

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025 – 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	Pam Gougeon	Z
Claire Beaubien	Z	Sarah Langlois	Z
Sandra Finlay	Z	Eliza McKnight	Z
Richard Gosselin	Z	Jody Murray	Z
Gary Holliday	Z	DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE (DC)	
Joy Humenuik	Z	Secretary General – Shawn Champigny	P
Shawn Jersey	A	Director General – Kandy Mackey	P
Mary-Ellen Kirby	Z	Assistant Director General & Director of Financial Services – Sophie Leduc	P
Jonathan Murray	Z	Director of Human Resources – Caroline Dufresne	Z
Michael Murray, Chair	Z	Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services – Eva Lettner	Z
Helene Turgeon	Z	Director of Complementary Services – Emmanuelle Gaudet	Z
		Director of Material Resources – Éric Plante	Z

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

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner C. Beaubien to adopt the Agenda of May 27, 2025 as modified.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2025

Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-60

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on April 22, 2025

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of April 22, 2025 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 22, 2025 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

L. Mireault

ATA Representative:

What role do the Commissioners play in the hiring of Principals and if there is a follow-up in the hiring. If so, who gives that approval?

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

At least two Commissioners interview the candidate and one of them, we try to make a common practice with the Commissioner from the Ward and another the other is an experienced commissioner. The follow-up is done by the administration.

5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Chairman M. Murray invited the following Commissioners to present the May 27, 2025 Recognition of Excellence:

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

QESBA Award: Brome Missisquoi Campus wins the Adult Education & Vocational Training category

Commissioner J. Murray: We are proud to celebrate Brome-Missisquoi Campus outstanding accomplishment this month. Our Centre received the **Quebec English School Boards Association** Award of Excellence in Education. The award, given in the Adult Education and Vocational Training category, recognized the success of the innovative Grocery Service Clerk project. This honour highlights the dedication and creativity of our staff, students and showcases the exceptional programs happening within our school board.



Olympiades québécoises des métiers et technologies : Our Vocational Training Centres were well represented

Commissioner R. Gosselin: From May 7th to 10th 2025, the Eastern Townships School Board proudly supported its students at the *Olympiades québécoises des métiers et des technologies* in Québec City. Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre was well represented by James Robertson and his coach, Vincent Anderson. We were also thrilled to celebrate a silver medal win in Industrial Mechanics by Antonin Dumont from Campus

Brome-Missisquoi. Congratulations to Antonin and his coach, John MecTeacher, for this remarkable achievement that reflects the talent and dedication found across our vocational centres!



Pope Memorial Upper Canada Trip

Commissioner M. E. Kirby: Students from Cycle 2 and 3 had the unforgettable opportunity to step back in time during their class trip to Upper Canada Village. Dressed in 1860s attire, they experienced life as it was in 1866. They attended a one-room schoolhouse, sewed, baked cookies and more. It was a hands-on history lesson that brought the past to life! A heartfelt thank you goes out to Ms. Kendra for organizing this incredible learning experience, and to the dedicated parent volunteers who helped capture special moments along the way.



Massey-Vanier Toronto Trip

Commissioner J. Humenuik: During this month, 52 of our Secondary 3 and 4 students embarked on a memorable three-day trip to Toronto and Niagara Falls. From city adventures to breathtaking views at the falls, our students had an incredible time exploring and learning outside the classroom. A big thank you to Ms. V., Ms. Wilson, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Forster for organizing and accompanying the group. Their dedication helped make this enriching experience possible and unforgettable for everyone involved!



RRHS Talent Show Must Go On

Commissioner G. Holliday: Last month, Richmond Regional High School wowed audiences with its long-awaited 2025 Talent Show! The event was a true celebration of student creativity, featuring impressive performances and behind-the-scenes work from talented participants and technicians. This year's show held special significance, as members of the Graduating Class of 2025 took the stage one last time as RRHS students. Watching their journey from Grade 7 to Grade 11 has been truly inspiring. Congratulations to everyone who made this unforgettable evening such a success!



MVHS – Kaleidascope

Chairman M. Murray: Felt privileged to attend the event. So many students participated and they were sold out at 801. No empty seat in the house for 2 separate performances: singing and dancing. Teacher deserves our warmest and enthusiastic gratitude. Such a successful presentation. Hooray for a large part of the staff at MVHS.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

The Secretary General, S. Champigny presented the following resolutions:

6.1 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-61

Appointment of a Returning Officer – School By-Elections

WHEREAS school by-elections will be held on July 13, 2025.

WHEREAS section 22 of the *Act Respecting School Elections* stipulates that the Director General of the School Board is the Returning Officer Ex Officio, power delegated by the Director General of the Quebec elections;

WHEREAS the Director General will delegate this responsibility;

WHEREAS the General Directorate of the Eastern Townships School Board recommends Mr. Shawn Champigny as Returning Officer;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner H. Turgeon to appoint Mr. Shawn Champigny to the position of Returning Officer for the upcoming school by-elections.

Carried unanimously

6.2 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-62

Appointment of an Election Clerk – School By-Elections

WHEREAS a school by-election will be held on July 13, 2025;

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

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

WHEREAS the General Directorate of the Eastern Townships School Board recommends Mrs. Angela Vaillancourt;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to appoint Mrs. Angela Vaillancourt to the position of Election Clerk for the July 13, 2025 school elections.

Carried unanimously

The Director General, K. Mackey presented the following resolution:

6.3 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-63

Delegation of Authority to the Director General, Appointment of Administrators

WHEREAS there are vacant Management positions;

WHEREAS some administrative positions will need to be appointed between now and the next Council of Commissioners' meeting held on August 26, 2025;

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

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Barnett to delegate the authority to appoint administrators in alignment with the administrative structure for the 2024-2025 school year to the Director General, to ensure the continuity and effectiveness of operations for the 2024-2025 school year, effective from May 28, 2025, until August 25, 2025.

Carried unanimously

7. NEW BUSINESS

The Secretary General, S. Champigny, presented the following dates:

7.1 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-64 2025-2026 Schedule of Council of Commissioners meetings

August 26, 2025
September 23, 2025
October 28, 2025
November 25, 2025
January 27, 2026
February 24, 2026
March 24, 2026
April 28, 2026
May 26, 2026
June 23, 2026

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner C. Beaubien to adopt the 2025-2026 Council meetings as deposited.

The Director General, K. Mackey presented the following resolutions:

7.2 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-65 Promotion of vocational training – Promotional videos

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$106,000 for the Promotion of Vocational Training project – DGs table agreement Canada/Quebec for 2024-2028;

WHEREAS seven (7) companies received the project specifications after an invitation to bid on the project;

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

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of \$99,000 (including taxes), was received from the company *Beauvoir*;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner P. Gougeon 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 Communications can also sign.

Adopted with one abstention

7.3 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-66

Request for authorization for Vocational Training Program – Trucking (5791)

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) aims to diversify its vocational training services to the English-speaking community on its territory;

WHEREAS the ETSB wishes to enhance its offer of vocational training programs with the addition of Trucking (5791);

WHEREAS according to “*Services Québec*”, the professional outlook for this type of job is favourable and a regional opinion will have to be issued for each program of study requested;

WHEREAS this program will be offered by the ETSB in partnership with the *Centre de services scolaire des Sommets (CSSDS)*;

WHEREAS the ETSB must respect the process established by the *ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)*;

WHEREAS the ETSB must apply for new programs and the application has been approved by the Provincial Organization of Continuing Education Directors, English (PROCEDE) and the English Language Vocational Educators Council (ELVEC) committee;

WHEREAS the ETSB is to request authorization from the *MEQ* to offer this program in its vocational training centres;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Murray that the Eastern Townships School Board officially send a request to the *MEQ* for authorization to add Trucking (5791) to its vocational training program offer.

Carried unanimously

7.4 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-67

Request for authorization for Vocational Training Program – Tinsmithing (5860)

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) aims to diversify its vocational training services to the English-speaking community on its territory;

WHEREAS the ETSB wishes to enhance its offer of vocational training programs with the addition of Tinsmithing (5860);

WHEREAS according to “*Services Québec*”, the professional outlook for this type of job is favourable and a regional opinion will have to be issued for each program of study requested;

WHEREAS this program will be offered by the ETSB in partnership with the *Centre de services scolaire Val-des-Cerfs (CSSVDC)*;

WHEREAS the ETSB must respect the process established by the *ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)*;

WHEREAS the ETSB must apply for new programs and the application has been approved by the Provincial Organization of Continuing Education Directors, English (PROCEDE) and the English Language Vocational Educators Council (ELVEC) committee;

WHEREAS the ETSB is to request authorization from the *MEQ* to offer this program in its vocational training centres;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner S. Finlay that the Eastern Townships School Board officially send a request to the *MEQ* for authorization to add Tinsmithing (5860) to its vocational training program offer.

Carried unanimously

7.5 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-68

Approval of the ECQ Project – ‘What’s Cooking at l’espace cuisine?’

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) submitted a grant request through the *Entente Canada-Québec (ECQ)* Project Fund, coordinated by the Table of Directors General of the English School Boards of Quebec, for the 2024–2025 school year;

WHEREAS the project titled “*What’s cooking at l’espace cuisine?*” aims to enhance educational offerings for students with learning difficulties (EHDA) by developing a dedicated, bilingual training space within the ETSB administrative centre, focused on the food services sector;

WHEREAS the project aligns with the objectives of the *MEQ*’s Strategic Plan 2023–2027, specifically Orientation 1 – supporting student success, and responds to a significant need for accessible programs in the Memphremagog region;

WHEREAS the total value of equipment purchases associated with this project is \$100,000, fully funded through the *ECQ* grant;

WHEREAS the purchases will be done before June 30, 2025, and includes the purchase of specialized kitchen and food service equipment (e.g., convection oven, walk-in refrigerator, dishwashing station, induction cooktops) to create a safe, functional, and industry-comparable training environment;

WHEREAS all purchases related to this project will be conducted in accordance with the ETSB's purchasing policy and public procurement regulations, ensuring transparency, compliance, and the optimal use of public funds;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Council of Commissioners approves the *ECQ*-funded project titled "What's cooking at *l'espace cuisine?*" with an equipment budget of \$100,000;
2. The Director General or their delegate is authorized to oversee the implementation and ensure timely acquisition of equipment in accordance with project timelines;
3. All procurement activities will respect the ETSB's purchasing policy and related regulatory requirements;
4. The Eastern Townships School Board acknowledges the support of the *ECQ* and the DG's Table in advancing inclusive and innovative educational programming for our adult learners.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner H. Turgeon that the Eastern Townships School Board approves the *ECQ* Project – "What's cooking at *l'espace cuisine?*" conditional to the *ECQ* funding approval.

Adopted with one abstention

7.6 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-69

Vocational training centres (LVTC & CBM) – Purchase for new Welding & Assembly Program (5882)

WHEREAS Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) and Campus Brome-Missisquoi (CBM) are committed to maintaining the high quality and strong reputation of their instructional programs by staying current with emerging technologies and industry standards;

WHEREAS this commitment ensures that students are well-prepared to meet the demands of the workforce upon graduation;

WHEREAS both centres will be offering the new Welding and Assembly program as of July 2025;

WHEREAS Campus Brome-Missisquoi also offers the new *Soudage et Assemblage* (5382) program in French, in partnership with the *Centre de Services Scolaire Val-des-Cerfs* (CSSVDC);

WHEREAS both the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) and CSSVDC have each received base funding to support the implementation of the program for one group, and a collaboration is in place to coordinate related purchases;

WHEREAS the proposed purchase for machine tools and accessories for the dispensing of this new program has been identified as required by the *ministère de l'Éducation du Québec* (MEQ);

WHEREAS the new Welding and Assembly program (5882) requirements now include a collaborative robot for welding;

WHEREAS the Campus Brome-Missisquoi workshops need to renew some of their obsolete equipment, accessories and furniture to keep a safe, engaging and industry-oriented learning environment;

WHEREAS a dedicated budget of \$177,200 is planned for the implementation of the new program 5882 and a budget of \$341,653 is planned to replace obsolete equipment for a total budget of \$518,853 (excluding all taxes related);

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) submitted a grant request of \$350,000 through the *Entente Canada-Québec (ECQ)* Project Fund for the 2024–2025 school year to get new equipment for both Centres. If obtained, all purchases must be done by June 30, 2025;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)* will assume, 2/3 of the implementation budget, for a maximum of \$203,000 under the *Mesure 50580 – Financement de l'équipement de la formation professionnelle menant à un diplôme délivré par le ministre* and ETSB will assume 1/3 of the costs (\$100,000) in conformity with the criterias and maximum amounts determined by the *MEQ*;

WHEREAS, under the agreement between *CSSVDC* and ETSB for Campus Brome-Missisquoi, ETSB will be invoiced by *CSSVDC* for one-third of the costs not covered by *Mesure 50580* and will assume this portion, for a maximum amount of \$100,000 in accordance with *MEQ* criteria and limits;

WHEREAS the Centres could also use other sources of financing or donation to get the equipment for the new program and to replace obsolete equipment;

WHEREAS equipment purchases will be conducted in accordance with the ETSB's purchasing policy and public procurement regulations, ensuring transparency, compliance and the optimal use of public funds;

Provisional budget

Equipment and accessories	LVTC	CBM	Total
Collaborative robot for welding	Between \$97,000 to \$130,000	Purchased by <i>CSSVDC</i>	Between \$97,000 to \$130,000
Computers & programming software	\$8,700	Purchased by <i>CSSVDC</i>	\$8,700
Equipment for the new program	\$38,500	Purchased by <i>CSSVDC</i>	\$38,500
Renewal of obsolete equipment	\$0.00	341,653	341,653
Total	Maximum \$177,200	\$341,653	\$518,853

*All prices are subject to change and may be different at the time of the purchase.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner P. Gougeon to proceed, in conformity with the authorization by the *MEQ* and the ETSB's purchase policy and government requirements, for the project stated above conditional to the *ECQ* funding approval;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General be authorized to sign all associated documentation and that the Assistant Director General can also sign.

Adopted with one abstention

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

7.7 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-70

Approval of the ECQ project for air quality improvement – cleaning equipment

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) submitted a grant request through *the Entente Canada-Québec (ECQ)* Project Fund, coordinated by the Table of Directors General of the English School Boards of Quebec, for the 2024–2025 school year;

WHEREAS ETSB schools would benefit in having better or new cleaning equipment for their cleaning crew;

WHEREAS the total value of equipment purchases associated with this project is \$250,000, fully funded through the *ECQ* grant;

WHEREAS the purchases will be done before June 30, 2025 and includes the purchase of specialized cleaning equipment;

WHEREAS all purchases related to this project will be conducted in accordance with the ETSB's purchasing policy and public procurement regulations, ensuring transparency, compliance and the optimal use of public funds;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Council of Commissioners approves the *ECQ*-funded project on air quality with an equipment budget of \$250,000;
2. The Director General or their delegate is authorized to oversee the implementation and ensure timely acquisition of equipment in accordance with project timelines;
3. All procurement activities will respect the ETSB's purchasing policy and related regulatory requirements;
4. The Eastern Townships School Board acknowledges the support of the *ECQ* and the DG's Table in advancing inclusive and innovative educational programming for our adult learners.

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Murray that the Eastern Townships School Board approves the *ECQ* Project – project for air quality improvement – cleaning equipment conditional to the *ECQ* funding approval.

Adopted with one abstention

8. REPORTS

8.1 Director General's report

The Director General, K. Mackey reported the following:

As May draws to a close, we find ourselves in the final, vibrant stretch of the school year. This time is always rich with energy and emotion – our schools are immersed in year-end celebrations, field trips, final assessments and transitional moments for students of all ages. Whether it's entering preschool, moving up to high school or the adult education sector, or preparing for post-secondary life, this period marks key milestones in our students' educational journeys. At the same time, planning for the 2025–2026 school year is already well underway across all sectors.

A highlight this month was the final session of our **Elementary Central Student Advisory Committee**, a new initiative launched this year. Meeting with Grades 4 to 6 students from across our schools offered invaluable insights – not just into their day-to-day learning experiences, but also through their reflections on data from the *Our School* Survey. Their honesty, creativity and thoughtful suggestions reaffirm the importance of listening to student voice at all levels of our system.

Our **Human Resources Department** has taken innovative steps to highlight the people at the heart of our organization. A series of short videos were produced this spring, showcasing the dedication, talent and diversity of ETSB staff. These videos are not only inspiring internally but are helping to strengthen our identity and pride externally as well. HR has also continued to adapt quickly to new regulatory requirements, including evolving legislation and policies. Their flexibility and commitment in this time of rapid change are truly commendable.

Our **Finance Team** continues to work diligently, despite the uncertainty surrounding next year's budget. Planning a school year without finalized financial parameters presents obvious challenges, but the department remains focused on developing scenarios and strategies that will allow for a smooth start to 2025–2026, despite the anticipated compression challenges. Their work behind the scenes is critical to maintaining operational stability.

Our **Pedagogical and Complementary Services** department has had a powerful year of professional learning, guided by our ETSB Pillars and strategic orientations. The month of May saw the culmination of this work, with school teams coming together to revisit and refine their **Educational Projects** – documents that serve as their guiding light and must remain aligned with our Commitment-to-Success Plan. We are incredibly proud of the commitment our staff has shown to continuous professional growth, and to ensuring that our practices are informed by research and driven by student needs.

As always, our **Material Resources** department has been working at full capacity. This evening's Council meeting includes several resolutions that speak to the ongoing efforts to maintain and improve our learning environments. Whether it's through renovations, safety upgrades or long-term planning for infrastructure, their work directly supports both student success and staff well-being.

The **Communications Department** continues to elevate ETSB's profile through a vibrant and consistent social media presence. By sharing success stories, celebrating student achievements and spotlighting key initiatives, we are ensuring our schools & centres are visible, valued and connected with their communities.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the thoughtful and collaborative work being done around **revisiting our governance model**. As an organization, we are striving to ensure that our structures and roles support effective and efficient decision-making. This process is not about adding complexity, but rather about refining our focus and strengthening how we function together as commissioners, administrators and staff.

These are just a few highlights from the past several weeks and months. The ETSB is an organization in motion—dynamic, reflective and forward-thinking. As we enter the final four weeks of the school year, our collective focus must remain steady. These coming days will be filled with excitement, achievement and powerful emotions, especially for our graduates who are preparing to say goodbye to their ETSB chapter. Let's continue to support one another, celebrate each success and carry our momentum forward.

8.2 Chair's report

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

It is so easy to feel pessimistic, whether thanks to the constant media diet of news of fresh disaster somewhere in the world, or the insistent reporting of indicators of declining well-being locally, that it is altogether too easy to become depressed about the prospects for the world our children and grandchildren inherit. Alternatively, we become fixated on aspects of our current world or local conditions that seem hopelessly destructive or at least in irreversible decline. I certainly don't need to itemize all the negatives that impact us daily, so I want to highlight signs that the world isn't going to hell in a handbasket. In fact, despite our daily servings of gloom and doom, our world is improving steadily despite the public messaging and despite too much of what our students learn from us.

We seldom encounter reports of good news unless we actively seek them out, so I thought it was important to highlight a few local ones. You heard about several in our recognition item earlier in the meeting. Departments of the ETSB innovating to establish new career programs. Students excited to enter competitions to demonstrate skills they have learned and winning. Students thrilled to invite families and friends to watch them perform in music and dance. Students traveling to learn about different times and places, expanding their understanding that where and when we live is not universal. This process goes on continuously. Soon we will be holding High School Graduation ceremonies celebrating success for students who are filled with eager optimism and enthusiasm to begin their adult lives. One of the rewards for educators like us is seeing that energy and positivity as another cohort, another generation, leaves us to tackle the challenges and reap the rewards of an improving world.

A decade ago, despair was widespread over many issues. Climate change and greenhouse gasses were projected to make the physical world uninhabitable, but in that decade, emissions worldwide have begun to diminish and that trend seems likely to accelerate. New vaccines are wiping out diseases across the world. Poverty is declining in the poorest nations. Mankind has resumed a space race. Artificial intelligence is combining with robotics to enhance human experience and eliminate tedious, stressful and low-paying jobs. Canada has just elected a government committed to growth and development rather than virtue signaling and posturing. We Canadians have discovered a new sense of nationalism and pride in our

country. There is no shortage of critics who claim this is all ephemeral and new disasters will follow, but I am confident the resilience of people and our collective efforts, as exemplified by those enthusiastic graduates, will prevail.

Each of us has a choice in life. We can succumb to the tsunami of negativity, or we can choose to seek out the positive, the reassuring and the hopeful. Our students, particularly our graduates, choose to be amazed by this marvelous world. They choose the exciting prospect of growth and improvement, and the satisfaction of meeting and overcoming challenges. I want to wish them well and thank them sincerely for regularly reviving my confidence in the future. I encourage you all to bask in their spirit.

9. ADVISORY COMMITTEES' REPORTS

9.1 Executive Committee

The Chair of the Executive Committee, Commissioner M. Murray mentioned that the topics discussed at the Executive meeting will also be addressed at tonight's Council of Commissioners.

9.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, Commissioner G. Barnett asked the Director General, K. Mackey to present the following resolution:

9.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-71

2025-2026 Confirmation of the Administrative Structure

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 Administrative Structure, as it has been amended;

WHEREAS the Commissioners have reviewed the proposed Administrative Structure for the Schools & Centres and the Head Office for the 2025-2026 school year during the Governance & Ethics meeting on May 6, 2025;

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

WHEREAS this administrative structure is to take effect July 1st 2025, unless otherwise specified;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik that the Council of Commissioners approve the Administrative Structure for the Schools & Centres and the Head Office for the 2025-2026 school year;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Commissioners have reviewed the proposed Administrative Structure for the Schools & Centres and the Head Office for the 2025-2026 school year, effective July 1st 2025.

Carried unanimously

The Chair also mentioned the topics discussed at the May 6, 2025 meeting:

- ETSB Governance Alignment;
- Administrative Structures;
- Vocational Training – Request Authorization for New Programs (Tinsmithing & Trucking);
- Assessment Process for Prospective Educational Leaders;
- Administrative Appointments.

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2025.

9.3 Audit Advisory Committee

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

9.3.1 Finance:

9.3.1.1 Resolution No ETSB 25-05-72

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 2025-2026

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 2025-2026 school year;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED to accept that Schools and Vocational Centre surplus will be limited to whichever is greater, \$10,000 or 5% of the operating budget, excluding decentralized grants. Until Schools or Vocational Centres surpluses are within the predetermined range a School/Vocational Centre 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 2025-2026. Exceptionally, because financing of the Adult Sector is based on ETP's from two years ago, the ETAGE Centre can keep a maximum cumulated surplus of \$600,000. Any cumulated deficit by the ETAGE Centre will be treated the same as schools and the Vocational Centres.

Carried unanimously

9.3.2 Material Resources:

9.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-73

Ayer's Cliff Elementary School – Brick Pointing

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$350,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien des bâtiments 2024-2024 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS six (6) 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 \$207,063 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction Sylvatech Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Bigis Experts Conseils Inc.* has recommended the company *Construction Sylvatech Inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$279,819 including taxes and professional fees;

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 25-05-74

Waterloo Elementary School – Gym Renovation

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$625,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien des bâtiments 2022-2023 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$200,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien des bâtiments 2023-2024 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$625,000 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien des bâtiments 2024-2025 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS six (6) 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 \$1,064,760 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Athéna Constructions Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *ADSP Inc.* has recommended the company *Athéna Constructions Inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of \$1,432,424 including taxes and professional fees;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gosselin 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 25-05-75**Internal lines of conduct**

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2015, the treasury board has adopted the directive concerning the management of supply, service, and construction work contracts of public institutions (Directive);

WHEREAS this directive aims to establish certain guidelines regarding the management of contracts for public bodies referred to in section 4 of the *Loi sur les Contrats des Organismes Publics (LCOP)*;

WHEREAS the treasury board has provided an updated template in April 2025;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) has followed the template and updated the information based on its actual purchasing policy for procurement and management of contracts policies and procedures (P013);

WHEREAS the internal lines of conduct is part of the annual declaration to be done by the head of the organization on data reliability and control;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner R. Gosselin 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 25-05-76**Ayer's Cliff Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project**

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$283,544 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien du Bâtiment 2020-2021 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$198,576 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE – Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$553,203 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN – Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$55,730 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO2) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$1,171,001;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from a measure to be determined;

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 25-05-77

Butler Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$474,123 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du Déficit 2020-2021 Mesure: 50622*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$162,120 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE - Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$696,347 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN - Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$91,318 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS Énergir approved a grant of \$16,860 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$1,511,830;

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 25-05-78

Cookshire Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$278,896 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du Déficit 2020-2021 Mesure: 50622*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$110,448 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE - Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$478,942 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN - Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$39,189 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS Énergir approved a grant of \$13,213 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$1,120,950;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from a measure to be determined;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. E. Kirby 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

9.3.2.7 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-79

Heroes' Memorial Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$673,380 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du Déficit 2020-2021 Mesure: 50622*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$287,571 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE - Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$850,000 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN - Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$120,010 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS Énergir approved a grant of \$22,775 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$2,485,089;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project will be taken from a measure to be determined;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Murray 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

9.3.2.8 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-80

Knowlton Academy – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$776,260 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du Déficit 2020-2021 Mesure: 50622*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$431,366 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE - Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$850,000 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN - Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$147,170 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$2,967,806;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project will be taken from a measure to be determined;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner H. Turgeon 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

9.3.2.9 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-81

Mansonville Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$348,620 for the project stated above, under the program *MDB – Maintien du Bâtiment 2020-2021 Measure: 50621*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$193,811 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE – Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Measure: 50643*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$5,258 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$356,594;

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

9.3.2.10 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-82

North Hatley Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$311,433 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du Déficit 2020-2021 Mesure: 50622*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$236,573 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE - Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$569,762 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN - Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$57,900 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$1,262,116;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project will be taken from a measure to be determined;

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

9.3.2.11 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-83

Sawyerville Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$182,916 for the project stated above, under the program ESE - *Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) approved a budget of \$30,390 for the project stated above, under the program RTB - *Réfection et Transformation des Bâtiments Mesure: 50624*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$605 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$213,912;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project will be taken from a measure to be determined;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. E. Kirby 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

9.3.2.12 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-84

St. Francis Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$506,660 for the project stated above, under the program *RDE - Résorption du Déficit 2020-2021 Mesure: 50622*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$271,119 for the project stated above, under the program *ESE - Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$850,000 for the project stated above, under the program *VEN - Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$104,331 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS Énergir approved a grant of \$4,000 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$2,054,973;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project will be taken from a measure to be determined;

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

9.3.2.13 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-85

Sutton Elementary School – Ecoenergetic Project

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$409,047 for the project stated above, under the program MDB – *Maintien du Bâtiment 2020-2021 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$408,301 for the project stated above, under the program ESE – *Établissements Écoresponsables 2020-2021 Mesure: 50643*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget of \$652,056 for the project stated above, under the program VEN – *Amélioration de la Qualité de l'Air dans les Écoles 2022-2023 Mesure: 50645*;

WHEREAS Hydro-Québec (HQ) approved a grant of \$100,613 for the project stated above;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has created the green economy plan aiming at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE) by 37.5% from the level of 1990 by 2030;

WHEREAS the main reason of this project was to benefit the multiple grants mentioned above to renew and comply ETSB's heating systems by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing air quality and comfort in schools;

WHEREAS the selection committee had selected the company Ecosystem as the most qualified company to do the work;

WHEREAS ETSB selected the engineering firm Enerzam to verify, challenge and approve Ecosystem's strategies (calculations, equipment selection, etc);

WHEREAS the project reduces GGE by 94% (approximately 1225 tons of CO₂) and energy invoices by 35% (approximately \$285,000) annually with a net present value of \$1,498,865 guaranteed by Ecosystem;

WHEREAS the project is planned to be finished with an overall expense of \$1,262,116;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Murray 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.

Adopted with one abstention

The date of the next Audit Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 10, 2025.

9.4 Educational Advisory Committee (ESAC)

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

9.4.1 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-86

Purchase of Materials to Promote Student Well-Being in Nurturing Support Centres

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) is committed to fostering safe, inclusive and supportive learning environments for all students;

WHEREAS Nurturing Support Centres play a key role in addressing the social, emotional and behavioural needs of students through individualized support and restorative practices;

WHEREAS student well-being is foundational to academic success and long-term personal development and is one of the four main orientations of the Commitment-to-Success Plan;

WHEREAS the availability of developmentally appropriate materials, furniture and resources, such as sensory tools, calming items, therapeutic games and wellness-themed literature enhances the effectiveness of Nurturing Support Centres in meeting the diverse needs of students;

WHEREAS funding is available through the *Entente Canada Québec (ECQ)* to support initiatives that reinforce student wellness and success;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner S. Finlay to authorize the purchase of materials that promote student well-being for use in Nurturing Support Centres across the school board up to an amount of \$100,000 conditional to the *ECQ* funding approval;

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 Complementary Services can also sign.

Adopted with one abstention

9.4.2 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-87

Purchase of Instructional Materials Supporting a Critical Thinking Approach

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) prioritizes the development of higher-order thinking skills to prepare students for success in school, career, and civic life;

WHEREAS critical thinking is an essential competency across all subject areas and is central to Québec's pedagogical orientations and student success frameworks;

WHEREAS the integration of instructional materials designed to foster analysis, evaluation, problem-solving and evidence-based reasoning enhances student engagement and deepens learning;

WHEREAS teachers require access to appropriate resources that support the implementation of a critical-thinking approach in both English and French instructional contexts;

WHEREAS funding is available through *Entente Canada-Quebec (ECQ)* to support initiatives that strengthen instructional quality and student learning outcomes;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner G. Holliday to authorize the purchase of instructional materials, including but not limited to texts and classroom resources that are conducive to a critical-thinking approach up to an amount of \$100,000 conditional to the *ECQ* funding approval;

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.

Adopted with one abstention

9.4.3 Resolution No. ETSB 25-05-88
Purchase of Math Manipulatives

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) is committed to supporting student learning and achievement in Mathematics;

WHEREAS the analysis of student performance data and recent professional development in Mathematics has identified a need for increased access to hands-on, conceptual learning tools to support diverse learning needs in Mathematics classrooms;

WHEREAS the use of concrete manipulatives has been shown to improve students' understanding of mathematical concepts, foster engagement and support differentiated instruction;

WHEREAS *Entente Canada-Quebec (ECQ)* funding is intended to support initiatives that enhance student learning and continuity of educational services;

WHEREAS the cost of this purchase will be covered through *ECQ* funding allocated for the 2024-2025 school year up to an amount of \$100,000;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner E. McKnight to authorize the purchase of Mathematics manipulatives for use in elementary and secondary schools across the board up to an amount of \$100,000 conditional to the *ECQ* funding approval;

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.

Adopted with one abstention

The Chair of the Educational Advisory Committee also mentioned the topics discussed at the May 12, 2025 meeting:

- Professional Development Folder;
- Cellphones – Communication with students;
- Yearly Wrap-Up – Offer of Support & Professional Development 2025-2026;
- *ECQ* Project Applications;
- COBALT.

The Chair also mentioned that the date of the next ESAC meeting is scheduled for September 2025.

9.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, H. Turgeon mentioned that they did not have a meeting. The date of the next Communications Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for September 2025.

9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, C. Beaubien mentioned the topics discussed at the April 29, 2025 meeting:

- 2025-2026 Support Staffing Plan;
- Promotional videos for the different job titles at ETSB are being launched and are on the recruitment website – You can also see them on the ETSB Facebook account. The staff being interviewed are naturally born actors, but they are not acting, they really enjoy their position of employment;
- ETSB 'Our School Survey' - The second edition of Our School Survey has been done and focus groups to gather more feedback will be done early next school year;
- Revision of the Mandatory Code of Ethics required by Law-47 (P042) – currently under the consultation process.

The date of the next Human Resources Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for September 2025.

9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner H. Turgeon mentioned that they did not have a meeting. The date of the next meeting is scheduled for the next school year.

9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The SEAC Chair and Parent Commissioner, E. McKnight mentioned the topics discussed at the April 28, 2025 meeting:

- ETSB Special Education Website;
- Report from CPC representatives;
- 2025-2026 SEAC recommendations to the DG.

The date of the next SEAC meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2025.

10. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Commissioner representing parents, S. Langlois asked Commissioner Jody Murray to present the topics discussed at the May 7, 2025 meeting:

- Objectives, Principles and Criteria Governing the Allocation of Resources, presented by the Director of Financial Services, S. Leduc;
- Representation by *RCPAQ*, presented by François Paquet;

- Parent Participation Brainstorm;
- Cellphone bans – guidelines to be created.

The date of the next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2025.

11. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commissioner J. Humenuik, representing the Student Advisory Committee, mentioned the following:

Elementary Students from Massey-Vanier High School (MVHS) feeder schools met on May 1st 2025 – a school survey was given and the students' feedback was enlightening. A student did a presentation on IEPs and was very brave to stand up in front of others.

The Director General, K. Mackey does incredible work with the students, especially when she's in 'teacher mode'.

Student Advisory with high schools is tomorrow, May 28, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Six questions will be asked to the students. It will be interesting to have their feedback.

12. QESBA

On May 14th 2025, the annual three-day spring conference began. It is jointly sponsored by **Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec** and the **Quebec English School Boards Association**. This year, it was hosted jointly by Western Quebec and New Frontiers School Boards and was held in St-Sauveur. There were over 400 attendees from across the province. The theme was Education of tomorrow, today. Speakers and workshops addressed a wide variety of topics ranging from innovation in education to supporting student mental health. Commissioner issues were addressed in workshops that reviewed minority rights protection under the Canadian constitution and strengthening governance in school boards.

QESBA has developed a new digital tool that permits analyzing any data published by Statistics Canada by school board territory and even breaks data down by commissioner ward. This will permit us to better understand and adapt statistics on a vast array of information that until now has been published on a variety of bases less relevant to school management. When fully operational, we will be far better equipped to understand realities like poverty, parental education levels, income and even eligibility for English education.

QESBA has a division known as Committee Patronal de *Negociation Collective Anglophone*, or more simply as CPNCA whose mission is to negotiate collective agreements with unionized employees on behalf of school boards who are the employers. It also advises and supports school boards in negotiating local working conditions. Since the abolition of elected school commissions in the French education sector, CPNCA has been progressively marginalized while Treasury Board assumed the central role in collective bargaining. We are concerned that the focus is increasingly on financial issues rather than on working conditions and effective education.

QESBA continues to pursue legal challenges to Bills 40, 21, 96 and 84 in the face of the government's apparent intention to dismantle the current educational system and eliminate citizens', particularly minority, rights.

13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner G. Barnett:

Eastern Townships Adult General Education (ETAGE) Governing Board

Social Vocational Integration (SVI) Francization: ETAGE had 400+ students up to November 25th when the Government cut the funding. But through negotiations, ETAGE has been accorded 82 ETPs for \$1.1 million, of course, based on ETPs of 2 years ago and if it is not spent, ETAGE will lose it. They were to run one full-time group at CBM and 2 at New Horizons. ETAGE will be provided qualified students by a Government agency and will run four 11-week sessions starting July 2nd 2025. ETAGE is also doing some outreach as well.

Statistics: All numbers are good and are at the expected levels for Exam Services, Online Education, With Schedule, DE/LVTC, and Other (DES, Vocational Education & CEGEP, Home Study). There are 34 students in SVI-Francization, a special contract. For Distance Education, funding is based currently on student registration, but the Government is about to change the funding formula for this activity.

Job Links: ETAGE has had a healthy year but the Government is changing the funding formula ratio from say \$100 for 4 hours of service to 7 hours. In 2018, they got \$187K permitting a full-time employee. Now ETAGE expects \$108 to \$115K meaning a 20% secretary and nothing for the Director's time. So, he will continue as a volunteer in managing that community service but differently.

Calendar: ETAGE now has its calendar is funded when open, so remains open on ped days.

Activities: There were many activities – Wellness, saving money, ecocentre visit, technology workshop, bistro, SVI students helping in Butchery, looking at other pathways for SVI.

Commissioner M. E. Kirby:

Eaton Valley CLC

Fall Social: Townshippers Association, Sawyerville Community Garden, *La Relève du Haut-Saint-François (HSF)*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS*; *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF* and *Ville de Cookshire* as partners for this activity :Health link participants were invited to join us for an informal gathering to chat and play games. The activity was geared to break social isolation. This event took place at Sawyerville Church.

Mental Health: Townshippers Association, *Manoir Eau-Vive*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS*, *la Relève HSF* and *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF* as partners for this activity: Health link participants were invited to join us for an information session on mental health. In addition, frozen homemade soup the students made during the Harvest workshop was distributed to our seniors at Health link.

Manoir Eau-Vive visit: Townshippers Association, *Manoir Eau-Vive*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS*, *la Relève HSF* and *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF* as partners for this activity: Health link participants were invited to visit the *Manoir Eau-Vive* in Cookshire to learn about what the facility offers.

Holiday Special: *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS* and Townshippers Association as partners for this activity: Seniors were invited to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season by attending the student's dress rehearsal and socialize as a group. This activity took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

An intro to culture for seniors: *La Relève du HSF*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS*, *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF*, Municipality of Bury and Townshippers Association as partners in this activity: Health link participants were invited to learn about the organization, Culture for Seniors. This group works in cooperation with community for the social inclusion and participation of seniors, through art and culture, to improve their global health and well-being. This event took place at the Bury Armoury.

Fraud awareness: *La Relève du HSF*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS*, *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF*, *Manoir Eau-Vive* and Townshippers Association as partners in this activity: Health link participants were invited to learn all about fraud prevention and awareness. This event took place at the Bury Armoury.

Cinquième Saison: *La Relève du HSF*, *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS*, *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF*, *Maison Eau-Vive*, Municipality of Bury and Townshippers Association as partners in this activity: Health link participants were invited to learn about la Maison Cinquième Saison. The topics discussed were end of life care and being a caregiver to a loved one in palliative or end of life setting. This event took place at the Bury Armoury.

Alzheimer Society: *La Relève du HSF, CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS, Centre d'action bénévole du HSF, Alzheimer Society, Municipality of Bury and Townshippers Association* as partners in this activity: Health link participants were invited to learn about normal aging versus neurocognitive disorders. This event took place at the Bury Armoury.

The Shack Movie: *La Relève du HSF, CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS, Centre d'action bénévole du HSF, Ville de East Angus and Townshippers Association* as partners in this activity: Health link participants were invited to film and discuss on the topics that are brought up by the movie. It was an informal and social gathering, which took place at the Bury Armoury.

Book Muncher Revamp: The Town of Bury is a partner in this activity: Student's in Grade 3 & 4 are revamping the town's book muncher. It's an art project to help develop a sense of belonging to the community and books. A reveal will take place at a later date. This event took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Harvest Workshop: *Du Coeur à la terre* (vegetable store), *Cuisines Collectives du HSF* and Pope PPO are partners in this activity: All students from Pre-K to Grade 6 participated in a cooking workshop with produce that grew in the school garden over the summer. Extra produce was supplied by local producers. The students made biscuits, soup and muffins. PPO also contributed by making grilled cheese. The project was two-fold and extra soup was made to give back to seniors and families in our community. This event took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Family Nights: Organized by the PPO. Families were invited on a school night stay off the screens and bond. The agenda for the evening was to have supper together, slide and make forts, snow sculptures, play floor hockey, dodgeball and soccer. This event took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School. These events took place at Sawyerville & Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Spare Closet: The Municipality of Bury donated funds to benefit our students. Part of the funds were used to purchase new outdoor gear to make sure our students are equipped to play outdoors. The expenses covered the purchase of warm socks, hats and snow pants. This event took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Lunch Time Project: Cookshire IGA, *Cuisines Collectives du HSF* and the Municipality of Bury participated as partners in this event: This was a volunteered event led by two parents who wanted to offer healthy lunches as an affordable price in our school with lower socio-economic backgrounds. The project runs on donations and the cost of \$2 per meal helps cover some of the ingredients. The project runs twice a week at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Save your dough cooking workshop: *Cuisines Collectives du HSF* participated as a partner in this event: School and extended community evening cooking workshop offered to families at a low cost. This allows families to learn about Collective Kitchens and what they have to offer as ingredients which helps reduce the cost of cooking meals at home. Families leave with one healthy recipe and one healthy snack. The event took place at Sawyerville Elementary School as well as Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Lire et faire lire: *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF* participated as a partner in this event: A volunteer from *CAB* read with Grade 2 students to improve their literacy skills and to help install a love of reading. Students who participate also receive a book at the end of the program. This was a 6-week program which took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Library visits: Pre-K, Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2 students are exposed to literacy outside school through storytime read by a volunteer at the Bury Municipal Library on a monthly basis.

Summer reading challenge: *Projet Partenaires pour la réussite éducative en Estrie (PREE)* participated as a partner in this event: A total of 9 Cycle 1 students received a small bag containing books and reading/writing package to continue practicing their reading and writing during the summer period. Also this summer, a French reading/writing package was added. This project, which takes place at Sawyerville Elementary School, aims to prevent the summer slide.

Holliday Cheer: *CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS* and *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF* participated as partners in this event: A social-emotional learning activity by incorporating art and writing skills. Students practiced fine motor skills by creating letters and artwork, which is also a positive coping strategy to manage stress. Some groups worked with partners, thus increasing collaboration and relationship skills while creating a connection with some of our most vulnerable population. This event took place at Pope Memorial Elementary School.

Book Fair: Scholastics and PPO participated as partners in this event: We hosted a book fair to encourage literacy and build excitement around books in the school. This practice enables families to make reading a family event as they browse through the selection of books and make purchases to expand their home libraries. Students were invited to select a few books they were interested in and with PPO funds, they were gifted one book from their selection before they left for the holidays. In addition, the rewards earned during the book fair will be given for teachers to use to expand their classroom libraries.

Literacy activity Saturday (French & English Session): *Centre d'action bénévole du HSF* participated as a partner in this event: A volunteer from *CAB* read with Grade 2 students to improve literacy skills and to help instill a love of reading. Each week, students would alternate reading in French and in English for a total of 6 weeks (3 weeks in French, 3 weeks in English). At the end of the program, students received a book.

Orientation Days: Townshippers Association participated as a partner in this event: Incoming students in Kindergarten (aged 4 & 5) were invited for orientation days to support their transition to school. They will also receive their Welcome to Pope or Sawyerville orientation bag which will include items such as a book and other materials to work on hand muscle strength and fine motor skills. Orientation days, which are taking place at Sawyerville and Pope Memorial Elementary schools are scheduled for June 7th 2025.

Commissioner C. Beaubien:

Each Elementary school has a committee of parents devoted to make their school a successful one by organizing fundraising activities. The money raised will serve to help out on various activities throughout the school year. The end of the school year approaching, here is what is happening in Ward 6 Elementary Schools:

Sunnyside Elementary School

PPO is contributing to each class (from K4 to Grade 6) individual's end of year class trips.

North Hatley Elementary School

H&S organize a carnival day for all at the end of the year: Splish splash, food, ice cream, dunk tank, etc.

Ayer's Cliff Elementary School

H&S has been involved in helping out with activities for the students throughout the school year. This year, they are subsidizing K 4 to grade 4 and giving a \$50 to each grade 5 & 6 students for their trip to Montreal.

I also would like to point out the report I received every month from Tya McKelvey (Regulation Round-up), the SET for the OASIS room. It is very inspirational and all parents can learn something from her report; I will share it with the Commissioners. Tya provides very substantial benefits to the ACES students.

14. UPCOMING EVENTS

None.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

16. QUESTION PERIOD

T. Croteau

ATA President:

FSL on generalist contracts which actually block our anglophone teachers. We are wondering if commissioners are aware of this happening and if there's a plan to come around.

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

The Council of Commissioners has encouraged the prioritization of acquisition of French – important aspect of employability. We want our graduates to feel comfortable working in QC. If you can improve on the teaching of French, I'm sure the suggestions you are making will be taken into consideration. In the context it appeared to the members of the Council, it appeared to be sensible to have French taught by French mother tongue teachers.

T. Croteau

ATA President:

Appointment of administrators is done by the Council. Are the teachers ever discussed with or consulted for their recommendations for what is best for their school.

M. Murray

ETSB Chair:

Directed to the DG. I believe your focus should be there. The DG understands what's important for teachers and parents in each school.

T. Croteau

ATA President:

Both recommendations: do they make up 2 Commissioners to do the interview process or does it go to the DG first?

K. Mackey

DG:

Selection criteria is brought back to me from the Governing Board.

17. GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

None.

18. ADJOURNMENT

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

Shawn Champigny
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

SC/gm
05.27.2025