

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 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	Z	Marc Mercure	Z
Claire Beaubien	Z	Helene Turgeon	Z
Daniel Brodie	Z	Daniel Zigby, Vice-Chair	Z
Richard Gagnon	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

OBSERVERS

Sharon Priest, Communications Consultant

PUBLIC

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

Matthew McCully, The Record

Linda Brasseur, Teacher

INVITEES

Shawn Frost, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton auditor

Stacey Loomis, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton auditor

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. Mercure to adopt the Agenda of November 24, 2020 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 MEETING

Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-32

Approval of the Minutes of the of the Council of Commissioners meeting held on September 22, 2020

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of September 22, 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.

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 September 22, 2020 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2020**

Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-33

Approval of the Minutes of the Council of Commissioners special meeting held on November 9, 2020

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the Council of Commissioners special meeting of November 9, 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.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to excuse the Secretary General from reading the Minutes and to approve the Minutes of the Council of Commissioners special meeting held on November 9, 2020 as modified:

4.4.4 **Appointment of alternate members**

It should have read as follows:

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon that nominations for two Alternate Commissioners representing the parents Council as an alternate members of the Appeal Committee cease.

Commissioner Holliday and Commissioner A. McCrory will represent Council as an alternates on the Appeal Committee.

Carried unanimously

5. **QUESTION PERIOD**

No questions were asked at this time.

6. **RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE**

There was no recognition of excellence this month.

7. **BUSINESS ARISING**

There was no business arising.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

Auditors from the accounting firm Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton presented a summary of the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2020:

8.1 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-34
Deposit of Financial Statements for the Year ending June 30, 2020

WHEREAS section 286 of the Education Act requires that the financial activities of school boards be audited annually;

WHEREAS the Secretary General gave public notice of the date, time and place of the presentation of the financial statements on October 30th 2020;

WHEREAS the Director General published a summary of the annual financial statements of the School Board in three local newspapers on November 13th;

WHEREAS the external auditors have deposited their report to the School Board;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik that the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2020 be received as tabled.

Carried unanimously

8.2 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-35
Statement of School Taxes Remaining Due and Owing 2020-2021

WHEREAS the Director of Financial Services presented the following summary regarding the statement of the school taxes remaining due and owing by owners;

WHEREAS the payment of the 2nd installment does not come due until November and consequently these amounts are included in the total school taxes not yet collected:

<u>Annual Invoices Issued – June</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
Total school taxes invoices issued:	14,284	16,504
Total school taxes to be collected:	\$3,338,558.69	\$4,928,303.22
<u>Outstanding Invoices – October</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
Total school taxes invoices outstanding:	5,307	7,160
Total school taxes not yet collected:	\$829,784.65	\$1,703,161.85

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to approve the statement of the school taxes remaining due and owing by owners.

Carried unanimously

8.3 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-36 Régime d'emprunt à long terme

ATTENDU que, conformément à l'article 78 de la Loi sur l'administration financière (RLRQ, chapitre A-6.001), la Commission scolaire Eastern Townships (l'« Emprunteur ») souhaite instituer un régime d'emprunts, valide jusqu'au 30 septembre 2021, lui permettant d'emprunter à long terme auprès du ministre des Finances, à titre de responsable du Fonds de financement, pour un montant n'excédant pas 9 024 000 \$;

ATTENDU que, conformément à l'article 83 de cette loi, l'Emprunteur souhaite prévoir, dans le cadre de ce régime d'emprunts, que le pouvoir d'emprunter et celui d'en approuver les conditions et modalités soient exercés par au moins deux de ses dirigeants;

ATTENDU qu'il y a lieu d'autoriser ce régime d'emprunts, d'établir le montant maximum des emprunts qui pourront être effectués en vertu de celui-ci, ainsi que les caractéristiques et limites relativement aux emprunts à effectuer et d'autoriser des dirigeants de l'Emprunteur à conclure tout emprunt en vertu de ce régime et à en approuver les conditions et modalités;

ATTENDU que le ministre de l'Éducation (le « Ministre ») a autorisé l'institution du présent régime d'emprunts, selon les conditions auxquelles réfère sa lettre du 24 novembre 2020;

SUR LA PROPOSITION du commissaire A. McCrory, IL EST RÉSOLU :

1. **QU'**un régime d'emprunts, valide jusqu'au 30 septembre 2021, en vertu duquel l'Emprunteur peut, sous réserve des caractéristiques et limites énoncées ci-après, effectuer des emprunts à long terme auprès du ministre des Finances, à titre de responsable du Fonds de financement, pour un montant n'excédant pas 9 024 000 \$, soit institué;
2. **QUE** les emprunts à long terme effectués par l'Emprunteur en vertu du présent régime d'emprunts soient sujets aux caractéristiques et limites suivantes :
 - a) malgré les dispositions du paragraphe 1 ci-dessus, l'Emprunteur ne pourra, au cours de chacune des périodes de **quinze mois** s'étendant du 1^{er} juillet au 30 septembre et comprises dans la période visée au paragraphe 1, effectuer des emprunts qui auraient pour effet que le montant total approuvé pour l'Emprunteur, pour une telle période, par le Conseil du trésor au titre de la programmation des emprunts à long terme des commissions scolaires, soit dépassé;
 - b) l'Emprunteur ne pourra effectuer un emprunt à moins de bénéficier d'une subvention du gouvernement du Québec conforme aux normes établies par le Conseil du trésor, au titre de l'octroi ou de la promesse de subventions aux commissions scolaires, ainsi qu'aux termes et conditions déterminés par le Ministre et pourvoyant au paiement en capital et intérêt de l'emprunt concerné même si, par ailleurs, le paiement de cette subvention est sujet à ce que les sommes requises à cette fin soient votées annuellement par le Parlement;
 - c) chaque emprunt ne pourra être effectué qu'en monnaie légale du Canada auprès du ministre des Finances, à titre de responsable du Fonds de financement;

- d) le produit de chaque emprunt ne pourra servir, outre le paiement des frais inhérents à l'emprunt concerné, que pour financer les dépenses d'investissement et les dépenses inhérentes aux investissements de l'Emprunteur subventionnées par le Ministre;
3. **QU'**aux fins de déterminer le montant total auquel réfère le paragraphe 1 ci-dessus, il ne soit tenu compte que de la valeur nominale des emprunts effectués par l'Emprunteur;
4. **QU'**en plus des caractéristiques et limites énoncées précédemment, les emprunts comportent les caractéristiques suivantes :
- a) l'Emprunteur pourra contracter un ou plusieurs emprunts pendant toute la durée du régime d'emprunts jusqu'à concurrence du montant qui y est prévu, et ce, aux termes d'une seule et unique convention de prêt à conclure entre l'Emprunteur et le ministre des Finances, à titre de responsable du Fonds de financement;
- b) chaque emprunt sera constaté par un billet fait à l'ordre du ministre des Finances, à titre de responsable du Fonds de financement;
- c) le taux d'intérêt payable sur les emprunts sera établi selon les critères déterminés par le gouvernement en vertu du décret numéro 432-2018 du 28 mars 2018, tel que ce décret peut être modifié ou remplacé de temps à autre; et
- d) afin d'assurer le paiement à l'échéance du capital de chaque emprunt et des intérêts dus sur celui-ci, la créance que représente pour l'Emprunteur la subvention qui lui sera accordée par le Ministre, au nom du gouvernement du Québec, sera affectée d'une hypothèque mobilière sans dépossession en faveur du ministre des Finances, à titre de responsable du Fonds de financement.
5. **QUE** l'Emprunteur soit autorisé à payer, à même le produit de chaque emprunt contracté en vertu du présent régime, les frais d'émission et les frais de gestion qui auront été convenus;
6. **QUE** l'un ou l'autre des dirigeants suivants :
- ✓ Le président M. Michael Murray;
 - ✓ Le vice-président M. Daniel Zigby;
 - ✓ Le directeur général M. Michel Soucy ou
 - ✓ La directrice des finances M^{me} Sophie Leduc.

de l'Emprunteur, **pourvu qu'ils soient deux agissant conjointement**, soit autorisé, au nom de l'Emprunteur, à signer la convention de prêt, les conventions d'hypothèque mobilière et les billets, à consentir à toute clause et garantie non substantiellement incompatible avec les dispositions des présentes, à livrer les billets, à apporter toutes les modifications à ces documents non substantiellement incompatibles avec les présentes, ainsi qu'à poser tous les actes et à signer tous les documents, nécessaires ou utiles, pour donner plein effet aux présentes;

7. **QUE**, dans la mesure où l'Emprunteur a déjà adopté une résolution instituant un régime d'emprunts pour les mêmes fins, la présente résolution remplace la résolution antérieure, sans pour autant affecter la validité des emprunts conclus sous son autorité avant la date du présent régime d'emprunts.

Carried unanimously

8.4 Declaration of conflict of interest

The Secretary General, E. Campbell distributed the declarations of conflict of interest to all Commissioners present. This form must be signed by all Commissioners and sent back to the School Board.

8.5 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-37 Deeds of Establishment 2021-2022 and 3-Year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables

The Secretary General, E. Campbell presented the Deeds of Establishment and the 3-Year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. Mercure to approve the Deeds of Establishment 2021-2022 and the 3-Year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables.

Carried unanimously

9. REPORTS

9.1 Director General's report

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

Good evening everyone,

While the world and our roles have become much more complicated due to the pandemic, I think it is important to also recognize the silver linings. First, I want to take a moment to deeply thank everyone in the health sector who continues to work to restrain the spread of COVID-19; the CIUSSS and DPSu have been invaluable partners. These individuals have dedicated themselves to slowing the spread of the virus in our region and we are grateful for their support.

It is our responsibility as citizens to respect their enormous efforts and to continue to take their recommendations seriously. Many among us have been forced to make sacrifices to this end: from the exhausted front-line workers, to the elderly people no longer allowed to visit with family and friends, to the people who make a living in businesses that have been greatly affected, to the young people struggling with adjusting emotionally and psychologically... These sacrifices are real and important, and we should honor them by doing everything we can to continue limiting the spread.

To students, I wish to encourage you: even if things seem to be weighing you down, we often become stronger from the challenges we face. I have complete faith in your ability to persevere and to succeed, and the rewards that will follow such diligence will prove themselves worth any extra effort currently required. You, our students, are the future leaders of our communities, and we are optimistic that you will emerge from this situation even stronger.

To our administrators, teachers, and staff: your efforts cannot be recognized enough. You have had to adapt to enormous changes this year, and we are so very grateful for your cooperation and understanding as we navigate this together. Even when it is not easy -- perhaps *especially* then -- we must remember that everything we are doing is for the greater good. Hang-in there; people are counting on you!

This virus may have changed the way we see and do just about everything, but every day that we continue going to school and to work, we prove that we are strong enough to pull through this together and for that and everything else: I thank you.

9.2 Report from the Chair

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

First, I want to wish Commissioners welcome back! We are currently holding our first Council meeting in our new mandate. In principle, we are committed to providing policy orientation and oversight to the Eastern Townships School Board for the next four years. We are taking office despite the transparent efforts of the Legault government to undermine local democracy and sabotage the election of commissioners in English school boards. I congratulate all of you for answering the call to represent the voice of our community both in our schools and throughout Quebec.

Of course the COVID-19 pandemic, which is raging unchecked, occupies our attention and all of our energies. I want to emphasize a couple of very important points:

First, that avoiding infection is more than ever important now that we know that an effective vaccine is likely to be available next year. We have been hearing lately about growing COVID-fatigue. The temptation to ignore or abandon precautions is insidious. The inconveniences and discomforts we are asked to endure in our efforts to avoid contracting this vicious virus are worth the effort. It is for now. It's not forever. It's not for the rest of our lives. We must focus on the light at the end of the tunnel.

Second, the mental health of our students and personnel is at risk. Without sports, arts, extra curricular activities and the freedom to socialize, students find it difficult to remain motivated and interested. Depression and discouragement are spreading. In parallel, educators at every level are feeling drained and exhausted by the additional burdens placed on them that go far beyond the usual heavy workload. I am impressed and delighted that despite the worries about keeping everyone safe and healthy, our personnel have risen to the challenge of providing stimulation and maintaining student engagement with ingenuity and innovation. Enthusiastic appreciation is due to our staff at every level for their outstanding performance.

I don't want to dwell on the pandemic but I can't omit a couple of special mentions:

First to our Assistant Director General for the proposal to use two of our moveable planning days (often called snow days) to create extra long weekends in November and December. The idea is to allow everyone to catch their breath. We are already receiving thanks from staff in terms that suggest they are even more weary than we had believed. We acknowledge that keeping students at home is an additional burden for families, but the benefit will be in more energized and committed teachers.

I also want to recognize the members of the Student Advisory Committee of ETSB. Despite being unable to meet in person, they collaborated to produce a short video urging fellow students to observe the safety guidelines. I was proud to share it publicly last week as an example of how students can demonstrate resilience in the face of all the current challenges. It is also a great example of creativity in the face of challenges. Congratulations to everyone involved!

I will conclude by wishing everyone a happy healthy and safe holiday.

10. ADVISORY COMMITTEES' REPORTS

10.1 Executive Committee

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

- ✓ Staffing plan;
- ✓ Other topics discussed are part of tonight's Council of Commissioners' agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled on January 26, 2021.

10.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, Commissioner R. Gagnon, mentioned that the minutes of the last five (5) meetings are in the KIT.

The next meeting is scheduled on December 8, 2020.

10.3 Audit Advisory Committee

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

10.3.1 Finances:

10.3.1.1 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-38 Cookshire Elementary School – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *Caisse Desjardins du Haut-Saint-François* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the ETSB Cookshire Elementary School;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the representatives authorized to sign in this School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. E. Kirby that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the School;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

Cookshire Elementary School Tina Jacklin
Victoria Taylor

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.2 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-39
Knowlton Academy – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *Bank of Montreal* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the ETSB Knowlton Academy;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the representatives authorized to sign in this School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gagnon that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the School;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

Knowlton Academy Renalee Gore
Catharine Spencer
Charlotte Coles

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.3 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-40
Lennoxville Elementary School – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *CIBC* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of ETSB Lennoxville Elementary School;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the representatives authorized to sign in this School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the School;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

Lennoxville Elementary School Dawn Irving
Brenda Marrotte
Christine Ransom

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.4 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-41
North Hatley Elementary School – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *CIBC* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of ETSB North Hatley Elementary School;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the representatives authorized to sign in this School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner C. Beaubien that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the School; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

North Hatley Elementary School Tracey Harding
Nathalie McAuley
Catharine Barnard

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.5 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-42
Pope Memorial Elementary School – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *Caisse Desjardins du Haut-Saint-François* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the ETSB Pope Memorial Elementary School;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the representatives authorized to sign in this School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. E. Kirby that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the sShool;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

Pope Memorial Elementary School Norma Humphrey
Brenda-Lee Dempsey
Kelly Lowe

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.6 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-43
Sunnyside Elementary School – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *Caisse Desjardins du Lac Memphrémagog* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the ETSB Sunnyside Elementary School;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the representatives authorized to sign in this School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner C. Beaubien that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the School;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

Sunnyside Elementary School James Lemaître
 Heather Stratton
 Emilie Grey

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.7 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-44
Signing Officers for Schools/Centres

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board ("ETSB") appointed the *National Bank* to provide banking services;

WHEREAS the accepted bid received from the *National Bank* also includes banking services for ETSB schools and centres;

WHEREAS the National Bank requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of ETSB schools and centres;

WHEREAS new assignments have changed the names of the representatives at New Horizons Adult Centre, Heroes' Memorials Elementary School, Waterloo Elementary School and Massey Vanier High School;

WHEREAS only those individuals listed below are authorized to sign for their respective school/centre;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of their respective schools/centre;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that any previous authorizations are rendered null and void by this resolution:

New Horizons Adult Centre	Steven Dunn Jennifer Rosebush
Heroes' Memorial Elementary School	Anne Stairs Mary Ann Murphy
Waterloo Elementary School	Adriana Lyons Linda Brasseur
Massey Vanier High School	Diane Sherrer-Vokey Tania Journeau Mathieu Viens

Carried unanimously

10.3.1.8 Resolution No. ESTB 20-11-45
Appointment of Signing Officers

WHEREAS school board elections have changed the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the Eastern Townships School Board;

IT WAS MOVED that the previous resolution appointing signing officers, be rendered null and void;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik that, effective November 24, 2020, only the individuals listed below be authorized to sign, on behalf of the Eastern Townships School Board, all banking documents required by the National Bank of Canada:

The Chairman of the Council of Commissioners:	Michael Murray
or	
The Vice-Chairman of the Council of Commissioners:	Daniel Zigby
and	
The Director General:	Michel Soucy
or	
The Director of Financial Services:	Sophie Leduc

Carried unanimously

10.3.2 Material Resources:

The Director of Material Resources, E. Plante presented the following resolution:

10.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-46
Drummondville Elementary School – Construction of a New School

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$13,246,010 for the construction of the new Drummondville Elementary School;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)* unofficially approved an adjusted a budget of \$16,411,877, based on the economical conjuncture in place, for the construction of the new Drummondville Elementary School;

WHEREAS twenty (20) 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 \$11,572,400 (excluding taxes), was received from the Company Construction Marc Drolet Inc.

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of Espace Vital Architecture/Bilodeau, Baril, Leeming Architectes, has recommended the Company Construction Marc Drolet Inc., the 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 \$17,777,152;

WHEREAS the amount of \$14,177,678 has been requested from the *MEQ* in order to be able to accomplish the project;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner T. Pezzi-Bilodeau that the Company Construction Marc Drolet Inc. be awarded the contract if the *MEQ* approves the additional funds for the project stated above; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that the Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

10.4 Educational Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Educational Advisory Committee, M.E. Kirby, mentioned that the next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for December 2020.

10.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, M. Mercure, mentioned that the next Communications Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for December 2020, March and May 2021.

10.6 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 January 12, 2021.

10.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner G. Holliday presented the following resolution:

10.7.1 Resolution No. ETSB 20-11-47 School Bus Bids 2020-2021 (Phase I)

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board owns and operates a fleet of school buses;

WHEREAS to maintain a dependable fleet and keep repair costs down, it is necessary to replace buses on a regular basis;

WHEREAS the ministère *de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)* has established parameters for the exchange of buses and has monies for this purpose;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board has ten (10) buses which will meet these parameters by June 30th 2021, and therefore will need to be replaced;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday that the Eastern Townships School Board make a request to the *MEQ* to purchase ten (10) new buses in exchange for ten (10) used buses.

Carried unanimously

The next Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on February 9, 2021.

10.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The Director of Complementary Services, E. Gaudet, mentioned the following topics discussed at the last meeting:

- ✓ New Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Chair;
- ✓ New Central Parents' Committee (CPC) representative;
- ✓ Many new members.

The next meeting is scheduled on February 10, 2021.

11. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Commissioner representing parents, D. Zigby, mentioned the topics discussed at the November 4, 2020 meeting:

- ✓ Transportation presentation;
- ✓ Change and consultation in pedagogical days in the school calendar explanation.

The next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2020.

12. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner J. Humenuik, representing the Student Advisory Committee, mentioned that the Student Advisory Committee produced and presented a video to all participants about the 28-day challenge against COVID-19.

The next Student Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for 2020 (to be determined).

13. QESBA

Professional Development (PD):

QESBA organized a Professional Development sessions for School Board Chairs, Director Generals and Assistant Director Generals scheduled for November 28, 2020. Other PD sessions for School Board Commissioners and Secretary Generals is scheduled for December 5, 2020.

School Board Elections:

School board elections have been postponed to December 19-20, 2020. This is in conflict with the self-isolation period decreed by the Government.

Appointment of Interim Director General and Assistant Director General:

The Chairman explained the reality of what the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) is going through since the trustee completed her mandate. Since the end of her mandate, an interim director general and an interim assistant director general that were appointed, but finally resigned.

QESBA Executive Director:

The Executive Director of QESBA, Russell Coppeman will assume the position of interim director general in order to provide stability. QESBA will be deprived of executive director general until March 2021.

14. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner M. E. Kirby: Explained that the Eaton Valley Community Learning Centre has changed CLC coordinator. Ms. Kim Fessenden is on a leave of absence. She has been replaced by Ms. Jenny Menard. Commissioner Kirby enumerated a few CLC activities that are happening.

Commissioner C. Beaubien: Presented a few CLC activities that are happening at Sunnyside Elementary School:

- ✓ **Online Books to Belly:** Family cooking workshops for children;
- ✓ **French Intergenerational Pen Pal:** Students are preparing letters and crafts;
- ✓ **Adult Education Support:** General education support on Fridays;
- ✓ **Used uniforms:** Uniforms collected throughout the school year – Stanstead College professionally washes all the clothes for free.

PHELPS HELPS

- ✓ **High School Tutoring Program:** Tutors are always on hand for individual support for all high school subjects;
- ✓ **Elementary Tutoring Program:** Provides students with homework help;
- ✓ **Spark Program:** Fosters a love of learning through gym play and hands-on activities with elementary school students. Weekly Spark Packages will be sent home through the schools, every Thursday;
- ✓ **Compass Program:** Provides individual support to those looking to apply for postsecondary education, searching for employment or wishing to complete their high school education.

Commissioner F. MacGregor: Participated at an online honour and awards event from Alexander Galt Regional High School – All was very well done and many awards were granted. Congratulations to the school and organizers.

15. UPCOMING EVENTS

None.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

17. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline

ATA President:

How is the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) addressing ventilation issues?

É. Plante

Material Resources Director:

Same situation as was explained at the last Council meeting; we are looking at what is on the market and also have natural ventilation in most classrooms. We address the situation on a case-by-case basis. We do have a project in the next four to five years to address the ventilation and extreme heat.

M. Seline

ATA President:

What is the directive for natural ventilation?

É. Plante

Material Resources Director:

An opening of 3 cm for 20 minutes does one full air exchange. The protocol was sent to all schools.

M. Seline

ATA President: Did the Ministry provide extra funds to the ETSB to help with this dossier?

É. Plante

Material Resources Director: We received a little more than \$100,000 from the Ministry to be used for cleaning the mechanical ventilation systems.

18. GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 8:17 p.m.

Éric Campbell
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

EC/gm
11.24.2020