

Minutes of the EIGHTH (8th) meeting of the 2012-2013 Sir Wilfrid Laurier Parents Committee held on Thursday June 6th, 2013 at 7:15 pm in the Boardroom of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board, 235 Montée Lesage, Rosemère, Québec.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Diana Cugliandro	Genesis Elementary	Angela Mortorana	Mother Teresa Jr. High
Kellie Drouin	Grenville Elementary	Lisa Chartier	Our Lady of Peace Elementary
Patricia Saputo	Hillcrest Academy	David Mollott	Pierre E Trudeau Elementary
Jennifer Maccarone	John F Kennedy Elementary	Frank D'Onofrio	Pinewood Elementary
Bob Pellerin	Joliette High	Rino Vetrone	Souvenir Elementary
Vicki Gormley	Lake of Two Mountains High	Tommy Lapierre	St Jude Elementary
Roseanne Carusone	Laurier Sr. High	Ross Blandino	St Vincent Elementary
Andy Simon	Laurentian Regional High	Ron Cole	Ste-Agathe Academy
Francisco Couto	Laval Liberty High	Antoinette Noviello	Terry Fox Elementary
Rosalind Hoenig	Laval Jr. High		
Carla Tosti	McCaig Elementary		

ALSO PRESENT: Marie Claude Drouin, Secretary General, Angelo Grasso, EPCA Director General; Gaelle Absolonne Director School Organization, Shelly Leckey , Adult Educational and Vocational Training Services, Donna Abel asst. Director of Financial resources

ABSENT: Arundel Elementary, Crestview Elementary, Franklin Hill Elementary, Joliette Elementary, Jules Verne Elementary, Laurentia Elementary, Laurentian Regional High, Morin Heights Elementary, Mountainview Elementary, Rawdon Elementary. Rosemere High, St Paul Elementary, Ste-Adele Elementary Twin Oaks Elementary SEAC

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:19 pm

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PC20130606-01 Souvenir MOVED THAT the agenda is accepted with additions. Seconded by Joliette High School.

5.4 STL contract update

Carried **UNANIMOUSLY**

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF May 2, 2012

PC20130606-02 St-Jude MOVED THAT the minutes of April 4th, 2013 are accepted as presented. Seconded Grenville elementary.

This motion was **CARRIED** on the following division:

For:

Abstain: Joliette Elementary, Laurentian, Pinewood Elementary

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

In members packages. Since Gaelle Absolonne is here, she went over the minutes from the Adhoc Committees Laval High Schools and Twin Oaks, Terry Fox Elementary.

4. PRESENTATION

4.1 Shelley Leckey – Adult Education and Vocational Training Services

Mrs. Leckey handed out packages and explained exactly what Adult education at SWLSB is and how it impacts our students and community. Mrs. Leckey shared a power point presentation explaining the options available to the SWLSB population and the community it serves. After the presentation a quick game was played to see our knowledge with regards to Licenced Nurse Practitioners (LNP). A DEC in Nursing is coming to an end and therefore the need for LNPs will increase dramatically and the demand for this course will increase at SWLSB.

Fast track with Vanier was included in the documents to members. Mrs. Leckey explained all the hours of accreditation within the different programs offered to our students. There are many options available, with excellent training and excellent job prospects. These classes are offered in

small, individualized groups with experienced, knowledgeable and dedicated staff. SWLSB students have priority into these programs, followed by any student under 18 years of age. These classes fill up quickly. It is a 5-day per week program, 30 hours, except during internship (stage), where the hours are flexible. The number of students per class is 15-24, which creates an environment beneficial to the success of our students. The programs are very successful and classes are full. The power point presentation will be sent to the PC members.

4.2 Donna Abel – Asst. Director of Financial Resources – Budget Consultation Results

Mrs. Abel explained the MELS budget consultation results, in which PC took part. Ninety percent of schools responded to the Budget Consultation. Here are the results according to those submitted consultation documents.

TOP PRIORITIES according to the submitted consultation

- 1) Technology
- 2) Attendant time
- 3) Special needs support

SYSTEM EFFICIENCY PRIORITIES according to the submitted consultation

- 1) Technology, increase to reduce cost
- 2) No cuts at school level
- 3) Increase in professional development time and training.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 AdHoc Committee Updates

Gaëlle Absolonne presented the homepage of the SWLSB website, highlighting the Laval Schools AdHoc committees icon. This gives the visitor an overview of the meetings, which are being held regarding the Laval High Schools and the overcrowding at some of the Laval Elementary Schools. All documents handed out to the ADHoc committee as well as the minutes from those meetings are available to the public online through this site. This is done in order to be able to keep all parents and the community informed at all times regarding these situations. Mme Absolonne thanked the parents for taking their time to participate in these meetings as their ideas and input is an asset to understanding the situation and finding a resolution. The next meetings will be held in the upcoming school year.

The SWLSB is looking at a few changes to the Enrollment Criteria. The goal is to change the Enrollment Criteria consultation as early as October 2013 so we can let the communities know and understand the Criteria earlier than the previous January timeline.

5.2 PC Internal Rules and Procedures

As per our last meeting there were a few questions regarding the rules. According to our last meeting the question was:

- 1) Do our alternates have the right to vote? The answer is: Yes, they can if the elected member was unable to attend meeting. If both members are present, only the Elected member has right to vote not the alternate. Each school only has one vote.

Certain terms were not originally defined in our Internal Rules and Procedures. Consequently, there was discussion on the need to update the definition of the word “members” in our internal rules in order to match other committee’s definitions:

PC20130606-03 Hillcrest Elementary moved the following changes to the PC Internal Rules and Procedures:

Update the definition of “Members” to “Elective Representative” in the PC rules and Procedures, and include the new definition of “Alternate: Members of PC who are substitutes for the Elected Representatives;”

Update Section 12.1 of EPCA to read as: “...the Committee will elect one official Elected Representative as Director;”

Update section 13.1.1 of RCP-3L to read as: “Every year in November the Committee will review the membership fee pertaining to the RCP-3L”

Update section 13.2.1 and 13.2.2 of RCP-3L replacing “official delegates” to read as “Representatives;”

Update section 13.2.2 of RCP-3L to include: “The remaining representatives may be PC Alternate members.”

Update section 13.2.3 of RCP-3L to read as: “The Representatives will be attending both....”

Seconded by Laval Junior.

This motion was CARRIED Unanimously

2) With regard to the questions of electing an alternate PC member to sit on EPCA. John F. Kennedy did not believe the alternate should be on the EPCA because the alternate is not always at the PC meetings and would not be able to fully represent the SWLSB PC at EPCA. The alternate would need to come to regular meetings in order to report. We may have to go out to another source to have a seat at the PC meeting as we have for SEAC. A suggestion was made that we revisit this situation in October 2013 at our 1st meeting.

Marie Claude Drouin, Secretary General, went into a dialogue about the rules regarding Alternates and Delegates to different committees. There are not enough members to join all these additional committees so the idea that we can expand on the bodies available by using our alternates as representatives.

5.3 Nomination of RCP-3L Alternate

While we do have a representative, we do need an alternate. Tabled to next meeting

5.4 STL CONTRACT

The contract was up this year it and it terminates on June 30th. School Organization department was able to improve the contract in 11 different ways. The negotiations were very well received and collaboration with STL was positive. Here are a few of those 11 changes:

- 1) Syncro on the STL webpage. Students and parents will be able, with smart phones, to know where a student’s bus is and what time it will arrive at their stop.
- 2) The contract cost was reduced.
- 3) Monthly report will be sent to the SB, including discipline problem, complaints and Bill 56.
- 4) Earlier start of the two Senior High Schools in Laval. Junior Schools remain unchanged

5) Publicity will be able to be placed on the inside and outside of the buses for free for the SWLSB.

Check reimbursements are presently done twice a year for the Laval High Schools. The SB is looking to give the reimbursements **Once** a year in January. A new system will be put in place so that the school fees will have a stub at the bottom, enabling the parents to fill it in thereby transfer their checks toward the student school fees.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Bill 24 – Act to Amend School Elections

The documents will be emailed by PC Chair. Mme Drouin, explained there is new section on the SWLSB website regarding the elections. The information of the By-Election is already on the website. The By-Election cost was low due to the fact SWLSB staff participated so no one needed to be hired. The Council will now be able to replace a commissioner as it was previously done.

Bill 24 was passed yesterday. A financing chart is now part of the Bill that was passed yesterday. The Government of Quebec (MELS) has not yet posted the final document. The SB is still unclear on the terms of the Parent Commissioner after the new elections. Mme Drouin will come back to PC Chair with a more comprehensive explanation of the Bill.

The school board is starting to work on the electoral divisions of territory. Our board is being reduced to 9 commissioners, 4 in Laval and 5 in the Northern regions, one Elementary Parent Commissioner, one High School Commissioner and one Special Needs Parent Commissioner.

6.2 PC Letter to EPCA

The Chair wanted to get a feel around the table to see if a letter should be sent regarding the positive changes at EPCA and to thank them for their continuous efforts to serve the English SB interest.

PC20130606-04 Terry Fox Elementary MOVES TO approve the Chair of the SWLSB PC Committee write a letter to EPCA thanking them for their services and noting the positive changes within the organization. **Seconded by Souvenir Elementary**

This motion was CARRIED Unanimously

6.3 School Board Budget Cuts

Other school boards and organizations have written letters to the Quebec Ministry of Education regarding the recent budget constraints. These constraints will have a significant impact to our student and the services offered to them. The removal of the equalization will increase taxes to our English communities.

PC20130606-05 Laval Junior High School MOVED TO have the SWLSB PC Chair write a letter to the ministry regarding the budget cuts constraints indicating these constraints have a significant impact to the English language students. **Seconded by Hillcrest Academy Elementary**

This motion was CARRIED Unanimously

7. REPORTS

7.1 School Board's Report

None to report

7.2 Treasurer’s Report

The PC Chair passed out the report. The Treasurer went through the report for the committee members. We have a very good surplus. The Treasurer brought up concerns regarding the specifications as to how PC funds are to be spent. She indicated she has knowledge that some school boards have been told not to spend it on the students, such as we do with our PC Award, as these are PC funds. Mme Drouin will check with the finance department to see if there any other parameters and get back to us in the new School Year. There was discussion regarding the importance of spending the surplus in 2013/2014 on a PC initiative.

7.3 Council Highlights (Parent Commissioners Report)

The Council Highlights are in the package

7.4 RCP-3L Report

No report

7.5 SEAC Report

No report

7.6 EPCA Report

The report is in the package. The General Assembly is on June 14/15, 2013.

8. VARIA

None

9. Question Period

10. Closure of Meeting

Have a great summer!!!!

PC20130606-06 OLP. MOVED THAT the meeting close at 8:20 pm. Seconded by MTJHS.

Carried UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by:
Lisa Chartier

Minutes approved _____, 2013

Chairperson _____ Secretary _____