

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 – 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

COMMISSIONERS		PARENT COMMISSIONERS	
Gordon Barnett	Z	Marc Mercure	Z
Claire Beaubien	Z	Helene Turgeon	Z
Daniel Brodie	Z	Daniel Zigby, Vice-Chair	Z
Richard Gagnon	Z	Ryan Darwin	Z
Gary Holliday	Z	DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE (DC)	
Joy Humenuik	Z	Secretary General – Éric Campbell	Z
Mary-Ellen Kirby	Z	Assistant Director General – Kandy Mackey	Z
Frank MacGregor	Z	Director General and Director of Continuing Education – Michel Soucy	Z
Alice McCrory	Z	Director of Human Resources – Jeffrey Pauw	Z
Jonathan Murray	Z	Director of Financial Services – Sophie Leduc	Z
Michael Murray, Chair	Z	Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services – Eva Lettner	Z
Tina Pezzi-Bilodeau	Z	Director of Complementary Services – Emmanuelle Gaudet	Z
		Director of Material Resources – Éric Plante	Z

ZOOM (Z) – MEMBERS PRESENT (P) – MEMBERS ABSENT (A)

OBSERVERS

Sharon Priest, Communications Consultant

PUBLIC

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

Matthew McCully, The Record

Linda Brasseur, Waterloo Elementary School Secretary

Kim Graveline, Waterloo Elementary School

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 Commissioner H. Turgeon to adopt the Agenda of February 23, 2021 as as modified with he following addition:

7.1 Waterloo Elementary School – Deed of Establishment – Modified.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2021

Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-61

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on January 26, 2021

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of January 26, 2021 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.

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 January 26, 2021 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline: The Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ) invested 20 million for ventilation. How much does it represent for the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB)?

E. Plante: Approximately \$114,000 for the ETSB.

M. Seline: Does cleaning of the ducts exceed the \$114,000?

E. Plante: No, approximately \$70,000.

M. Seline: What will be done with the rest of the money?

E. Plante: The rest will of the funds will be spent prudently on air quality issues.

5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Chairman M. Murray invited the following Commissioner to present the February 23, 2021 Recognition of Excellence:

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

- **G. Barnett:** During Hooked on School Days, the Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) awarded its Andrew Westover Perseverance Award this past week to Anna Driver, a student in the LPN course.

To quote LVTC, "*Anna has always remained positive throughout the LPN course. Anna's positivity and motivation did not waiver. Through hard work and determination, she succeeded. We believe Anna is a great example of perseverance and positivity and deserving of recognition for her hard work and determination throughout the program.*"

The Andrew Westover Perseverance award was created by Andrea and Jason Westover in memory of their father who passed away December 28th 2013. The award recognizes those students who succeed and graduate in their program, despite having to face obstacles and or difficulties. We would like to congratulate Anna on her well-deserved recognition and wish her continued success in her new career.



6. BUSINESS ARISING

The Secretary General, E. Campbell presented the following resolution:

6.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-62**Waiver of rights for Stanstead land – Amended resolution**

WHEREAS a Stanstead citizen has expressed an interest in acquiring a part of Lot 5,075,819 in Stanstead;

WHEREAS this Lot (Lot 5,075,819) is adjacent to Lot 5,075,820 on which Sunnyside Elementary School is built;

WHEREAS Lot 5,075,819 is now the property of Stanstead Wesleyan College;

WHEREAS Stanstead Wesleyan College is interested in disposing of this strip of land for the benefit of this citizen;

WHEREAS this strip of land with an area of 1,200.1m² shall be annexed to Lot 5,075,818 and shall not become a lot in itself;

WHEREAS the desired strip of land is an integral part of land that had previously been reserved for the seller for educational purposes only;

WHEREAS the lot to which the strip of land will be annexed to is located in a residential and commercial area;

WHEREAS by virtue of a right of first refusal conferred to the Protestant School Commission for the Municipality of the Village of Rock Island in the County of Stanstead, which has since become the Eastern Townships School Board in an act dating from 1950, the intervention of the School Board in this act of sale is required;

WHEREAS the School Board has expressed concern with the sale of a portion of Lot 5,075,819 identified as Lot 5,075,819-P;

IT IS MOVED BY Commissioner H. Turgeon that a real and free perpetual servitude prohibiting the cutting of healthy trees on a strip of land of 5 m wide along the northeastern limit of the part of the lot to be sold be granted (Lot 5 075 819-P) to the full depth versus Lot 5,075,820, is owned by the Eastern Townships School Board. In exchange, the School Board waives its right of first refusal so that the sale can be made.

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General be authorized to sign any documentation relating to this transaction and that, in the absence of the Director General, the Secretary General may also sign.

Carried unanimously

7. NEW BUSINESS

The Secretary General, E. Campbell presented the Modified Deed of Establishment with the addition of Secondary 1 for the 2021-2022 school year:

7.1 Waterloo Elementary School – Deed of Establishment – Modified

The Assistant Director General, K. Mackey explained the process that the Waterloo Elementary School Governing Board has started before having a final decision.

A Commissioner inquired whether there are different standards between the East (territory of former Eastern Townships School Board) and the West (territory of the former District of Bedford School Board) concerning the presence of secondary one classes in elementary schools. The Chair replied that the option is available to all elementary schools and in a survey conducted several years ago, the governing boards each made a choice. For many years, Deeds of Establishment permitted all schools to opt to open secondary one classes, but so few did so the clause was removed except for existing classes. The matter was referred to the Governance and Ethics committee for a broader discussion of policy.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner A. McCrory to modify the Waterloo Elementary School Deed of Establishment for the 2021-2022 school year.

Carried unanimously

8. REPORTS

8.1 Director General's report

The Director General, M. Soucy, reported the following:

To start my report this evening, let me take you back to our February 2020 Council meeting. For the most part, it was business as usual for the Eastern Townships School Board and we were preparing for the much anticipated annual March Break. Little did we know that in less than three weeks, business as usual would become a distant memory.

Since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a pandemic in March 2020, we have had to adapt to many new realities and ways of doing things. Our routines have changed, our circles have become smaller, we have most of our social interaction online and have had to dive into becoming experts in ZOOM, Google classroom, TEAMS and the list goes on. We also have to deal with sanitary measures and rules that change and evolve as the virus brings us new challenges. We no longer greet people with a handshake or a hug nor meet up for a shared meal, an activity or plan family celebrations to mark a milestone.

Our students have also had to navigate all of this, as well as among other things, have their extracurricular activities suspended, being in group bubbles at school that may not include their BFF (best friend forever), and adapt to different methods and platforms for teaching and learning.

But we do have a silver lining. We have successfully made it through the year; our students have persevered and we have all learned how to: adapt, be flexible, reinvent ourselves, better support one another and take steps to protect our most vulnerable. Rather than focusing on what the pandemic has taken away from us, we can count the many ways it has given us strength, tenacity and built up our resilience. We have seen a shift in our society around what and who is really important in our lives and our communities.

So when this is all over and we get back to our new normal, let's try and remember how the pandemic will have shaped our students and the next generation to be more resilient, more thoughtful, more adaptable and creative. It is my hope that we all find a way to grow from the challenges we have faced and move forward to create and support a better and brighter future, that is more just, kind and inclusive for ourselves and those that come after us.

Enjoy your March Break everyone.

Michel Soucy, Director General

8.2 Chair's report

The Chair of the Council of Commissioners, M. Murray thanked the Board personnel for the management of the pandemic within the Eastern Townships School Board. Only a few tested positive to COVID-19 within the Eastern Townships School Board. It is surely a mix between luck and the good work of the Eastern Townships School Board personnel.

9. ADVISORY COMMITTEES' REPORTS

9.1 Executive Committee

The Chair of the Executive Committee, M. Murray, presented the topics that were discussed at tonight's Executive meeting:

- Modified Waterloo Elementary School Deed of Establishment;
- Bilingualism within the Eastern Townships School Board;
- Eastern Townships School Board – Renovation of the free space;
- Alexander Galt Regional High School & Richmond Regional High School – Cleaning of ventilation systems;
- International Student Program (ISP) – Agent fees;
- School administrator empty seat on the Transportation Committee;
- Massey-Vanier High School – 45-minute waiting period;
- Central Parents' Committee decision to move from the *Fédération des comités des parents du Québec (FCPQ)* to the *Regroupement des parents autonomes du Québec*.

9.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, R. Gagnon, mentioned the topics that were discussed at the February 17, 2021 meeting:

- Report from the Director General – Vocational Ed Centre linguistic issues;
- Recommendation for an Adult Sector Advisory Committee;
- Recommendation for an Adult Services Student Advisory Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2021.

9.3 Audit Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee, J. Humenuik mentioned the topics discussed at the February 16, 2021 meeting:

- Signing Authority – Addendum to the Optical Fibre Link construction and Operation Agreement Phase II.

The next Audit Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2021.

The Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee, J. Humenuik, presented the following resolutions except for 9.3.1.1, which was explained by the Director General M. Soucy:

9.3.1 Finance:

9.3.1.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-63

Authorization of signature – Addendum to the Fiber Optics Link Construction and Operation Agreement Phase II

WHEREAS the *Commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs*, the Eastern Townships School Board, the *MRC de la Haute-Yamaska* and *Infrastructel Inc.* concluded an agreement for the construction and operation of a fibre optical network in 2002;

WHEREAS the *Commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs* was mandated to be the project general contractor for the construction of the fibre optical network;

WHEREAS the City of Cowansville acquired part of the fibre optical network that had been built on the City's territory directly from the *Commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs*, in conformity with the article 4.10 of the agreement signed in 2002;

WHEREAS the agreement between the City of Cowansville and the *Commission scolaire du Val-des-Cerfs*, came into effect on September 28, 2004 and, that it is and remains valid and in force to this day;

WHEREAS an addendum is proposed for the ratification of all decisions taken in connection with the participation of the City of Cowansville since September 28, 2004 in the agreement signed in 2002, and;

WHEREAS a second addendum was also proposed for the ratification of the acquisition of all rights, titles and interests of *Télécommunications Xittel inc.* as of April 30, 2015 by *Maskatel LP*;

WHEREAS a third addendum is also proposed for the ratification of the acquisition of all rights, titles and interests of *Groupe Maskatel LP* by *Maskatel S.E.C.* on December 31, 2020;

WHEREAS all rights and obligations of the agreement signed in 2002, with respect to the construction, use, maintenance, repair, access, registration and disposal of the fibre optical network remain in effect;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to authorize Mr. Michel Soucy, Director General, to sign all related documents, including all related addendums.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2 Material Resources:

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

9.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-64 Richmond Regional High School – Heating system and roofing renovation

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$1,673,374 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50622;

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$371,861 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50622;

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$334,287 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2018-2019 Mesure: 50626;

WHEREAS these three (3) related projects have been combined together in order to facilitate the construction site's logistic and budget on professional fees;

WHEREAS seven (7) 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 (ETSB) by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$2,631,833 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction Alain Morin Inc.*;

WHEREAS a performance grant of \$882,033 has been accepted by *Transition Énergétique Québec (TEQ)* and will be available to ETSB at the completion of the project;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Un à Un Architecte* has recommended the company *Construction Alain Morin Inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$3,373,174 including taxes and professional fees;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50622 program;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to proceed with 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 Material Resources can also sign.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2.2 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-65

Farnham Elementary School – Windows and doors replacement

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$234,185 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2018-2019 Mesure: 50626;

WHEREAS nine (9) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

WHEREAS eight (8) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$197,860 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction G.C.P. Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Chantal Brodeur Architecte* has recommended the company *Construction G.C.P. Inc.*, the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$275,205 including taxes and professional fees;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2018-2019 Mesure: 50626 program;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to proceed with 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 Material Resources can also sign.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2.3 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-66
Lennoxville Elementary School – Basement renovation (K4)

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$418,343 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50622;

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

WHEREAS two (2) bids were received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$292,500 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction Encore Ltée*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Architect Design* has recommended the company *Construction Encore Ltée* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$393,508 including taxes and professional fees;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett to proceed with 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 Material Resources can also sign.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2.4 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-67
Eastern Township School Board – Renovation of the free space

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$278,896 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50621;

WHEREAS six (6) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

WHEREAS one (1) bid was received by the Eastern Townships School Board by the date and time specified;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$212,500 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction Encore Ltée*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Boum Architecte* has recommended the company *Construction Encore Ltée*, the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$300,708 including taxes and professional fees;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50621 program;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. Mercure to proceed with 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 Material Resources can also sign.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2.5 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-68

Butler Elementary School – Windows and doors replacement

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$367,250 for the project stated above, under the program MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50622;

WHEREAS seven (7) 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 \$146,270 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *J.L. Priest Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *David Leslie Architecte* has recommended the company *J.L. Priest Inc.*, lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$205,174 including taxes and professional fees;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to proceed with 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 Material Resources can also sign.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2.6 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-69

Alexander Galt Regional High School & Richmond Regional High School – Cleaning of ventilation systems

WHEREAS the *Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$117,000 for the project stated above, under the program *Allocation spéciales pour initiatives visant à répondre aux*

mesures sanitaires et à soutenir la réussite des jeunes en contexte de COVID-19, 2020-2021
Mesure: 30391;

WHEREAS four (4) companies received the project specifications after being invited 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 \$60,764 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Ventilo Exp'air Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, it is recommended the company *Ventilo Exp'air Inc.*, the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$69,864 including taxes;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner F. MacGregor to proceed with 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 Material Resources can also sign.

Carried unanimously

9.4 Educational Advisory Committee

The Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services, E. Lettner presented the following resolution:

9.4.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-02-70 International Student Program (ISP) – 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 (MEQ)*;

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 the following agent(s) presented invoices totaling an amount exceeding \$10,000:

• Hongyan Liu	\$37,607.00
• Wu Qi	\$18,500.00
• Perfect International Cultural Exchange	\$13,500.00

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. E. Kirby that the ETSB may pay the fees described 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 Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services may also sign.

Carried unanimously

The Chair of the Educational Services Advisory Committee, M. E. Kirby mentioned the topics discussed at the February 9, 2021 meeting:

- Homework;
- Presentation of the Eastern Townships Virtual Services by A. Thériault;
- Presentation of the Professional Development for Online Teaching and Learning by J. Meacher and F. Giguère;
- Presentation of Devices by F. Noirfalise;
- Additional funding for Tutoring and Mental Health measures.

The next Educational Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2021.

9.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, M. Mercure, mentioned that the next Communications Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2021.

9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, C. Beaubien, mentioned that the next Human Resources Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on April 13, 2021.

9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner G. Holliday, mentioned the topics discussed at the February 9, 2021 meeting:

- COVID-19 Adaptations;
- Face covering – Elementary students, procedure masks for high school students;
- Procedure masks for drivers not mandatory when behind plastic curtains;
- 2020-2021 School bus purchases – Phase 2;
- Bus safety week – February 1st -12th 2021.

The next Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on April 20, 2021.

9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The Chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee, R Darwin mentioned the topics discussed at the February 10, 2021 meeting:

- Correspondence – Resignation of Kelly Hudson;
- Appointment of new CPC representative;
 - ✓ Report from Central Parent Committee Representative;
 - ✓ Hooked on school days;
 - ✓ COVID-19 update;
 - ✓ Tutor money granted;
 - ✓ Simpler process for notification for school closures;
 - ✓ Survey regarding Bill 40.
- Pathways in Secondary Schools;
- Teaching Students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder Profile;
- Recommendations to DG;
- SEAC Summary:
 - ✓ Various pathways available to secondary students;
 - ✓ Update on the tools, strategies, and supports for students with an ASD profile.

The next meeting is scheduled on May 12, 2021.

10. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Commissioner representing parents, D. Zigby, mentioned the topics discussed at the February 3, 2021 meeting:

- DG update:
 - ✓ Hooked on school days.
- Move from the *Fédération des comités de parents du Québec (FCPQ)* to the *Regroupement des comités de parents autonomes du Québec*.

The next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2021.

11. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner J. Humenuik, representing the Student Advisory Committee, mentioned the topics discussed at the last meeting:

- Racism;
- Online classes delay.

The next Student Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021 and their main topic of discussion will be on the environment.

12. QESBA

Commissioner F. MacGregor attended the last meeting and mentioned Russell Copeman's mandate at the Eastern Montreal School Board (EMSB) will be extended for another month (end of March).

Chair M. Murray thanked all Commissioners that contributed to the survey sent out regarding Bill 40. The court case is scheduled for mid-April 2021.

13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner A. McCrory: Parent's addressed the Waterloo Elementary School Governing Board about having communicated with the Board and not getting an answer back.

Commissioner C. Beaubien:

Lennoxville Vocational Training (LVTC) :

- Great website and Facebook update;
- They will focus to get more students in their programs instead of creating new programs;
- Within 1 or 2 years, the *Centres de Formation Professionnelle* will be revamped by looking into the refinancing;
- *Travail-étude* will start on July 2nd for Shop and August 30th for Welding;
- Welding course will be offered to farmers (or anyone) for \$121, but could be paid by Service Quebec.

CLC Sunnyside :

- Self-portrait workshops;
- Online mental health workshops for adults;
- Adult Education support;
- Used uniforms;
- Community involvement.

QESBA Workshop on February 9, 2021:

- If they lose in April, they will appeal to the Supreme Court;
- French Minority Associations in other provinces support us and are concerned in case it they lose their rights;
- They recommend the School Board election with the municipality election, and hopefully online voting, because of the size of our territory.

Commissioner D. Brodie:

CLC activities at the Memphrémagog CLC:

- Mosaic film performance – Daniel Hickie, artist;
- Online story time – Julie Corriveau, CLC Coordinator reads to Princess Elizabeth Elementary Students (PEES) twice per month;
- Shine program – Grade 5 students;
- Online workshops for adults – Mental Health Workshop;
- Community involvement – *Memphré en mouvement*.

Commissioner F. MacGregor:

Attended an Alexander Galt Regional High School (AGRHS) Governing Board meeting. He saw the impact of fatigue on the personnel.

Commissioner J. Humenuik:

Asks that the Council recognizes the ones behind the school Facebook pages that shows us the reality of life in school.

Commissioner G. Barnett:

Attended the Eastern Townships Adult General Education (ETAGE) Governing Board meeting. Registrations were addressed as well as the *Pleins Rayons* program and COVID-19 cases:

They are running a deficit this year because of the online schedule and more language classes than expected. Of course, the current budget is based on ETPs from two years ago.

Student presence is important as adult exams haven't been waived as in the youth sector. Services at the two institutions are being redefined and clarified. They received adult and family literacy grants and programs in cooperation with Yamaska Literacy.

Campus Brome Missisquoi (CBM): a social work position replaces the re-adaptation officer. ETAGE is presenting virtual workshops and videos on anxiety, working at home, burnouts, and other issues.

A new agreement has been concluded with *Plein Rayons* for ETSB students. Registration processes, advertising, websites are being re-examined to increase enrolment.

Bussing from the Granby area to CBM is a big issue with no spaces on buses.

Lennoxville Elementary School (LES): The growing deficits regarding services such as the cafeteria are a big concern. Fundraising activities have been curtailed. LES will have a Pre-K next year.

AGRHS: They have had two COVID-19 cases; the second causing the group to quarantine. Getting enough masks is a challenge since the government is limiting them to two boxes per student. The 2 m distance can be maintained in the cafeteria but not in the halls, which may require a one-way circulation. Gyms are also closed.

Homework: Deadlines were discussed and teachers can be contacted regarding problems. Some 300 students were identified as needing tutoring and eleven teachers volunteered to participate. Subject priorities will be made especially for CEGEP requirements. Phelps Helps is very effective as is LEARN.

MEES Exams: There are no MEES exams this year, marks based on 35% for the first term and 65% for the second term. Some students do not like online learning.

Debit & Credit cards: Students and staff will soon be able to use debit and credit cards at the cafeteria with a 10-cent charge for a \$4 minimum purchase to cover card charges.

Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC): They will try to start the HP welding next summer. Current focus is on enrolment. ATE will restart July 21 for machining, welding will restart August 31. A third IHCA (Institutional and Home Care Assistant) cohort has started. RAC may be applied to offer a DEP instead of an AEP so they can work anywhere, not only a CHSLD. There is confusion since there is no SAE agreement. An SAE welding course is being given at LVTC. SAE has been doing this *à la carte* but LVTC will do it so the students will receive an AEP.

14. UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be an online Drummondville Elementary School press conference tomorrow, February 24, 2021 at 10:00 am. Pink Shirt Day against bullying is also tomorrow.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

M. McCully

The Record:

The Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) adopted a resolution about prioritizing educational staff. The Record was informed that the educational staff wasn't prioritized. Did the ETSB hear back from the Ministry about the adopted resolutions?

M. Murray

ETSB president:

No, we did not hear back from the Ministry.

M. Seline

ATA president:

Was the Grade 7 addition to the Deed of Establishment at Waterloo Elementary School a request from parents or from administration?

M. Murray

ETSB president:

It was requested from the Waterloo Elementary School Governing Board.

M. Seline

ATA president:

Does the modification to the Deed of Establishment belong to the Governing Board or to the Council of Commissioners?

M. Murray

ETSB president:

It is a process including the Governing Board, the Central Parents' Committee (CPC) and the Council of Commissioners.

M. Seline

ATA president:

How does it work to establish a grade 7 in an elementary school?

M. Murray

ETSB president:

You are asking for clarification of the process and we will look at all aspects, impacts and implications.

M. Seline

ATA president:

You have referred to many committees in the process.

M. Murray

ETSB president:

The process involves many departments, but that does not mean that all these committees will be involved.

17. GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

None.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 8:42 p.m.

Éric Campbell
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

EC/gm
02.23.2021