

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020 – 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	Marc Mercure	P
Claire Beaubien	P	Hélène Turgeon	P
Daniel Brodie	P	Cindy Véronneau	GH
Richard Gagnon	P	Daniel Zigby	P
Gary Holliday	P	DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE (DC)	
Joy Humenuik, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	P	Secretary General, Éric Campbell	P
Mary-Ellen Kirby	P	Director General, Kandy Mackey	A
Frank MacGregor	P	Interim Director General and Director of Continuing Education, Michel Soucy	P
Alice McCrory	P	Interim Assistant Director General and Director of Human Resources, Jeffrey Pauw	P
Jonathan Murray	P	Director of Financial Services, Sophie Leduc	P
Michael Murray, <i>Chairman</i>	P	Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services, Eva Lettner	P
Tina Pezzi-Bilodeau	A	Director of Complementary Services, Emmanuelle Gaudet	A
		Director of Material Resources, Éric Plante	P

*Google Hangout: GH*

OBSERVERS

Sharon Priest, Communications Consultant

**PUBLIC**

Megan Seline, President of the Appalachian Teachers' Association (ATA)

Matthew McCully, The Record

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 19h10.

**2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner F. MacGregor to adopt the Agenda of February 25, 2020, as modified with the following additions.

- 7.2 Appointment of a returning officer
- 7.3 Appointment of an election clerk
- 7.4 Appointment of an assistant of the returning officer
- 7.5 Financing request for project JEME 2020

Carried unanimously

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2020**

Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-54

**Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on January 28, 2020**

**WHEREAS** a copy of the Minutes of the meetings of January 28, 2020, has been given to each Commissioner at least 6 hours before the opening of the meeting, the Secretary General is excused from reading the Minutes.

In the last month's Hydro-Québec Servitude Request resolution, we have been asked to remove the following sentence: **WHEREAS** the Servitude will be valid for a period of 24 months.

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner G. Barnett to excuse the Secretary General from reading the Minutes and to approve the Minutes of the meetings held on January 28, 2020, as modified.

Carried unanimously

**4. QUESTION PERIOD**

M. Seline: What is the impact regarding Bill 40 on the shared premises of Sutton Elementary School, Massey-Vanier High School and CBM?

M. Murray: As of now, no impact as far as we know.

- M. Seline: Will Bill 40 affect the negotiations between commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs (CSVDC) and the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB)?
- M. Murray: Whatever the adoption of Bill 40, the negotiated agreements between two school boards will be respected.
- M. Seline: Are there some commissioners interested in having a t-shirt representing teachers in their negotiations?

Some commissioners have expressed their interest in having a t-shirt.

## 5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Chairman M. Murray presented the February 25, 2020, Recognition of Excellence:

- On Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Knowlton Academy and its WE group were one of the featured schools at WE DAY Montreal, held at the St. Denis Theatre. This event brought together two thousand change makers for an event to celebrate a year of action that transformed communities and changed lives. One of those youth initiatives that impacted the community is the Knowlton Academy (KA) Garden, and especially the work being done by four secondary one boys in the KA Garden. Jacob Rumsey, KA's Student Parliament Prime Minister, spoke on behalf of the project at the event. We would like to once again congratulate the students, the staff and the volunteers that make the Knowlton Academy Garden a reality and recognize them for the positive impact they have made and continue to make in their community.
- The impact of the Knowlton Academy Garden reaches far beyond the grounds of the school. One student, Logan Lague, took it upon himself to find a way to feed approximately 700 students in four different towns. Logan was able to find a donation of 180 pounds of chopped romaine lettuce and 25 flats of cherry tomatoes (500 containers). With the help of KA Garden volunteer Jennifer Muir, Logan's donation was turned into free salad for the students a few times over the course of a week. As amazing as this may sound, it is not out of character for Logan who often buys socks and dog food for the homeless out of the money he earns. We would like to recognize Logan for his generosity and big heart and for all that he does to give back to his community.
- Thanks to a grant from the *Fondation Desjardins, Moi Je coop*, Heroes' Memorial Elementary School will soon have their "Just Right Room". Selected by the Caisse Desjardins de Brome-Missisquoi, to receive the \$2000 grant, the Just Right Room is described as a safe, calming and relaxing space for students with emotional difficulties to either calm down and or let their emotions out. The space will help Heroes' students who sometimes experience emotional difficulties feel respected, cared for and safe, letting them deal with their emotions outside of the classroom. We would like to congratulate Heroes' Memorial and specifically Louise Castonguay, on being selected for this grant and thank both the *Fondation Desjardins, Moi Je coop* and the Caisse *Desjardins de Brome-Missisquoi*, for their generosity.

- This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Knowlton Academy (KA) Ski Program. Started in 1969 by World Champion Alpine Ski racer, Lucille Wheeler Vaughan on a hill at the back of the school; the program progressed to ski days at Glenn Mountain, then to Owl's Head and today students enjoy the slopes at Mont Sutton. Fifty years after its modest beginnings, the program is still going strong with previous students now acting as volunteers and chaperones. This program has fostered generations of active adults and avid skiers. The final ski day of the 50<sup>th</sup> season was held on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. We would like to congratulate all the organizers, volunteers and specifically current KA teacher, Mr. Nicolas Lemaitre, who has been the driving force behind the program for almost half of the 50 years.

There was an additional recognition added at the meeting. It is in the recognition folder for North Hatley.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING**

None.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-55**

**Request for an alcohol permit – Townshippers' Association – Townshippers' Festival at Alexander Galt Regional High School**

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board has a partnership with the Townshippers' Association to provide a local for their 2020 Townshippers Festival which will be held on the grounds of Alexander Galt Regional High School (AGRHS);

**WHEREAS** Townshippers' Association would like to offer a Taste of the Townships at the 2020 festival, being held at AGRHS on September 26, 2020;

**WHEREAS** some exhibitors at this event may be displaying and selling local products that contain alcohol;

**WHEREAS** the AGRHS Governing Board was consulted and approved the requites for the above-mentioned event and are fully aware that alcohol will be available;

**WHEREAS** the producers will have the required permits and follow all regulations and laws for the serving of alcohol;

**WHEREAS** Townshippers' Association is responsible for the event and the presence of alcohol and has the required liability insurances;

**WHEREAS** Townshippers' Association will conform with the *Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux du Québec (RACJ)*;

**WHEREAS** Townshippers' Association must obtain a resolution from the Council of Commissioners authorizing them to have alcoholic beverages on the premises and in this case, will supply a photocopy of the permit provided by the *RACJ* once received to the Secretary General's office;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner A. McCrory to authorize Townshippers' Association to have alcoholic beverages on site, in conformity with the *Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux du Québec*, at the above-mentioned event being held on September 26, 2020.

Carried unanimously

**7.2 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-56**  
**Appointment of a returning officer**

**WHEREAS** school elections will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020;

**WHEREAS** section 22 of the *Act Respecting School Elections* stipulates that the Director General of the school board is the Returning Officer ex officio, power delegated by the Director General of the Quebec elections;

**WHEREAS** because of other existing mandates, the Director General must be replaced as Returning Officer for the November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, School Elections;

**WHEREAS** the General Directorate of the Eastern Townships School Board recommends Ms. SuzAnne Tremblay;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** commissioner C. Beaubien to appoint Ms. SuzAnne Tremblay to the position of Returning officer for the November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, School Board Elections.

Carried unanimously

**7.3 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-57**  
**Appointment of an election clerk**

**WHEREAS** school elections will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020;

**WHEREAS** section 23 of the *Act Respecting School Elections* stipulates that the returning officer shall appoint an election clerk to assist her in the performance of her duties;

**WHEREAS** the election clerk shall, for that purpose, perform the duties delegated to him by the returning officer;

**WHEREAS** the General Directorate of the Eastern Townships School Board recommends Mr. Éric Campbell;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** commissioner M. Mercure to appoint Mr. Éric Campbell to the position of Election Clerk for the November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, School Elections.

Carried unanimously

**7.4 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-58****Appointment of an assistant of the returning officer (SB to the returning officer)**

**WHEREAS** school elections will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020;

**WHEREAS** section 25 of the *Act Respecting School Elections* stipulates that the returning officer may, if she considers it appropriate, appoint assistants to whom she may delegate in writing the exercise of all or part of her powers and duties under this Act;

**WHEREAS** section 26 of the *Act Respecting School Elections* stipulates that the returning officer may also retain, on a temporary basis, the services of any person she considers necessary;

**WHEREAS** the General Directorate of the Eastern Townships School Board recommends Ms. Catherine Noiseux be appointed as assistant of the returning officer;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** commissioner G. Holliday to appoint Ms. Catherine Noiseux to the position of Assistant of the returning officer for the November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, School Elections.

Carried unanimously

**7.5 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-59****Financing request for project JEME 2020**

**WHEREAS** the *Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité Sociale* (MTESS) opened a call for projects in the program *Jeunes en mouvement vers l'emploi* (JEME);

**WHEREAS** this program is to support innovative projects for the 15-30 year old clientele who need help to succeed in a professional orientation;

**WHEREAS** this project can contribute to increasing the qualifications and competencies of students using real-life experience in an industrial environment;

**WHEREAS** Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) wishes to apply for a grant up to a maximum of \$650 000 per year for 2-year period;

**WHEREAS** all expenses for the project will be supported by MTESS grant and the monies generated by the qualified *ETP (Étudiants à temps plein)*;

**IT IS MOVED** by Commissioner J. Humenuik that the Council of Commissioners authorize the Director General to create an application for funding for a project from the *Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale* (MTESS) for the ETSB.

Carried unanimously

## 8. REPORTS

### 8.1 DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

The Interim Director General, Michel Soucy, had no report.

### 8.2 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair of the Commissioners' Council, M. Murray, reported the following:

It boggles my mind that when I last addressed this assembly, Bill 40 was still under clause by clause review and I was able to enumerate various examples of opposition to its content and orientations. Since then, it has been adopted through closure; an entire 180-year-old level of local democracy has been swept away, except for in the English school boards, and the heavy hand of centralized insensitive bureaucracy has been clamped onto public education. I do not criticize individuals working in the ministry of education, many of whom are dedicated to providing quality education to the public. Sadly, however, the constraints of processes, structures and regulations effectively prevent them from achieving what they intend.

There is little confusion in the wake of the precipitous adoption of Bill 40. The updated Education Act is still not available on the government website, so much of the interpretation is based on partial information. That alone has created uncertainty and stress for overworked educators who no longer feel secure about their futures. The public is only beginning to wake up to the huge number of radical changes that have been and are being imposed on public education. I mentioned last month a growing chorus of opposition. Educators at all levels are and remain opposed and the media have awakened to the extent of the transformation on so many fronts. That opposition has continued to grow reaching the point yesterday that over 150 engaged educators from all levels of the system signed an open letter declaring that Minister Roberge has lost all credibility. He continues to display a Trumpian tendency to change his position. Only last Friday at a meeting of the *Chambre de Commerce de Montréal Métropolitaine*, inviting the business community to take charge of public education, apparently forgetting that he had promised that role to parents. Never mind! So much power has been transferred to the hands of the minister that neither parents nor business people will have any significant influence on Public Education.

Let me try to clarify some aspects of the legislation that impact us most directly. English School Boards continue to exist unchanged until next November. Commissioners remain in office with all their former powers and responsibilities. Our personnel can take comfort from the reality that the current board will oversee staffing and budgets for the 2020-2021 school year. Our strategic orientations remain in place and we will maintain the course until a new board of governance is elected.

However, only last Thursday, a consortium of English bodies, including the Quebec English School Boards Association, announced our intention to contest the parts of Bill 40 addressing English governance. Legal counsel has been mandated to prepare the case under the protections for linguistic minorities enshrined in the Canadian constitution. Happily, the notwithstanding clause cannot be applied to any legislation affecting

those rights and counsel believe we have a strong case for overturning the changes. The Supreme Court of Canada has issued several judgments upholding the right for minorities in other provinces to manage and control their own education system. However, it takes considerable time for a case to work its way up to the Supreme Court and meanwhile, life must go on.

Elections, scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, under the former Liberal government are still planned. However, the conditions of the election under Bill 40, including eligibility to be a candidate and experience requirements have changed. No longer can a simple citizen choose to interest herself or himself in public education and become a commissioner. English-language school boards must proceed with preparations for those elections under the existing rules of Bill 40. At the same time, we hope the government will acknowledge the legal contestation and suspend those rules, in which case elections will operate under the old rules. Unfortunately, we must begin almost immediately to spend money on preparations, while trying not to overspend on things that might change. Even more essential, we need to anticipate promoting the elections without the customary public support of the government or the other 60 school boards. This essential promotion will add to our costs no matter which set of rules is in place come November. It is hardly surprising that confusion reigns over what we need to do and when.

The minister of education continues to rush changes into operation without adequate consultation or preparation. An example is the deployment of age 4 Kindergarten, originally touted as a means of preparing disadvantaged youth for school. While the government proudly announces numbers of new classes, there is no apparent effort to place them where most needed. Instead, they are opened in school buildings where space is available. Worse still, there is no acknowledgement of the costs of renovating those spaces, with their own smaller-sized toilets and lower sinks, as well as facilities for developing important skills. We at ETSB have been accorded proportionally far more classes than other more needy school boards (excuse me; school service centres) simply because we have more space, but the cost of preparing those spaces is consuming our entire maintenance budget so other parts of the same schools must be neglected. It makes no sense!

In a completely different direction, we have a minister who instantly banished a respected educator and pedagogical professor, Daniel Weinstock, based on an erroneous article and who refused for days to recant or apologize when the error was proven. Another striking example, at least for me, occurred last Friday. I attended what was called a consultation on replacing a course called Ethics and Religious Culture. Attendees were treated to ponderous academic presentations on various aspects of a course (excluding the ethics portion that was to have been delivered by Prof Weinstock) followed by discussions of four specific questions, all slanted heavily towards approval. When experienced educators asked about the existing course, which has some desirable elements, and suggested comparing the two approaches, they were briskly silenced. No opposition was entertained. That seems to have become a theme in public education in Quebec.

I apologize for the consistently negative tone of this report. Things within our board are far better than this report might imply. We are moving ahead with the new school in Drummondville, we have multiple capital projects in the preparation and planning stages and despite the general shortage of educational personnel, we are fully staffed by qualified individuals. There are always needs to be met and changes to be introduced



and we continue to strive for excellence. Thanks to all of you: commissioners; administrators; educators and support personnel for your commitment to doing the best for our students.

## 9. ADVISORY COMMITTEES' REPORTS

### 9.1 Executive Committee

The Chair of the Executive Committee, Commissioner M. Murray, mentioned that the topics that were discussed at tonight's executive meeting are actually part of the Council of Commissioners' agenda.

### 9.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, Commissioner R. Gagnon, mentioned that the following topics from the February 4, 2020, meeting were discussed:

- Governance Review Project – Alain Vachon;
- Support to Principals (Marc Mercure);
- Process for Policy Development;
- Structural Planning;
- Advisory Meetings Proposal;
- Meeting Kit Sharing Process;
- Adult Education Merger;
- Criteria for Enrolment;
- Board Working Session;
- Topics for future meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2020.

### 9.3 Audit Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee, Commissioner J. Humenuik, presented the following resolutions:

#### 9.3.1 Finances:

None.

#### Material Resources:

##### 9.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-60

##### Sutton Elementary School – Gymnasium roof replacement

**WHEREAS** the ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) approved a budget of \$322,649.00 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du déficit d'entretien 2018-19 mesure: 50622*;

**WHEREAS** five (5) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

**WHEREAS** four (4) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

**WHEREAS** the lowest bid in the amount of \$208,500 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Les Toitures Industries Pro*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *François Lussier Architecte*, has recommended the company *Les Toitures Industries Pro*, 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 \$257,430;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner R. Gagnon that the Company *Les Toitures Industries Pro* be awarded the contract for the project stated above; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that the Interim Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

#### 9.3.2.2 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-61

##### Sawyerville Elementary School – Drainage repair and Parking lot repavement

**WHEREAS** the *ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES)* dedicated a budget of \$278,896 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du déficit d'entretien 2019-20* *Mesure: 50622*;

**WHEREAS** ten (10) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

**WHEREAS** seven (7) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

**WHEREAS** the lowest bid in the amount of \$198,717.51 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Les Excavations Bolduc*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *FNX Innov*, has recommended the company *Les Excavations Bolduc*, 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 \$253,482.52;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner M. E. Kirby that the Company *Les Excavations Bolduc* be awarded the contract for the project stated above; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that the Interim Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

The next Audit Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2020.

#### 9.3.2.3 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-62

##### Ayer's Cliff Elementary School – Hallway Renovations

**WHEREAS** the ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) approved a budget of \$138,165.00 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du déficit d'entretien - Budget additionnel 2018-19 mesure: 50626*;

**WHEREAS** the *ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES)* dedicated a budget of \$185,930 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-20 Mesure: 50621*;

**WHEREAS** four (4) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

**WHEREAS** three (3) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

**WHEREAS** the lowest bid in the amount of \$228,000 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction Encore Ltée*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *ADSP Architecte*, has recommended the company *Construction Encore Ltée*, 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 \$287,292;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner C. Beaubien that the Company *Construction Encore Ltée* be awarded the contract for the project stated above; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that the Interim Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

#### 9.3.2.4 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-63

##### Parkview Elementary School – Construction Permit

**WHEREAS** the ETSB adopt a resolution allowing M. Pierre Bruneau and/or M. André Benoit, ETSB's superintendents, the right to request a construction permit;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner J. Humenuik that M. Pierre Bruneau and M. André Benoit be awarded the right to request a construction permit in any town and for any ETSB investment project; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that the Interim Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

#### 9.4 Educational Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Education Advisory Committee, M. E. Kirby, presented the following resolution:

##### 9.4.1 **Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-64**

##### **Eastern Townships School Board – International Student Program – Agent Fees**

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board's (ETSB) International Student Program's (ISP) mission is to promote opportunities to expand our understanding of multicultural realities, thus promoting the development of global citizens;

**WHEREAS** a part of the mandate of the International Student Program is to increase student population within ETSB schools and centres;

**WHEREAS** in order to limit its financial risk and assure the success of its ISP, the ETSB is working with agents and agencies that offer support to both parties in the recruitment of students and the bridging of cultural and linguistic barriers;

**WHEREAS** the ETSB works within the regulatory frameworks established by Immigration Canada, le *Ministère de l'Immigration, Francisation et Intégration (Québec)*, and by the guidelines of the *Canadian Association of Public Schools International*, a non-profit organization comprised of 108 publicly funded districts and *Éducation Internationale*, a non-profit cooperative funded by the *Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement Supérieur (MEES)*;

**WHEREAS** the ETSB cannot, on a yearly basis, project an exact number of international students recruited in its ISP, nor can it project which agency they will be recruited by;

**WHEREAS** a contractual agreement stipulates a percentage of the tuition fees to be paid to agents on the basis of results;

**WHEREAS** the percentage for youth sector programs and for the adult programs is dictated by the global market for International Student Programs;

**WHEREAS** agent or agency fees for recruitment of international students are paid upon presentation of invoices following official student counts and which follows the usual commercial practice;

**WHEREAS** in 2018-2019, the ETSB has been invoiced to the amount of \$242,513.99 for students recruited in:

- 2018-2019: \$129,153.99
- 2017-2018: \$ 61,360.00
- 2016-2017: \$ 50,000.00
- 2014-2015: \$ 2,000.00

**WHEREAS** in 2019-2020, we predict agency fees totalling an amount of \$171,332.70

**WHEREAS** in 2019-2020, we do not predict any invoices totalling an amount exceeding \$50,000;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner M. E. Kirby that the ETSB may pay the fees described above to the agencies; **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 Educational Services may also sign.

Carried unanimously

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2020.

#### 9.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, D. Zigby, mentioned that the next meeting is scheduled on March 17, 2020.

#### 9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, C. Beaubien, mentioned that the following topics at the February 11, 2020, meeting were discussed:

- Priorities 2019-2020 (Mental Health and Excess class training);
- Vacant Positions – Recap;
- Mentoring for new teachers (New measures grant);
- School Calendar – 2020-2021;
- Principal performance appraisal.

The next Human Resources Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on April 21, 2020.

#### 9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner H. Turgeon, presented the following resolution:

**9.7.1 Resolution No. ETSB 20-02-65**  
**Transportation Policy (P005)**

**WHEREAS** 94.3%\* of the Eastern Townships School Board's (ETSB) student population is transported by school bus;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) is using the same Transportation Policy since the merge between the District of Bedford and the old Eastern Townships School Board;

**WHEREAS** this Transportation Policy has not been reviewed since its adoption in May 1999;

**WHEREAS** the Transportation Advisory Committee has developed a new policy for transportation, which is more adapted to the current reality and in conformity with laws and regulations;

**WHEREAS** the proposed Transportation Policy was sent for consultation to the Parents' Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, Eastern Townships Association of School Administrators, Appalachian Teachers' Association, Townships Regional Union of Support Staff (from February 6 to May 14 2019) and was presented at the Labor Relation Committee (LRC) and was accepted by all;

**WHEREAS** the proposed Transportation Policy has followed all the steps of the development of a policy in conformity with the procedures in place at the ETSB;

**WHEREAS** the final draft of the Transportation Policy was discussed at the Management meeting on December 11, 2019, and will be further discussed with Principals in order to standardize its application;

**WHEREAS** the final draft of the Transportation Policy has been shared with all managers and sent to all commissioners in December 2019;

**WHEREAS** the Transportation Advisory Committee, after considering all comments received, recommend the adoption of the final draft of the Transportation Policy;

**WHEREAS** a promotional pamphlet will be produced to summarize the Transportation Policy and will be distributed annually to all students and parents in order to facilitate its comprehension;

**WHEREAS** this transportation policy will be effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner H. Turgeon to approve the presented Transportation Policy.

\*As per September 30, 2019

Carried unanimously

The next Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on May 21, 2020.

### 9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The Chair of the SEAC, C. Véronneau, mentioned that the following topics at the February 12, 2020, meeting were discussed:

- IEP Brochure;
- Information D.G. Representative – Ministry codes for students with handicaps;
- At-Risk and Coded students 2019-2020;
- Verification.

The next SEAC meeting is scheduled on March 11, 2020.

### 10. Parents' Committee

The Commissioner representing parents, D. Zigby, mentioned the following topics were discussed at the February 5, 2020, meeting:

- Presentation on Hooked on School Days;
- Presentation on Vocational Education Services;
- Anticipated changes with Bill 40;
- Teacher's appreciation week;
- Reconsideration of joining the English Parents Committee Association (EPCA) instead of the Fédération du comité des parents du Québec (FCPQ).

The next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled on March 11, 2020.

### 11. Student Advisory Committee

Commissioner J. Humenuik, representing the Student Advisory Committee, mentioned the next Student Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on March 13, 2020.

### 12. QESBA

QESBA made the decision to contest the parts of Bill 40 that apply to English School Boards with the collaboration of the Quebec Community Group Network (QCGN) and the Assessment Process for Prospective Educational Leaders (APPEL). Which parts of Bill 40 and on what grounds will these parts be contested, has yet to be determined. The organization is the following: APPELE-Québec – the Alliance for the Promotion of Public English-language Education in Québec.

### 13. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner J. Humenuik enumerated the CLC activities that took place at Farnham and Butler elementary schools in the past month.

Commissioner C. Beaubien enumerated the CLC activities that took place at Sunnyside Elementary School.

Commissioner M. E. Kirby attended a 5 à 7 organized for the Hooked on School Days in East Angus. Eastern Townships School Board volunteer, Ms. Naomi Jarvis-Reed, is still attending Sawyerville Elementary School three times a week.

#### 14. UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 26, 2020 – Pink Shirt Day: Stand up against bullying!
- March 2 – 6 – Spring Break.
- March 27, 2020 – Pedagogical day is now a regular school day.
- April 20, 2020 – United Music Concert at Massey-Vanier High School.

#### 15. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

#### 16. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline: Was there any correspondence sent to employees and parents with regards to Bill 40?

M. Murray: A message was sent to all personnel but to date nothing has been sent to parents.

M. Seline: Is the Council aware of the thrift shop that was started by Margaret Young at AGRHS, as we know that teachers are sometimes reluctant to share their successes?

M. Murray: No, we are not but we will look into getting information about it, thank you.

M. Seline: May I reiterate my congratulations for the Knowlton Academy Ski Program celebrating it's 50<sup>th</sup> year?

#### 17. GOVERNANCE COMMUNICATION

Inform parents about Bill 40.

#### 18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 20:45 p.m.

---

Éric Campbell  
Secretary General

---

Michael Murray  
Chairman

EC/gm  
25.02.2020