.

A little over a week later, I read the article “[Le faux débat du décrochage scolaire](#)” in La Presse that you, the commissioners, all received – all I could think was Thank you Francis Vailles for bringing more details to the forefront to help understand the Québec education reality – not that the other information was inaccurate – it is just that it was missing a lot of pieces to ensure the big portrait was given. This article mentioned the pass marks, some elements of course content, international assessment results, and it may not have made the media frenzy but it was reassuring to observe someone else cared enough about education in Quebec to provide the missing details and to challenge us to stay focused on the right work.

As some worry about collective lawsuits, budgets and end-of year stressors, it is important to remind ourselves of the progress we are making in Quebec education and the pride we must have in what is being done in our ETSB schools and centres. Last month, I shared many moments worthy of celebration and the continuous improvement wave we are in, and when some distractions occur, such as that May 2nd article, we need to focus our attention on what matters – student learning and the adults who make it happen. As we head into our final 4.5 weeks of school, it is even more pressing that we do so – I hope each of you will enjoy those awards and graduation ceremonies, those end-of-year celebrations and trips, and all the positives we bring to society, one student at a time.

Your Director General,

Kandy Mackey