Commission scolaire Eastern Townships School Board

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

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD

COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 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	A
Claire Beaubien	Z	Sarah Langlois	Z
Sandra Finlay	Z	Eliza McKnight	Z
Richard Gagnon	A	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	Z
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	P	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 7:03 p.m.

2. QUORUM AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AND IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner Jody Murray to adopt the Agenda of September 22, 2026 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 25, 2026

Resolution No. ETSB 26-09-01
Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on August 25, 2026

WHEREAS a copy of the Minutes of the meeting of August 25, 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 August 25, 2026 as deposited.

Carried unanimously

4. QUESTION PERIOD

T. Croteau
ATA President: Are there discussions and strategies regarding how to retain teachers at the ETSB at Commissioners' level?

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: Work is being done. It goes through the HR Advisory Committee and the Committee of the Whole.

T. Croteau
ATA President: Could exit interview be conducted instead of using a Google form?

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: I will pass on the good suggestion to HR.

5. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Chairman M. Murray invited the following Commissioners to present the September 22, 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:

ETSB Celebrates a Fantastic Back-to-School Season

Commissioner J. Humenuik: Across the Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB), the new academic year launched with excitement, laughter, and togetherness. Behind every smooth transition was the extraordinary dedication of ETSB staff—from teachers and support personnel to bus drivers and administrators—who worked tirelessly to make the return to learning as magical and comforting as possible, especially for young learners stepping into a classroom for the very first time.

To make the return extra special, staff poured incredible energy into organizing welcome gatherings. Interactive team-building games and special festivities helped students reconnect, while classic outdoor corn roasts or BBQs brought students, staff, and families together under the late-summer sun to celebrate.

This wonderful launch reflects the true heart and passion of ETSB employees. Thanks to their thoughtful touches and tireless preparation, the Eastern Townships School Board is off to a bright, inspiring start!



Fun and Community at the Brome Fair

Commissioner Jody Murray: The historic Brome Fair once again opened its gates to celebrate agriculture, community, and tradition, bringing local ETSB schools together under the autumn sun to connect hands-on learning with quintessential country fun.

From exploring livestock barns and discovering local agriculture to admiring hand-crafted community exhibits, students enjoyed a rich blend of educational experiences and festive entertainment. Children learned firsthand about farm life, food production, and regional heritage by chatting directly with local farmers and artisans. Between educational stops, students shared plenty of laughter over carnival games, treats, and seasonal fall activities alongside their classmates and neighbors.

This shared experience highlighted the powerful link between local schools and the surrounding region. Events like the Brome Fair give students a valuable opportunity to learn beyond classroom walls while celebrating the strong community spirit that defines the Eastern Townships. A warm thank you goes out to the organizers, staff, and families who helped make this memorable outing such a success for our learners.

- Farnham Elementary School
- Heroes' Memorial Elementary School
- Knowlton Academy
- Mansonville Elementary School
- Parkview Elementary School
- Waterloo Elementary School



A Well-Deserved Honor: Anthony Gariépy Recognized for Excellence in Hockey and Academics

Commissioner H. Turgeon : Hailing from Sainte-Catherine-de-Hatley and a student at Alexander Galt Regional High School, exceptional young forward Anthony Gariépy was honored by the Le BUT Foundation and the Aléo Foundation during an event aimed at supporting the next generation of Quebec hockey and sled hockey talent.

At just 12 years old, the Harfangs du Triolet (M13 AAA elite) player is already establishing himself as a promising talent. A Chevrolet Cup champion last April, Anthony finished as the tournament's top scorer with 13 points. This excellence has earned him a $1,500 Espoir bursary today, along with lifetime access to the Aléo Foundation's support services. Passionate and ambitious, he aspires to study law after his sports career to become a lawyer and player agent.

This recognition stands as a true testament to the incredible drive, passion, and hard work our students demonstrate every single day.

- Alexander Galt Regional High School



6. BUSINESS ARISING

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

6.1 Resolution No. ETSB 26-09-02
ETSB Adoption of By-Laws

WHEREAS under the Education Act (CQLR, c. I-13.3), the School Board is empowered to adopt by-laws to govern its operations, administrative processes, and student services;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners wishes to modernize and update its regulatory framework through the revision of two (2) and the introduction of one (1) specific by-laws;

WHEREAS the following draft by-laws have been prepared and reviewed:

1. **Draft By-law B001** – Meetings of the Council of Commissioners;
2. **Draft By-law B004** – Meetings of the Executive Committee;
3. **Draft By-law B019** – Delegation of Powers and Functions;

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 392 of the Education Act, a public notice was given and a consultation period was held between August 21st and September 22nd, 2026 before the final adoption of any by-law;

WHEREAS no comments or suggestions were received during this period;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner H. Turgeon that the Council of Commissioners adopts the following by-laws.

Carried unanimously

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Director General's report

The Director General, K. Mackey shared her report with the Council.

8.2 Chair's report

The Chair of the Council of Commissioners, M. Murray shared his report with the Council.

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 mentioned the following:

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2026.

9.3 Audit Advisory Committee

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

9.3.1 Finance:

None.

9.3.2 Material Resources:

9.3.2.1 Resolution No. ETSB 26-09-03
Alexander Galt High School – Outside Lights Replacement
22-022-MDB-11

WHEREAS the m*inistère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved a budget for the project stated above, under the program *MDB - Maintien des bâtiments 2022-2023 Mesure: 50621;*

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

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

WHEREAS the project will include improvements to the site's exterior lighting to enhance user safety, reduce light pollution thus ensure compliance with applicable requirements for the protection of the night sky;

WHEREAS the lowest bid in the amount of $139,420 (excluding taxes), was received from the company *Construction Le Groupe R.M. inc.;*

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids, the assigned professional firm of *Akonovia Expert-Conseil* has recommended the company *Construction Le Groupe R.M. inc.* the lowest bidder in conformity, to do the work for the amount of $213,295 including taxes and professional fees;

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

9.3.2.2 Resolution No. ETSB 26-09-04
Sutton Elementary School – Parking Lot Enlargement
23-020-RDE-05 & 23-020-RDE-06

WHEREAS the *ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)* approved the combined projects stated above, under the program *RDE – Résorption du déficit 2023-2024 Mesure: 50622;*

WHEREAS a company known today as *J.A. Beaudoin Construction Ltée*, was awarded a contract in the amount of $232,952 including professional fees and taxes, for the project stated above;

WHEREAS during the project some modifications for additional work needed to be done;

WHEREAS the amount of $91,289 (39,19%) to pay for all modification orders, additional work and professional fees (including taxes), is required to finish the project;

WHEREAS the total amount for the contract including all modification orders, additional work, and professional fees (including taxes), adds up to $324,241;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner Jonathan Murray that the modification and/or additional work be awarded in order to complete the work for the project stated above;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED that the Director General and/or the Director of Material Resources be authorized to sign all associated documentation.

Carried unanimously

The date of the next Audit Advisory Committee is scheduled for October 19, 2026.

9.4 Educational Services Advisory Committee (ESAC)

The Chair of the Educational Advisory Committee, Commissioner M.E. Kirby mentioned the topics discussed at the September 1st 2026 meeting:

- Policy review
- Revision of mandate
- Ed service presentation (Priorities)

- Topics for the year

The date of the next ESAC meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2026.

9.5 Communications Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Communications Advisory Committee, Commissioner Jody Murray mentioned the topics discussed at the September 1st 2026 meeting:

- Cobalt (Email sent regarding options to receive transportation text notifications)
- ETSB Website (End of September, early October)
- Clic École (End of September)

The date of the next CAC meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2026.

9.6 Human Resources Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, Commissioner C. Beaubien mentioned the topics discussed at the September 1st 2026 meeting:

- Expressed thanks to Pam Gougeon, who is finishing her 2-year mandate
- Prioritized HR Policies Timeframe
- "Tableau de bord" MEQ for the number of vacant positions
- Exit interview possibly to come
- Topics for the year

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2026.

9.7 Transportation Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, Commissioner H. Turgeon mentioned the following:

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2026.

9.8 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The SEAC Chair and Parent Commissioner, E. McKnight mentioned the following:

The date of the next SEAC meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2026.

9.9 Adult Sector Advisory Committee

The Chair of the Adult Sector Advisory Committee, Commissioner M. Murray, presented the following resolution:

9.9.1 Resolution No. ETSB 26-09-05

Agreement CSSRS/ETSB – Invoicing of material resources for the Plumbing and Heating program (5833)

WHEREAS Lennoxville Vocational Training Centre (LVTC) is committed to maintaining the high quality and strong reputation of its instructional programs by staying current with emerging technologies and industry standards;

WHEREAS LVTC entered into a partnership with Centre 24-Juin of the Centre de services scolaire de la Région-de-Sherbrooke (CSSRS) in 2023 to jointly offer the French and English versions of the Plumbing and Heating program at the same location;

WHEREAS both ETSB and CSSRS 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, under the agreement between CSSRS and ETSB, the cost of the material resources (RM) purchases will be shared 50-50 between the two organizations;

WHEREAS all purchases of material resources (RM) for the first French and English cohorts were made by CSSRS;

WHEREAS CSSRS invoiced ETSB for 50% of the cost of the purchases, as follows:

Expenses for Material resources by year	
Expenses 2023-2024	26 876.50$
Expenses 2024-2025	94 496.50$
Expenses 2025-2026	23 000.00$
Total expenses 2023-2026	**144 373.00$**

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner J. Humenuik to proceed, in conformity with the authorization by the *MEQ* and the ETSB's purchase policy and government requirements, for the project stated above;

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

Carried unanimously

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2026.

9.10 Committee of the Whole

The Chair of the Committee of the Whole, J. Humenuik mentioned the topics discussed at the September 15th 2026 meeting:

- Eligibility & Enrolment Ad Hoc Committee Report (new census this year)
- 2026-2027 CofW Priorities
  - ✓ Eligibility & Enrolment (CofW Ad Hoc Committee)
  - ✓ Special educational projects

- ✓ Commitment-to-Success Plan
- ✓ Governance Training

❍ Policy P013 Procurement And Management Of Contracts Policies And Procedures & Procedure P021 Signing Authority in Schools centres and central office department

The next meeting is scheduled for October 20.

10. PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chair of the Central Parents' Advisory Committee, Commissioner S. Langlois mentioned the following:

The date of the next Parents' Committee meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2026.

11. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

The date of the next Student Advisory Committee meeting for secondary students is scheduled for September 23, 2026.

12. QESBA

The Chair, M. Murray reported the following:

- ❍ Favorable outcome regarding the case brought against the DEEQ: Obligation to send reminder cards in both languages.
- ❍ Questionnaires are sent to all parties every week on topics of concern to English Education.
- ❍ Attention was drawn to possible extension of Bill 101 to adult sectors.
- ❍ All the legal actions are awaiting responses from the courts, either judgements or dates for hearings.
- ❍ Planning has begun for the 2026-2027 Spring conference in Mont-Tremblant, under the theme "Leading Excellence Together".
- ❍ Reports from the delegates to CSBA last July highlighted that many jurisdictions share similar challenges to ours, with Artificial Intelligence expected to have significant impacts on school organization and teaching practice.
- ❍ Monthly governance training for Commissioners will continue through the year.
- ❍ A provincial forum exploring student voice will tour the region, hosting half-day sessions in each area.

13. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

None.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

15. QUESTION PERIOD

T. Crotetau
ATA President: Regarding the consultation process, do all the comments make it to the Committee of the Whole?

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: Yes.

T. Crotetau
ATA President: Regarding the process, make sure to get to the school level.

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: Thank you.

T. Crotetau
ATA President: Regarding the minute system for absences, thank you to Ms Mackey for stopping the process following the last intervention.

M. Murray
ETSB Chair: Thank you for that comment.

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Jonathan Murray at 7:50 p.m.

Shawn Champigny
Secretary General

Michael Murray
Chairman

SC/gm
09.22.2026