

## EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

### COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.

ETSB BOARD ROOM  
340, SAINT-JEAN-BOSCO  
MAGOG, QC. J1X 1K9

### MINUTES

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

#### MEMBERS PRESENT (P):

COMMISSIONERS		PARENT COMMISSIONERS	
Gordon Barnett	Z	Marc Mercure	Z
Claire Beaubien	Z	Helene Turgeon	Z
Daniel Brodie	A	Daniel Zigby, <b>Vice-Chair</b>	Z
Richard Gagnon	Z	Eliza McKnight	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, <b>Chair</b>	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

Naomi Royer, Waterloo Elementary School Parent

Tara Coulombe, Waterloo Elementary School Parent

Deborah Talbot, Waterloo Elementary School Parent

Charline Rodrigue, Waterloo Elementary School Parent

Jennie Gautrey, Waterloo Elementary School Parent

Anne Stairs, Heroes' Memorial Elementary School Principal

Melanie Cleary, Waterloo Elementary School Parent

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03 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 May 25, 2021 as modified, with the following additions:

7.2 Richmond Regional High School – Appointment of Principal;

7.3 Delegation of Powers to the Director General;

9.2.1 Confirmation of the Head Office Administrative Structure 2021-2022;

9.2.2 Confirmation of the Schools and Centres Administrative Structure 2021-2022.

Carried unanimously

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2021**

Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-90

**Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on April 27, 2021**

**WHEREAS** a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of April 27, 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 April 27, 2021 with corrections.

Carried unanimously

McNight should be spelled McKnight.

#### 4. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline: What feedback has the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) received for the reorganization of the May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup> school days? Did parents or teachers make comments or give feedback regarding the reorganization of these days?

M. Soucy: We received a few comments from teachers and parents, but not in great numbers, who were not in support of the online teaching.

M. Seline: To whom have these communications been directed to? Who receives them?

M. Murray: It depends on the origin. Personally, I received comments from parents about the violation of rights to strike for teachers; it depends on what and how, some were directly in schools and some to the Board Office administration. One parent was under the erroneous impression that we were against the right to strike. They felt that we shouldn't have made the teachers teach on a day they were on strike. The teacher's own legal advisors informed them that they would have to teach after the strike was over at 9:00.

M. Seline: Given that other schools reacted to strikes by cancelling classes, why did the ETSB not?

M. Murray: For three main reasons: **1** - We are better equipped for online learning with our experience. **2** - We had taken initiative earlier in the year to declare some of our pedagogical days as days off during a time when many teachers and students were stressed. **3** - Students have missed a significant number of teaching days, they are critical to their success, we are not supposed to go under 180. We will not reach that this year and did not feel that cancelling classes was in the best interest of students.

M. Seline: Is the ETSB aware of all the number of grievances filed because of the online learning? Is the Council of Commissioners aware of the number of grievances filed by the Appalachian Teachers' Association (ATA) in this matter?

M. Murray: No, we are not aware of the number.

#### 5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Chairman M. Murray presented the May 25, 2021 Recognition of Excellence and invited the Communications Consultant, Sharon Priest to read the Recognition:

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

- The Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) and Alexander Galt Regional High School (GALT) were recently recognized by Héma Québec, for their involvement in organizing and holding blood donor clinics on the joint campus. Held in the GALT cafeteria and supported by staff from both

the centre and the high school, the clinic has not only collected blood but helped to raise the awareness of the importance of donating blood. The certificate from Héma-Québec, recognizes the five-year milestone the organizers have reached. We would like to congratulate both LVTC and GALT on receiving this well-deserved recognition and thank them for their commitment in supporting and facilitating a blood drive in their community.



## 6. BUSINESS ARISING

None.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

The Secretary General, E. Campbell explained the schedule:

### 7.1 Schedule of Council of Commissioners meetings 2021-2022

- 1 – August 24, 2021
- 2 – September 28, 2021
- 3 – October 26, 2021
- 4 – November 23, 2021
- No meetings in December 2021
- 5 – January 25, 2022
- 6 – February 22, 2022
- 7 – March 22, 2022
- 8 – April 26, 2022
- 9 – May 24, 2022
- 10 – June 28, 2022

The Director General, M. Soucy explained the following resolution:

**7.2 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-91**  
**Richmond Regional High School – Appointment of Principal**

**WHEREAS** the position of Principal at Richmond Regional High School had become vacant with considering the sabbatical leave for the year 2021-2022 of the current Principal, Mr. Kirk Robinson;

**WHEREAS** the Selection Committee unanimously recommends this person to the Council of Commissioners;

**WHEREAS** the candidate selected retains the qualifications and experience that respond to the criteria designated by the General Directorate;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner G. Holliday that the Council of Commissioners appoint Mr. Steve Element, Principal 100% of Richmond Regional High School, effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Carried unanimously

The ETSB Chair, M. Murray presented the following resolution:

**7.3 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-92**  
**Delegation of Powers to the Director General**

**WHEREAS** all Management positions will not be assigned by May 25, 2021;

**WHEREAS** the last Council of Commissioners meeting for the 2020-2021 school year will be held on June 22, 2021;

**WHEREAS** some administrative positions will need to be appointed before the next Council of Commissioners' meeting held in June so that they may prepare for the start of the new school year;

**WHEREAS** the appointment of administrators is usually done by the Council of Commissioners;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner R. Gagnon to delegate the power of appointing administrators in conformity with the administrative structure for 2021-2022 to the Director General as to facilitate the start-up for the 2021-2022 school year effective May 26, 2021.

**IT IS FURTHER MOVED** that this delegation may be renewed at the next Council of Commissioners public meeting.

Carried unanimously

**8. REPORTS**

**8.1 Director General's report**

The Director General, M. Soucy had nothing new to report.

## 8.2 Chair's report

The Chair of the Commissioners' Council, M. Murray had nothing new to report.

## 9. ADVISORY COMMITTEES' REPORTS

### 9.1 Executive Committee

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

- Resolutions added to the Council of Commissioner's Agenda.

### 9.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Director General, M. Soucy presented the following two resolutions:

#### 9.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-93

#### Confirmation of the Head Office Administrative Structure 2021-2022

**WHEREAS** section 134 of the Regulation respecting *Certain Conditions of Employment of Senior Staff of School Boards* and of the *Comité de Gestion de la Taxe Scolaire de l'île de Montréal* states that the School Board must confirm the Head Office Administrative Structure, as it has been amended;

**WHEREAS** the Commissioners have reviewed the proposed Administrative Structure for the Head Office, including the appropriate modifications and adjustments for the 2021-2022 school year, during the May 4, 2021 Governance and Ethics Advisory Committee meeting;

**WHEREAS** the Commissioners have reviewed the proposed Administrative Structure for the Head Office, including the modifications for the 2021-2022 school year, during the Commissioners Executive meeting on May 25, 2021;

**WHEREAS** the recommendation is to create an Assistant Director of Pedagogical & Continuing Education Services, transfer of responsibility for the Community Learning Centres Administrative Officers from the Director of Transportation & Secretary General to the Director of Instructional Technology & Pedagogical Services and confirm the Assistant Director General as the Director of Schools & Centres;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships Association of Administrators (ETAA) has been duly consulted on the structure;

**WHEREAS** this administrative structure is to take effect July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, unless otherwise specified;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner J. Humenuik that the Council of Commissioners approve the Head Office Administrative Structure for the 2021-2022 school year, effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Carried unanimously

**9.2.2 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-94**  
**Confirmation of the Schools and Centres Administrative Structure 2021-2022**

**WHEREAS** section 134 of the Regulation respecting *Certain Conditions of Employment of Senior Staff of School Boards and of the Comité de Gestion de la Taxe Scolaire de l'Île de Montréal* states that the School Board must confirm the Schools and Centres Administrative Structure as it is amended;

**WHEREAS** the Commissioners have reviewed the proposed Administrative Structure for the Schools and Centres, including the modifications for the 2021-2022 school year, during the May 4, 2021 Governance and Ethics Committee meeting;

**WHEREAS** the Commissioners have reviewed the proposed Administrative Structure for the Schools and Centres, including the modifications for the 2021-2022 school year, during the Commissioners Executive meeting on May 25, 2021;

**WHEREAS** the only modification is to reduce the position of Assistant Director at Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre from 100% to 80%;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships Association of Administrators (ETAA) has been duly consulted on the 2021-2022 structure;

**WHEREAS** this administrative structure is to take effect on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, unless otherwise specified;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner R. Gagnon that the Council of Commissioners approve the Schools and Centres Administrative Structure for the 2021-2022 school year, effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Carried unanimously

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, Commissioner R. Gagnon mentioned the topics discussed at the May 4, 2021 meeting:

- Code of Ethics;
- Administrative structures 2021-2022;
- Motion to review By-laws including those related to the calling of meetings;
- Bursary awards.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

**9.3 Audit Advisory Committee**

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

**9.3.1 Finance:****9.3.1.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-95****Objectives and Principles Governing the Allocation of Resources pursuant to Section 275 Education Act (EA) and Allocation of Surpluses Section 193.4 (EA) – Budget Year 2021-2022**

**WHEREAS** Section 275 of the EA states that after consulting with the governing boards and the parents' committee, and taking into account the recommendations of the resource allocation committee under the fourth paragraph of section 193.3, the school board shall establish objectives and principles governing the allocation of subsidies, school-tax proceeds and its other revenues;

**WHEREAS** under Section 193.4. (EA) the resource allocation committee must annually make a recommendation to the Council of Commissioners regarding the allocation of the surpluses of the School Board's educational institutions in accordance with section 96.24 (EA);

**WHEREAS** in accordance with Section 193.3. (EA), the resource allocation committee has set up a consultation process with a view to establishing objectives and principles governing the annual allocation of revenues in accordance with section 275, determining how those revenues are to be allocated in accordance with Section 275.1, including by setting out the criteria to be used to determine the amounts allocated, and determining how student services are to be distributed in accordance with Section 261;

**WHEREAS** under Section 193(9) (EA) the Central Parents' Committee was consulted on the objectives and principles governing the allocation of subsidies, school-tax proceeds and other revenues among educational institutions as well as the criteria pertaining thereto, and the objectives, principles and criteria used to determine the amount to be withheld by the school board for its needs and those of its committees;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner J. Humenuik that the Council of Commissioners approve the Objectives and Principles Governing the Allocation of Subsidies, School Tax proceeds and other Revenues, as well as the objectives, principles and criteria used to determine the amount reserved for its own needs and the needs of its committees, as it pertains to the School Board's budget for the 2021-2022 school year;

**IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** to accept that School/Centre surplus will be limited to whichever is greater, \$10,000 or 5% of the operating budget, excluding decentralized grants. Until Schools or Centres surpluses are within the predetermined range a School/Centre, it cannot increase its surplus and must in fact decrease the amount of its surplus to the predetermined range (\$10,000 or 5% of its original budget excluding the decentralized grants). Deficits are to be reimbursed at a maximum of 2% to 5% per year of the operating budget excluding decentralized grants for the school year 2021-2022.

Carried unanimously



**9.3.1.2 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-96**  
**Ancillary Fees Related to the Collection of School Taxes**

**WHEREAS** Section VII of the *Education Act* requires school boards to levy a school tax on the taxable immovable on its territory;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board has, in the past, incurred ancillary fees in the process of managing and collecting school taxes;

**WHEREAS** these fees have in the past been absorbed as an administrative expense;

**WHEREAS** the *Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec, (MEQ)* is asking school boards to examine their administrative expenses and budgetary constraints and require the school board to find areas where it can improve efficiency and decrease costs;

**WHEREAS** the following fees structure would compensate for the ancillary fees incurred in the management and processing of school taxes:

Notary and real estate agent fax request	35\$
Notary and real estate agent Internet request	25\$
Insufficient funds cheque (NSF)	20\$
Copy of a previous year's school tax invoice	0\$
Taxpayer's reimbursement due to their error	25\$
Second and final notices of tax invoices	0\$;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner J. Humenuik that the Eastern Townships School Board implement the above mentioned fees structure as of July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Carried unanimously

**9.3.1.3 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-97**  
**Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre – Purchase for new machining program – Conclusion**

**WHEREAS** the Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) aims to keep its reputation to keep up with the new technologies and with the industries. Therefore, students are ready for the industries once they graduate;

**WHEREAS** it was moved by resolution #ETSB 21-03-72, on March 23, 2021, to dedicate a budget in the amount of \$675,000, including professional fees and excluding taxes, for the project stated above;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board has issued a public tender to purchase machine tools and accessories identified as required by the *Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)* for the dispensing of this new program on March 26, 2021;

**WHEREAS** two (2) companies retrieved the project specifications after a public invitation to bid on the project;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, only one (1) bid was received in conformity with the Eastern Townships School Board technical specifications by the date and time specified;

**WHEREAS** the article 33 of the *Regulation Respecting Certain Supply Contracts of Public Bodies* stipulate that an authorization of an executive officer of the public body is required before entering into a contract involving an expenditure equal to or above the public tender threshold, if only one supplier submitted a compliant tender;

**WHEREAS** the bid in the amount of \$447,448 (excluding taxes) was received from the Company *Ferro Technique limited* is respecting the budget allocated;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner M. Mercure to proceed with the purchase 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

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

### 9.3.2 Material Resources:

#### 9.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-98

##### Alexander Galt Regional High School – Main entrance and drop-off area

**WHEREAS** the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$540,714 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50621*;

**WHEREAS** the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$342,652 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2014-2015 Mesure: 50620*;

**WHEREAS** six (6) 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 \$890,271.65 (excluding taxes), was received from the Company *9006-3520 Quebec Inc. - Excavation Steve Leblanc*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *EXP*, has recommended the Company *9006-3520 Quebec Inc. - Excavation Steve Leblanc* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$1,072,043, 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 C. Beaubien 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 21-05-99**

**Waterloo Elementary School – Inside & Outside doors replacement**

**WHEREAS** the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$232,413 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2019-2020 Mesure: 50621*;

**WHEREAS** three (3) 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 \$95,000 (excluding taxes), was received from the Company *Construction Encore Inc.*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Chantal Brodeur* has recommended the Company *Construction Encore Inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$126,761, including taxes and professional fees;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner A. McCrory 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 21-05-100**

**Alexander Galt Regional High School – Universal access to Administrative Offices, Auditorium & Gymnasium**

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) approved a budget of \$800,000 for the project stated above, under the program *RHA – Amélioration de l'Accessibilité des Immeubles, Mesure : 30850*;

**WHEREAS** two (2) 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 \$787,000 (excluding taxes), was received from the Company *Grondin Marois inc.*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Jubinville & Associés* has recommended the Company *Grondin Marois inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$996,710, including taxes and professional fees;

**WHEREAS** all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from the program *RHA – Amélioration de l'Accessibilité des Immeubles, Mesure : 30850*;

**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 21-05-101**  
**Sunnyside Elementary School – Elevator**

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) approved a budget of \$200,000 for the project stated above, under the program *RHA – Amélioration de l'Accessibilité des Immeubles, Mesure : 30850*;

**WHEREAS** three (3) 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 \$165,470 (excluding taxes), was received from the Company *Construction Encore Ltée*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *ADSP Inc.* has recommended the Company *Construction Encore Ltée* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$237,102, including taxes and professional fees;

**WHEREAS** all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from *RHA – Amélioration de l'Accessibilité des Immeubles, Mesure : 30850* program;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner C. Beaubien 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 21-05-102**  
**Sunnyside Elementary School – K4 Renovation**

**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 2020-2021 Mesure: 50621*;

**WHEREAS** three (3) 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 \$181,500 (excluding taxes), was received from the Company *Construction Encore Ltée*;

**WHEREAS** after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *ADSP Inc.* has recommended the Company *Construction Encore Ltée* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$213,337, including taxes and professional fees;

**WHEREAS** all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2020-2021 Mesure: 50621* program;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner C. Beaubien 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 21-05-103**  
**All Schools – Snow removal, Fire alarms annual inspections, Generator inspections & Waste collection contracts – Call for tender for contracts on 3 years + 2 optional years**

**WHEREAS** all contracts above three (3) years need to be approved by the Council of Commissioners;

**WHEREAS** having two optional years provide a flexibility on using them or not, if needed and/or advantageous;

**WHEREAS** having a possibility of five (5) years increases the chance of having contracts higher than \$50,000;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) finds advantageous to benefit from that possibility;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner T. Bilodeau to proceed with the terms 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

**9.3.2.7 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-104**

**All Schools – Centre Acquisition Gouvernementale (CAG) – Elevator maintenance program**

**WHEREAS** the *Centre d'Acquisition Gouvernementale (CAG)* has been created on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020;

**WHEREAS** the CAG has for mission to acquire quality goods and services, at the right time, at the right price to the benefit of public organizations;

**WHEREAS** public organizations will have to acquire from the *CAG* exclusively unless an exception is accepted from them;

**WHEREAS** the *CAG* has started a new call for tenders for the acquisition of elevator maintenance program;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board finds advantageous to benefit of this mandate;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner M. Mercure to proceed in joining the *CAG* for the mandate 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

**9.3.2.8 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-105**

**Centre Acquisition Gouvernementale (CAG) – Plumbing furniture**

**WHEREAS** the *Centre d'Acquisition Gouvernementale (CAG)* has been created on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020;

**WHEREAS** the *CAG* has for mission to acquire quality goods and services, at the right time, at the right price to the benefit of public organizations;

**WHEREAS** public organizations will have to acquire from the *CAG* exclusively unless an exception is accepted from them;

**WHEREAS** the *CAG* has started a new call for tenders for the acquisition of plumbing furniture;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board finds advantageous to benefit of tis mandate;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner G. Holliday to proceed in joining the *CAG* for the mandate 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

The Chair also mentioned that the next Audit Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2021.

#### **9.4 Educational Advisory Committee**

The Chair of the Educational Advisory Committee, Commissioner M.E. Kirby presented the following resolution, which was explained by the Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services, E. Lettner:

##### **9.4.1 Resolution No. ETSB 21-05-106** **Purchase of Microsoft Licenses – Amended**

**WHEREAS** this resolution replaces the Resolution No. ETSB 21-03-76 passed in March 2021;

**WHEREAS** the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) has joined the Microsoft licenses purchasing group offered by the "*Centre d'acquisition gouvernemental*" (*CAG*);

**WHEREAS** the ETSB authorizes the *CAG* to identify our organization as a participant in a contract of mutual agreement ("gré-à-gré");

**WHEREAS** licensing needs were assessed from a three-year perspective;

**WHEREAS** the acquisition of licenses is directly related to the mission system of our Information Technology department;

**WHEREAS** Microsoft licenses are required to operate the various services hosted on our servers;

**WHEREAS** Microsoft licenses are required for our users (Office 365, Teams, Exchange Online, etc.);

**WHEREAS** Microsoft licenses are required to implement new government-required security rules that target public organizations put in place by the "*Centre opérationnel en cybersécurité*" (*COCD*);

**WHEREAS** all purchases will be done according to the ETSB Purchase policy and government requirements;

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Commissioner D. Zigby to authorize the Director General to sign any documentation related to the acquisition of equipment and related items (Dongles, cables, adapters, etc.), up to an amount of \$398,650.00 before taxes (According to Apple's quote #2210048920) for 2020-2021 effective immediately;

**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 can also sign.

Carried unanimously

The Chair also mentioned the topic discussed at the April 29, 2021 meeting:

- Long-term planning.

The Chair mentioned that the next Educational Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2021.

#### **9.5 Communications Advisory Committee**

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, Commissioner M. Mercure mentioned the topics discussed at the May 11, 2021 meeting:

- Registration update – 2021-2022;
- School population for the next years.

The date of the next Communications Advisory Committee meeting is to be determined.

#### **9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee**

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, Commissioner C. Beaubien mentioned that the next meeting is scheduled for September 2021.

#### **9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee**

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner G. Holliday mentioned that the date of the next meeting is to be determined.

#### **9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

The SEAC Commissioner, E. McKnight mentioned the following:

- SEAC role;
- SEAC mandate;
- Feedback from February training;
- Recommendations to the Director General.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2021.



## 10. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Commissioner representing parents, D. Zigby mentioned the topics discussed at the May 5, 2021 meeting:

- DG update – COVID cases;
- Governing Board trainings in 2021-2022.

The next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2021.

## 11. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner J. Humenuik, representing the Student Advisory Committee mentioned the topics discussed at the May 6, 2021 meeting:

- Racism;
- Replacement of members;
- COVID-19 impact on students;
- Preparation of the meeting with Commissioners.

The next Student Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2021.

## 12. QESBA

The Chair of the ETSB, M. Murray presented the following:

- Next meeting at the end of this week;
- Impact of Bill 96 regarding the Anglophone community;
- Mr. Steve Colpits, assistant deputy minister is retiring on May 27, 2021;
- Connection affordability for the rural community and for low economic citizens.

## 13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner T. Bilodeau: Would like to thank the staff at Richmond Regional High School (RRHS) for recognizing students at their awards Gala. The ceremony was added to Facebook and will also be added to the ETSB Facebook page and website.

### CLC Richmond, Danville and Drummondville:

- Active Living Equipment at RRHS;
- Visit from the Aquavan at Asbestos-Shipton-Danville School (ADS) & Drummondville Elementary School (DES);
- Community Micro-grants in VSF & Des Sources;
- Food Pantry project at ADS;
- I Belong! Projects at ADS, St. Francis and RRHS;
- Mother Goose Online at ADS, St. Francis;
- Nutrition program at RRHS;

- Online reading groups for grades 1-6 at DES;
- Partnership for the Vitality of the ESC of VSF & Des Sources;
- RRHS COVID – Proof volunteerism project;
- Summer Books Distribution project at RRHS;
- Virtual Storytime for Irish Festival;
- Virtual Tea & Talk;
- Wellness and Yoga projects at ADS, DES & St. Francis;
- “Whoo’s Ready for Bedtime?” Parent workshops series.

Commissioner G. Barnett:

Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) registrations are up in all sectors. The IHCA program already has ten (10) registrations.

The Government is promoting ATE for welding and machining and LVTC is doing a lot of work to recruit employers and explain the benefits to them. Part of the salary is reimbursed to the employer.

The one-week course to introduce the non-traditional trades of welding and machining to women resulted in a lot of discussion about other possibilities, such as men in the health sector. The women made a rose in welding and a vase in machining. LVTC and New Horizons (NH) also presented the Winning Attitudes module.

The SAE needs to be re-examined.

Lennoxville Elementary School (LES): Decentralized grants are being used for motivation sessions; (ex. Shakespeare play, carnival), library books, activity coordinator, Calgary Zoo virtual visit, board games, special end-of-year activity, graduations, more lunch supervisors.

- The tutoring program is up and running with 20 students benefiting.
- Air quality testing was completed for all classes, the recommendation being to open windows periodically.
- The theme for the mural will be “Education Then and Now”.
- LES has 317 students enrolled, 13 in Pre-K and 2 K classes.
- In cooperation with Sherbrooke and Bishops, LES will participate in a day camp.

Commissioner M. Mercure:

Rikki Bowles, former graduate at Massey-Vanier High School (MVHS) was recognized for being promoted head coach of the McGill women's basketball team.

Commissioner M. E. Kirby:

CLC Sawyerville and Pope SHINE Workshop:

- SHINE Workshop: Cycle 3 students attended a virtual workshop for Self-esteem, Healthy relationships, Independence and No means NO empowerment.
- Community garden: School-wide initiative with students and teachers to get their hands dirty. Students started seedlings and will be responsible to ensure that they germinate. Each class will prepare their own garden bed to transplant what has sprouted in June. This ongoing initiative is a great hands-on experience that allows our students to bond with nature and encourages healthy-eating habits.
- Artist inspire grant: Students and teachers were exposed to an experience that enhances creativity, self-esteem and connection. This activity focused on mental and physical wellbeing by using movement and music as a way to release any tensions while having fun.
- Orientation bags: With funding from the Townshippers' Association and with the help of our teachers, 18 bags were filled with books and fun tools and will be distributed in June to help prepare incoming Pre-K/Kindergarten students. Play is an important factor in early childhood development and learning and these bags were developed and created with this idea in mind.

14. UPCOMING EVENTS

None.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline

ATA president:

What's planned for the new school year at Richmond Regional High School (RRHS)? Will there be a new vice-principal?

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

There is no change to the allocation for the school year 2021-2022.

M. Seline:

Health Canada distributed particular masks, which have been recalled by the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB). Was there any communication sent to staff in order to inform them about what to do if there are any health issues caused to them?

M. Murray: We forwarded the information we received from the MEQ and authorities on to schools to share with their staff.

M. Seline: May I have a copy of the message?

J. Pauw

Director of Human Resources: A communication was sent to all staff members about what to do with the recalled masks and all staff members were invited to declare any possible impacts that have occurred of said masks. I will send you the information.

D. Talbot

WES parent: What will be the next steps for the Waterloo Elementary School (WES)?

K. Mackey

Assistant DG: The Assistant Director General explained all the actions that are ongoing to increase the quality of life of all at WES: At the meeting the School Board representatives as well as the school administration were in a listening mode. Since then, we have put measures in place to address the concerns raised. We would also like to hold another parent forum for all WES parents in the fall to follow up. One thing I would like to add is that we found that everyone involved has the interest of the students at heart.

M. Murray: I can assure you that the school board is serious about addressing the issues at WES. Please send me your written-out statement.

C. Rodrigue

WES parent: We are very frustrated, we want to contribute, but this is unbelievable. I also heard a teacher saying bad things about WES K4 students.

N. Royer

WES parent: The meeting was well organized. It is easy to deal with things that are going smoothly, but when things are not going so well, that is when we need help. We need to see concrete actions for our children and not only hearing that you are caring for them. You say there are things in place, but you are dealing with my child's life. You can make nice promises and comments, but we have seen nothing. These parents have been frustrated, with nothing to show that our kids matter. It isn't your kids it's, our kids and we feel helpless.

M. Cleary

WES parent: What criteria is needed to appoint support to the Principal? Who made the decision to appoint this person? Who recommends these persons?

- M. Murray: The administrators are the ones proposing these potential leaders.
- K. Mackey: Candidates are part of the Assessment Process for Prospective Educational Leaders (APPEL) and are selected following this training. This process is for our future administrators and an internal candidate was selected to work on dossiers, to help move things forward. We wanted someone who knew the school and the community. We chose support for the school rather than for the individual in place, to work on administrative tasks to free up the current Principal so that they could address the concerns directly.
- M. Murray: It is not a matter of where it comes from but more that we have a process in place to identify people who have potential. The appointment was made to provide administrative support. We have taken a number of measures and will continue to take them and others. Our one failings would be that we focused on getting things done rather than informing parents of what we were doing.
- N. Royer: I understand, and we misunderstood the role of the new person; we know that others wanted this role, and they were overlooked. It was not democratic choosing this individual who parents feel is part of the problem.
- M. Murray: Thank you for coming forward, we had a sense that the Governing Board (GB) had lost its way. I would be happy to attend a Governing Board meeting as well as some of our administrators to offer support.

## 17. GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

None.

## 18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner M. Mercure at 8:40 p.m.

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Éric Campbell  
Secretary General

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Michael Murray  
Chairman

EC/gm  
05.25.2021