

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 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	A	Daniel Zigby, Vice-Chair	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, 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

Holly Bailey, Communications Consultant

PUBLIC

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

Michael Boriero, The Record

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to adopt the Agenda of August 24, 2021 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 22, 2021

Resolution No. ETSB 21-08-02

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held June 22, 2021

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the June 22, 2021 meeting 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 June 22, 2021 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

Resolution No. ETSB 21-08-03

Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held August 17, 2021

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the August 17, 2021 special meeting 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 M. Mercure to excuse the Secretary General from reading the Minutes and to approve the Minutes of the special meeting held on August 17, 2021 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were asked at this time.

5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

There is no Recognition of Excellence this month.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to report.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Director General's report

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

Welcome Back Message 2021

Hello everyone & WELCOME BACK!!

Well, it's that time of year again when we sharpen those pencils, get out the lunch bags and launch into a new school year!

We hope that you all took advantage of your summer holidays and took some time to get outside, enjoy your hobbies and rest up. The past year was a big challenge for us all, but we arrive now with experience and renewed energy as we plan for this year ahead! We're convinced that we'll make this a great year – one day at a time.

First, we'd like to congratulate all of our students, teachers, bus drivers and all of our ETSB staff on having created such a positive and safe learning environment for our students last year. It was unprecedented & impressive!

With over 7000 students and staff members throughout the ETSB, we had approximately 100 COVID-19 cases since the beginning of the pandemic. This speaks to the collaborative efforts we employed and we are confident that we will continue to work together and make this 2021-2022 school year another great success!

We will continue to follow the safety and sanitary measures as per the MEQ and DSPu and adapt to changes as they come. Our families & communities are counting on us, so we must choose to embrace these new ways of doing things in lieu of resisting change.

We know it won't be perfect or necessarily easy and that we don't have all the answers, but we WILL be flexible in our approach and know that together – WE can do this!

Our school teams are busy getting ready for the first days of school, which we know are critical for establishing the positive learning and working environment that the ETSB is known for. So, as our teachers scramble to get those classrooms ready and all the preparations for a smooth start, know that we applaud your efforts and thank each and every one of you for your contribution. We couldn't do it without you!!

So, on behalf of the DC team, we wish you a happy back to school and a really wonderful year!!

Michel Soucy, Director general

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 mentioned there was nothing to report.

9.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, Commissioner R. Gagnon, mentioned that the date of the next meeting is scheduled for August 31, 2021.

9.3 Audit Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee, Commissioner J. Humenuik mentioned the notes of the June 15 and June 21, 2021 meetings are in the KIT.

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 21-08-04 St. Francis Elementary School – Signing Officers

WHEREAS the *CIBC* requires the names of representatives authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of ETSB St-Francis 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. Holliday that the following individuals be authorized to sign banking documents on behalf of the school;

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

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

Alexander Galt Regional High School Peggy McCourt
Christina Rousseau
Jennifer Hall
Tara McCully

Carried unanimously

9.3.2 Material Resources:

9.3.2.1 Nil

9.4 Educational Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Educational Advisory Committee, M.E. Kirby, mentioned that the date of the next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2021.

9.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, M. Mercure, mentioned that the date of the next Communications Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2021.

9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, C. Beaubien, mentioned that the date of the next Human Resources Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on September 14, 2021.

9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner G. Holliday, mentioned that the date of the next Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on November 9, 2021.

9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The Parent Commissioner, E. McKnight that the date of the next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2021.

10. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Commissioner representing parents, D. Zigby, mentioned that the date of the next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2021.

11. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner J. Humenuik, representing the Student Advisory Committee, mentioned that a base group is returning this year – hopefully we will be able to meet in person this year.

The next Student Advisory Committee meeting is to be determined.

12. QESBA

QESBA is still waiting for the court judgment regarding Bill 40.

13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

G. Barnett: At the July 6th LVTC Governing Board meeting, they were in the green zone, but the virus was not gone.

ATE machining has 12 students (10, last year). Welding has 15 students and the Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) had 191 ETP's compared to 140 last year, which paid for the teachers. *Formation professionnelle (FP)* institutions are moving to ATE for financial reasons. The *Service aux entreprises (SAE)* rentals bring in some money.

AEP-IHCA started with 7 students, which pays for teachers.

There have been several staff changes at LVTC. Mr. Luc Rodrigue will now be the Assistant Director of Continuing Education at the School Board.

14. UPCOMING EVENTS

None.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Seline

ATA President:

May I extend my appreciation to Mr. Barnett for his detailed interventions?

G. Barnett

Commissioner:

Thank you.

M. Seline

ATA President:

When will the SEAC meetings take place?

E. McKnight

SEAC Chair:

SEAC meetings should take place every second Tuesday of the month. The dates need to be validated with the committee members.

M. Seline

ATA President:

Will the Council of Commissioners' meetings take place online for the rest of the school year or will they be in person soon?

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

The Council of Commissioners' meetings will be in person as soon as sanitary measures will allow it.

M. Seline

ATA President:

When a communication of sanitary measures will be sent out to parents and staff, may I get a copy?

E. Campbell

Secretary General:

A communication will be sent out to parents tomorrow. I will send you a copy.

M. Boriero

The Record: journalist

Sir Wilfred-Laurier school sent a communication for teachers for the return to school plan. Has the ETSB done the same?

M. Soucy

Director General:

We have not sent out a communication yet as we are waiting for more information requesting to be included in the teachers' send out communique as well.

M. Boriero

The Record: journalist

Does the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) have a plan as per to the recycling of masks used by the staff and students this year?

E. Plante

Director of Material Resources:

We are awaiting further information regarding the procedure to recycle masks. A Company in Magog seems to be the best option for this.

M. Boriero

The Record: journalist

Are there plans or measures in place in order to eliminate stress and frustration to support teachers?

J. Pauw

Director of Human Resources:

Yes. We have a program called LifeWorks, which helps in dealing with stress. We have engaged companies to help alleviate the stress; we plan to continue to support staff this year as the pandemic continues.

M. Boriero

The Record: journalist

How will vaccination passports be applied in schools? How will this affect sports competitions, etc.?

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

We just found out the latest plan today at 3:00 p.m. There is no elaborate plan in place yet. The Government could have worked more on preparing this during the summer; it relied on hope instead of creating a solid plan. Said plan has not materialized yet. We will adapt to reality as we go. We can expect more changes to come.

M. Seline

ATA President:

I received a communique from the Ministry just before the Council meeting. Our region has been declared a sort of red zone. Is the ETSB aware of additional measures for the Estrie?

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

The Board is a large organization and some may have gotten the communication, but not all may have seen it as of now. We will adjust as we go and we will communicate any new measures that we are made aware of.

17. GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

None.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner R. Gagnon at 7:41 p.m.

Éric Campbell
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

EC/gm
08.24.2021