

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
Western Québec School Board

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on February 23, 2016 at the Western Québec School Board, 15 rue Katimavik, Gatineau, Québec, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Shea, Commissioners Brunke, Daly, Dionne, Egan, Garbutt, Guy, Labadie, Larventz, McCrank, and Schaler, and Parent Commissioners Boucher, Davis, Fenton (by videoconference), and Komm

Personnel:

Director of Complementary Services, B. Burn
Director of Human Resources, School Organization and Transportation, M. Dubeau
Director of Education, M. Lothian
Director of Buildings, Equipment, and Technology, P. Proulx

The Director General, P. Lamoureux, the Assistant Director General/Director of Education, Adult Education and Vocational Training, R. Ahern, and the Secretary General / Director of Programs and Evaluation, Terry Kharyati were also present.

REGRETS: Commissioner Young

Call to Order

The Chair J. Shea called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Public Participation

-Brian Smeltzer expressed concern over preliminary US data regarding the synthetic fields and their potential health risks.

-Planning and Review Committee concerns regarding staff input and impact on staff.

-Nancy Hall, chair of the “People for the future of St. Michael’s” expressed concerns over the fact that St. Michael’s is considered for closure. She expressed support to work to keep St. Michael’s alive.

-Michel Marleau, Chair of the MRC de la Vallée de la Gatineau, spoke on behalf of keeping St. Michael’s open as central to its region. He spoke about developing a Public Private Partnership to build a multifunctional building.

C-15/16-83

Adoption of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried unanimously

C-15/16-84

Approval of Minutes – January 26, 2016

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the minutes of a meeting held on January 26, 2016 be approved as circulated.

Carried unanimously

Chair's Report

The Chair presented his written report that focused on the activities of the past month. He made a point of stating how proud he was to be part of the WQSB team.

Director General's Report

The Director General presented his oral report. The following topics were covered:

- The Director General started by thanking the Council and the WQSB team for working so well together and he thanked Council for their continued support.
- The appointment of the new Minister, Sébastien Proulx, and he wished Minister Moreau well.
- The Ministry's new moniker to Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS).
- The granting of the new synthetic field at D'Arcy/Symmes by the MELS, and the City of Gatineau.
- The roof at Hull Adult Education Centre suffered water infiltration which resulted in the flooding of the gym floor, damaging the floor, the walls, and part of the roof.

Director General Evaluation

The Vice Chair, A. Guy, asked to speak regarding the DG evaluation. It was decided that a report would be reviewed twice a year. The DG Evaluation Policy will be reviewed and revised. It was noted that the present DG is excellent to work with.

Mass Communication System

The Director of Buildings, Equipment, and Technology, P. Proulx, made a presentation. He talked about the needs of the WQSB and solutions.

The WQSB needs to cover three types of communications: emergencies (threats, bus accidents, lock-down, etc.), reminders, and students' absences. The desired features of this communication system should:

- be cloud-based to keep the phone line available for parents to call in in case of emergency
- work in both official languages
- have live link with central databases (GPI, Jade, Paie)
- have the possibility to add other contacts (Media)

The solution is Software called Delphin, which has been developed by a company based in Gatineau, QC. It's capacity: text messages: 60/minute; calls: 180/minute; emails: 3000/minute.

Greater Gatineau, Wakefield, and Eardley will serve as pilot schools for its implementation. Three tests will be performed; one with the communications with a homeroom (parents), one with the school staff, and one with the entire school (parents). Following this, a test on the absences will take place.

There are challenges to face as well: Standardisation of the data entry, and the uniformization of the actual data.

C-15/16-85

Invitation to Tender — Financial Auditor, 3-year Contract

WHEREAS a call for the tendering of bids has been made by public invitation for the above mentioned contract;

WHEREAS the following persons and/or businesses were invited to tender bids:

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L.
Samson et Associés CPA / Consultation Inc.
Marcil Lavallée S.E.N.C.
Deloitte S.E.N.C.R.L./s.r.l.

WHEREAS the following four (4) tenders were received and recorded:

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L.	\$97,500
Samson et Associés CPA / Consultation Inc.	\$99,000
Marcil Lavallée S.E.N.C.	\$114,000
Deloitte S.E.N.C.R.L./s.r.l.	\$132,000

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dionne that the bid submitted by Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L., in the amount of \$97,500 plus applicable taxes, be approved for a 3-year contract, starting with the 2015-2016 school year.

Carried unanimously

C-15/16-86

Internal Guidelines for the Management of Supply, Service and Construction Contracts of Public Bodies

WHEREAS the Treasury Board adopted the Directive concernant la gestion des contrats d'approvisionnement, de services et de travaux de construction des organismes publics (Directive), effective August 1, 2015;

WHEREAS the Directive specifies that public bodies must adopt their own "Internal guidelines for the management of supply, service and construction contracts of public bodies", as per section 24 of the Directive;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that the "Internal guidelines for the management of supply, service and construction contracts of public bodies" be adopted as presented.

Carried unanimously

C-15/16-87

Transportation Committee Report – February 18, 2016

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Transportation Committee minutes of February 18, 2016.

Carried unanimously

- C-15/16-88** **Parents' Committee Report – January 11, 2016**
IT WAS MOVED by Parent Commissioner Lafond that the Council acknowledge receipt of the Parents' Committee minutes of January 11, 2016.
- Carried unanimously
- C-15/16-89** **Parents' Committee Report – February 15, 2016**
IT WAS MOVED by Parent Commissioner Lafond that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Parents' Committee minutes of February 15, 2016.
- Carried unanimously
- C-15/16-90** **Draft Policy – Code of Conduct**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that, as recommended by the Governance and Ethics Committee, the draft "*Code of Conduct Policy*" be sent out for public consultation.
- Carried unanimously

Planning and Review Committee

There will be a Planning and Review Committee meeting on March 10, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

QESBA

A meeting with QESBA took place on February 5, 2016. They voted on a position on Bill 86 and the concerns surrounding it. Position paper to be shared.

The QESBA office to be relocated to Dorval.

Commissioner Guy recognized the efforts made by the WQSB schools to keep the students safe.

David Birnbaum

The Chair recognized the work of David Birnbaum, former Executive Director of QESBA, who was recently appointed as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education and Higher Education.

WQSB Sponsorship

The Assistant Director General/Director of Education, Adult Education and Vocational Training, R. Ahern, mentioned that from February 29 to June 30, the WQSB is sponsoring the weather on Radio 88.5 or 89.9. The focus is to send listeners to the WQSB website.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council of Commissioners will be held on April 26, 2016.

- C-15/16-91** **Adjournment**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that the meeting be adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Carried unanimously