COMMISSION SCOLAIRE
Eastern Townships
SCHOOL BOARD

Moving ahead. Together. | Aller de l'avant. Ensemble.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026 – 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 Gagnon	Z	Jody Murray	Z
Richard Gosselin	A	**DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE (DC)**	
Gary Holliday	Z	Secretary General – Shawn Champigny	P
Joy Humenuik, Vice-chair	Z	Director General – Kandy Mackey	P
Shawn Jersey	Z	Assistant Director General & Director of Financial Services – Sophie Leduc	Z
Mary-Ellen Kirby	Z	Director of Human Resources – Caroline Dufresne	Z
Jonathan Murray	Z	Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services – Emmanuelle Gaudet	Z
Michael Murray, Chair	Z	Director of Complementary Services – Catherine Canzani	Z
Helene Turgeon	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 7:16 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner H. Turgeon to adopt the Agenda of March 24, 2026 as deposited, with the following additions:

7.2 Cyber Incident – Credit and Dark Web Monitoring resolution;
9.4.1 Purchase for Chromebooks (Renewals).

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2026

Resolution No. ETSB 26-03-43
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on February 24, 2026

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of February 24, 2026 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 February 24, 2026 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were asked.

5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Chairman M. Murray invited the following Commissioners to present the March 24, 2026 Recognition of Excellence:

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

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Commissioner S. Jersey: During the week of March 17, a lot of schools celebrated St. Patrick's Day. Some of them encouraged their students and employees to wear green clothes and accessories. Others organized activities or offered green-themed foods.

Occurring over the week, these initiatives were very popular and allowed schools to celebrate the holiday in a creative and fun way for the ones attending our schools.

Thanks to the schools for brightening the community's everyday life.

KNOWLTON ACADEMY – ARM-WRESTLING COMPETITION

Commissioner R. Gagnon: The arm-wrestling team at Knowlton Academy did its final tournament of the school year for their grades 4 through 6 wrestlers, where its competitors displayed amazing accomplishments. The competition was fierce and the students got to show their progress to the rest of the team.

Medals have been given to the top 3 contestants, in both right and left-arm challenges.

The team is very grateful to its coaches Jessie Lefebvre and Lisa Brasseur and their dedication and commitment to the students participating.

Thank you for encouraging the development of such skills in an entertaining way.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

7. NEW BUSINESS

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

7.1 Resolution No. ETSB 26-03-44
Request for Authorization for Vocational Training Program – Commercial and Residential Painting (5836)

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 maintain its offer of vocational training programs with the extension of the provisional program authorization for Commercial and Residential Painting (5836);

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

WHEREAS this program will be offered by the ETSB in partnership with *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 the renewal of the provisional program authorization and the application has been approved by the Provincial Organization of Continuing Education Directors, English (PROCEDE) and will be approved by 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 M. E. Kirby that the Eastern Townships School Board officially send a request to the *MEQ* for authorization to add Commercial and Residential Painting (5836) to its vocational training program offer.

Adopted unanimously with one abstention

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

7.2 Resolution No. ETSB 26-03-45
Cyber Incident – Credit and Dark Web Monitoring

WHEREAS personal information from some current and past employees, as well as some parents from the international Students' Program (ISP) since 2009 was located on the Dark Web on February 13, 2026, following a cyber incident affecting the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) servers on December 18, 2025;

WHEREAS the ETSB decided to offer credit monitoring and international dark web monitoring when applicable, to the people that might be affected;

WHEREAS it is evaluated that the number of codes needed to be purchased at this time is three thousand five hundred (3,500) codes for credit monitoring and dark web monitoring and six hundred (600) codes for international dark web monitoring;

WHEREAS additional codes may be purchased depending if new information is identified;

WHEREAS companies that offered this type of service were invited to bid an offer of service;

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

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of $17,49 (excluding taxes) per code for credit monitoring and £1.12 per code for international dark web monitoring, was received from the company Equifax;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, it is recommended to offer credit monitoring and dark web monitoring by the company Equifax, the lowest bidder in conformity;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to proceed with the services stated above; **IT WAS FURTHER MOVED** that the Director General and the Secretary General be authorized to sign all associated documentation, including the purchase of additional codes if needed.

Adopted unanimously

8. REPORTS

8.1 Director General's report

The Director General, K. Mackey had nothing new to report.

8.2 Chair's report

The Chair of the Council of Commissioners, 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 that due to time constraints, the topics that were on the executive committee agenda will be addressed at tonight's Council of Commisisoners.

9.2 Governance and Ethics Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, Commissioner G. Barnett mentioned the topics discussed at the March 17, 2026 meeting:

- Advisory Committee Reports:
  - ✓ Audit, presented J. Humenuik;
  - ✓ Transportation, presented by H. Turgeon.
- Recognition of Excellence;
- Community Learning Centres (CLCs);
- Artificial Intelligence (A.I.);
- Administrative Structures.

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2026.

9.3 Audit Advisory Committee

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

9.3.2 Material Resources:

9.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB-26-03-46
Authorization to sign a CLSC lease document

WHEREAS the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) is the landlord of the Stanstead CLSC premises;

WHEREAS the ETSB, authorizes Mr. Éric Plante, in his capacity as Director of Material Resources to be authorized to sign any documents related to additions, modifications or renewals of the Stanstead CLSC lease;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to approve signing authorities.

Adopted unanimously

9.3.2.2 Resolution No. ETSB-26-03-47
Pope Memorial Elementary School – Ventialtion System Replacement and Kitchen Renovation

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget for the project stated above, under the program *MDB Maintien des bâtiments 2020-2021 Mesure: 50621*;

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget for the project stated above, under the program *MDB Maintien des bâtiments 2025-2026 Mesure: 50621*;

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

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

WHEREAS a heat recovery ventilation system will be installed to meet Ministry air quality standards, and the kitchen will be renovated with a second stove, two range hoods, and improved countertops and cabinets for better functionality;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of $677,084 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Desrochers Bernard Inc.*;

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *AG Architecte Inc.* has recommended the company *Desrochers Bernard Inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of $927,890 including taxes and professional fees;

WHEREAS all additional funds required to complete the project, will be taken from *RTB - Réfection et Transformation du bâtiment 2025-2026 Mesure: 50624*;

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.

Adopted unanimously

9.4 Educational Advisory Committee (ESAC)

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

9.4.1 Resolution No. ETSB 26-03-48
Purchase for Chromebooks (Renewals)

WHEREAS in the pursuit of the Enhanced Learning Strategy, the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) needs to renew some of the equipment for the 2026-2027 school year;

WHEREAS one thousand two hundred (1,200) Chromebooks within our fleet are no longer supported, have reached their end of life and need to be replaced to comply with the Government Cybersecurity Policy;

WHEREAS the availability of technological equipment in the current context is crucial in view to align with our educational mission;

WHEREAS a provisional account of $550,000 was set aside for the purpose of replacement of student devices for the 2026-2027 school year, based on Mesure: 50761;

WHEREAS ETSB is part of a call for tender with the *Centre d'acquisitions gouvernmentales* (*CAG*) according to the ministry requirements;

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

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner M. E. Kirby to authorize the Director General to sign any documentation related to the acquisition of equipment and related items (Licenses, dongles, etc.), up to an amount of $550,000 effective immediately;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General be authorized to sign all associated documentation and that in the absence of the Director General, the Director of Instructional Technology and Pedagogical Services can also sign.

Adopted unanimously

It was suggested by Commissioner Jody Murray that a presentation be done at the Education Services Advisory Committee concerning this resolution.

The date of the next ESAC meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2026.

9.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, Commissioner Jody Murray mentioned that the date of the next CAC meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2026.

9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, Commissioner C. Beaubien mentioned that the date of the next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2026.

9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner H. Turgeon mentioned the topics discussed at the March 17, 2026 meeting:

- Committee mandate update – Adoption in May meeting;
- Bus purchasing – 10 diesel and 4 electric (April/May and August delivery);
- Bus Safety Week – January 26 to February 6, 2026. A suggestion to look at transfers was made;
- COBALT for Transportation – registration email sent to parents. The start date is March 23, 2026.

The date of the next TAC meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2026.

9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The SEAC Chair and Parent Commissioner, E. McKnight mentioned that the date of the next SEAC meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2026.

10. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

Commissioner Jody Murray mentioned the topics discussed at the March 11, 2026 meeting:

- Communication and Transportation highlights, presented by S. Champigny;
- Ideas for parent sessions – asked to not be on the first Wednesday of the month due to scheduling conflicts;
- Discussions – addressing racism in our schools;
- Improving the quality of French in our schools.

The date of the next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for April 1st 2026.

11. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

On March 24, 2026, a CSAC meeting occurred at RRHS, where they also filmed a CSAC video. This video is to promote CSAC, which is looking to recruit students and create an awareness for students and staff.

There was an enlightening discussion on the dress code, which contained three different versions from our three high schools. Feedback will be given to principals.

Recognition of students: Honor rolls, awards and activities were also debated among the students.

The next meeting is in April 2026.

12. QESBA

The Chair, M. Murray reported the following:

Hearings on Bill 21 began today and runs to March 26, 2026. There was a long stretch for arguments before the Supreme Court. There are many intervenors including the English Montreal School Board (EMSB). There is an ongoing legislation by the provinces.

Notwithstanding clause and Section 23 of the Canadian Constitution (rights of minorities to manage their own school boards): Rights are protected and enshrined. We are watching this case with intense interest.

The Spring Conference is coming up. Anyone interested in registering should do so now. Professional Development (PDF) activities at the Spring to come for Commissioners.

13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were no comments from Commissioners.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

15. QUESTION PERIOD

M. Roberts
ATA Representative: Vocational Educational Programs: Where are we with the Residential painting program and where will this take place?

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: We adopted a resolution this evening that pertains to your question. We have reached an agreement with *Centre de services scolaire des Sommets* (*CSSDS*) in Magog.

T. Croteau
ATA President: Vocational Training Centres Calendars: Closing for the entire summer has an impact on the success rates. What is the position on this?

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: The decision is up to Management by Centre considering that they have a support centre for the region. They also need to consider that there are programs structured by the government and the funding issues that are also involved.

W. Crooks
The Pulse Reporter: Word from a concerned reader at AGRHS: Burning of a student and disciplining of a teacher was involved: The concerned party said the same teacher was seen at another ETSB school. What is the policy on this and where can I find it?

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: I must take this question under advisement. I have not heard of an incident as you described nor the circumstances leading to the discipline. We will do our best to follow up.

T. Croteau
ATA President: Equifax coverage: Is there a timeline on letting the members know about the coverage?

M. Murray
ETSB President: We just negotiated the contract this week. We will follow up with all concerned parties.

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Jody Murray at 8:10 p.m.

Shawn Champigny
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

SC/gm
03.24.2026