

**PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC**  
**Western Québec School Board**

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on February 26, 2013 at the Western Québec School Board, 15 rue Katimavik, Gatineau, Québec, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Brunke, Chiasson, Daly, Davidson, Dexter, Garbutt, Gunn, Guy, Hendry (by telephone), Lanyi, Larivière (by telephone), McCrank, O'Brien, Perry, Shea, Taylor, Wilson and Young (by video-conference), Parent Commissioner Komm and Gibbons

**Personnel:**

Director of Human Resources and Technology, M. Dubeau  
Director of Education, M. Lothian  
Director of Buildings, Equipment and Transportation, C. O'Shea  
Assistant Director of Student Services, B. Burn

The Director General, Paul Lamoureux, Assistant Director General/Director of Education, Adult Education and Vocational Training, R. Ahern, and the Director of Legal Services/Secretary General, R. Vézina were also present.

**Call to Order**

The Chairman, Commissioner Chiasson, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Public Participation**

Barry McGowen, SEVEC Project Manager, made a presentation detailing how SEVEC has supported student exchanges of Pontiac children over the last 10 years. He asked that the Western Québec School Board continue to support the efforts made by SEVEC.

He introduced Jim Washer, Senior Manager programming & Partnerships, SEVEC, also parent of former WQSB students. He left documentation about the SEVEC program and encouraged our schools to apply for funding and help to organize future exchanges.

Thanks were extended by our chair to both presenters, for their continued efforts which benefit WQSB students.

Jennifer Mayhew, graduate of Dr. S. E. McDowell School and of Pontiac High School thanked Council for bringing parents of students attending these schools together as a community and expressed support for leaving Dr. S. E. McDowell School in its present location.

Jessica Gallard, Dr. S. E. McDowell Parents' Committee representative, spoke on behalf of the Governing Board. She stated that there was a positive response to the implementation of a French Immersion Program and that the Governing Board is in support of the Planning and Review Committee's recommendation. She asked Commissioners to vote in favor.

The Chairman reminded everyone of the March 28<sup>th</sup> consultation meeting for St-Michael's school. Commissioner Wilson mentioned that Nancy Hall, Governing Board Chair of St-Michael's High School, invited all commissioners to come for snacks at 6:00 pm on the night of the meeting.

**C-12/13-151****Approval of Agenda**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that the Agenda be approved with the following change:

- move agenda item #10 before item #3.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-152****Approval of Minutes – January 29, 2013**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dexter that the Minutes of a meeting held on January 29, 2013 be approved as circulated.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-153****Planning and Review Committee Report – February 7, 2013**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Daly that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Planning and Review Committee minutes of February 7, 2013.

Carried unanimously

**Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman presented his oral report to Council and addressed the following topics:

- St-Michaels' High School consultation meeting, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Invitation by Governing Board to come one hour before for snacks and beverages
- Number of electoral divisions for upcoming school board elections in November 2014
- Electoral division sub-committee

**Director General's Report**

The Director General presented his written report. Topics covered included:

- School board elections
- Destination ImagiNation – thanks were extended to Mike Dubeau, Sonia Lavallée, Lisa Diner, Alan Earwaker, Amy Curry, Larissa Sansom and the entire team who worked on the project
- Music Makers
- Budget 2013-2014
- Budget Rules 2015-2016
- Programming
- Elections financing
- Bill 14

**C-12/13-154****Destination ImagiNation**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dexter that a letter be sent, thanking the entire team for their efforts in organizing this year's edition of Destination ImagiNation.

Carried unanimously

Mary Davidson arrived at 7:55 pm.

**QESBA Report**

The Chairman presented his QESBA Report.

- C-12/13-155**      **Executive Committee Report – February 19, 2013**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Davidson that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Executive Committee minutes of February 19, 2013.  
  
Carried unanimously
- C-12/13-156**      **Education Committee Report – February 7, 2013**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Education Committee minutes of February 7, 2013.  
  
Carried unanimously
- C-12/13-157**      **Alternate Program at Buckingham School**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council continue to support the alternate program at its current location (Buckingham School).  
  
Carried unanimously
- C-12/13-158**      **PWHS Trip to France & England**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the PWHS school trip to France and England in March 2014.  
  
Carried unanimously
- C-12/13-159**      **Pontiac High School Trip to Boston**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the Pontiac High School trip to Boston in March 2012.  
  
Carried unanimously
- C-12/13-160**      **Request for Home Schooling**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school (9997859) for the 2012-2013 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.  
  
Carried unanimously
- C-12/13-161**      **Request for Home Schooling**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school (0046367) for the 2012-2013 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.  
  
Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-162****Request for Home Schooling**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school (0018556) for the 2012-2013 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-163****Business Committee Report – February 6, 2013**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Business Committee minutes of February 6, 2013.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-164****Funding Wakefield Gym – Municipality of La Pêche**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the proposal from the Municipality of La Pêche resolution #12-617 for the funding of the additional gym surface at the new Wakefield School of \$500,000.00 be approved, it being agreed that if the Municipality has additional requirements that extend over and above \$500 000.00, it will pay the difference.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-165****Test Holes for Thermal Conductivity – Geothermal Project (New Wakefield School)**

WHEREAS the above mentioned project went to tender by invitation to (5) five companies;

WHEREAS only (1) one bid was received;

Comfort Géothermique	\$24,943.83 includes taxes
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WHEREAS the only bid submitted conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the bid submitted by Comfort Géothermique in the amount of \$ 24,943.83 including taxes be approved.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-166****Well Drilling & Project Management Supervisor for Environmental Approval (New Wakefield School)**

WHEREAS the above mentioned project went to tender by invitation to (5) five companies;

WHEREAS (2) two bids were received;

Genivar	\$21,500.00 plus taxes
Envir-Eau	\$22,305.15 plus taxes

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young as recommended by the Business Committee, that the lowest bid submitted by Genivar in the amount of \$ 21,500.00 plus taxes be approved.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-167**

**Abolishment of all Vacant Caretaker Positions**

Considering the important and ongoing budgetary cuts imposed on school boards over the last several years;

Considering that the Board is currently reviewing several options, including reorganizing and closing schools in the hope of reducing its expenditures;

Considering that the Board has a responsibility to maintain and preserve the level of educational services it provides to the student population it serves;

Considering that contracting out the work that is being carried out by employees classified as caretakers (including all classes and night) will result in an important reduction in costs to the Board;

Considering that contracting out the work that is being carried out by employees classified as caretakers will ensure at least the same quality of service;

Considering that contracting out the work that is being carried out by employees classified as caretakers would allow the Board to purchase services only as and when needed, and based on student demographic projections;

Considering that contracting out the work that is being carried out by employees classified as caretakers would allow for easier budgeting, as only the amounts contractually agreed upon would be paid;

Considering that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the Board is proposing to abolish all caretaker positions as they become vacant and contract out the work that is being carried out by these employees;

Considering that no current regular employee would be laid off, placed in surplus or demoted as a result of the following recommendation;

Considering clause 7-5.00 of the support staff collective agreement;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that this proposal be submitted to the Labour Relations Committee, with a final decision to be made at the May 28th 2013 Council of Commissioners meeting.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-168****Tender Opening – Impala**

WHEREAS the tender opening of the above mentioned project was held on January 25th 2013 in the presence of Michel Hotte, Manager of Buildings and Equipment Services, Amanda Dexter, Commissioner and Judy Cadieux-Fortin, Office Agent Buildings Department;

WHEREAS the above mentioned project went by public tender;

WHEREAS (3) three bids were received;

Dave Bates	\$9,350.00
Marian Lothian	\$9,500.00
Brian Smeltzer	\$10,125.00

WHEREAS the highest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the bid submitted by Brian Smeltzer in the amount of \$ 10,125.00 for the Impala be approved.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-169****Appointment of the Auditor**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, Samson & Associates be appointed as Auditors for the period ending March 31st 2013.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-170****Appointment of the Auditor**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, Samson & Associates be appointed as Auditors for the period ending June 30th 2013.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-171****D’Arcy Gymnastics Pavilion Extension**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, Mr. Colin O’Shea, Director of Buildings, Equipment and Transportation and Paul Lamoureux, Director General be mandated to enter into negotiations with the Ville de Gatineau on the potential development of a gymnastics pavilion.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-172****Memorandum of Agreement – Namur**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the memorandum of agreement between the WQSB and the Municipality of Namur for the exchange of usage of the parties’ respective premises and facilities be approved.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-173****SEAC Report – February 4, 2013**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Daly that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft SEAC minutes of February 4, 2013.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-174**

**Parents' Committee Report – January 14, 2013**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Komm that the Council acknowledge receipt of the Parents' Committee minutes of January 14, 2013.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-175**

**Parents' Committee Report – February 18, 2013**

IT WAS MOVED by Parent Commissioner Komm that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Parents' Committee minutes of February 18, 2013.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-176**

**P.I.C. Report – November 5, 2012**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the Council acknowledge receipt of the P.I.C. minutes of November 5, 2012.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-177**

**P.I.C. Report – December 17, 2012**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft P.I.C. minutes of December 17, 2012.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-178**

**Aylmer/Hull Proposed Boundary Changes**

WHEREAS the Planning and Review Committee examined newly proposed boundary changes for the Aylmer and Hull sectors according to the plan annexed hereto;

WHEREAS the Planning and Review Committee recommends to:

-move the eastern Eardley boundary from Broad Street to Boulevard Wilfrid Lavigne;

-move the PETES western boundary from Boulevard de l'Europe to Vanier Street, including the western side of Vanier to Pink;

-move the western PETES boundary to Vanier Street, north of Pink

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Shea, as recommended by the Planning and Review Committee:

-that the Aylmer/Hull sectors boundaries be modified according to the plan annexed hereto, which describes the above mentioned changes to the existing boundaries, to be implemented as of the 2013/2014 school year;

-that students presently registered in Lord Aylmer and South Hull impacted by the boundary change may exercise their right to be grandfathered;

-that students presently registered in South Hull impacted by the boundary change may exercise their right to be grandfathered to attend D'Arcy/Symmes;

-that students who exercise their right to be grandfathered will be provided with transportation if they were entitled to transportation prior to these changes;

-that as of 2013-2014, all newly registered students will attend their catchment school;

-that students relocating into a new sector not be granted the “grandfather clause” e.g.: students registered with WQ school moving into a new sector;

-that parents may apply for a Cross-Boundary transfer as per the school board policy.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-179**

**Namur**

WHEREAS the Planning and Review Committee reviewed the ramifications of no longer providing transportation to Cycle 2 students residing on the WQSB territory as of 2013-2014 school year, and instead providing these students transportation to Philemon Wright High School;

The Planning and Review Committee is proposing that;

WHEREAS Cycle 2 Year 2 students residing on WQSB territory currently attending Laurentian High School be allowed to complete their Cycle 2 Year 3 at Laurentian High School and be provided transportation for the 2013-2014 school year;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that, as recommended by the Planning and Review Committee, that Council approve that administration be mandated to consult the Namur Governing Board on these proposed changes, namely to transport students in Cycle 2 Years 1 and 2 to PWHS as of 2013-2014, and consequently, transport all Cycle 2 students as of the 2014-2015 school year to Philemon Wright High School.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-180**

**Dr. S. E. McDowell/Pontiac High**

WHEREAS the Dr. S. E. McDowell Governing Board has adopted a resolution to support the move of Pontiac Adult Education Centre into the building located at 89 Centre Street, Shawville, Québec;

WHEREAS the Dr. S. E. McDowell Governing Board is committed to promoting French Immersion programme while attempting to increase its student population;

WHEREAS the Pontiac Adult Education Centre Governing Board has adopted a resolution supporting a change to its deed of establishment and a move to the building located at 89 Centre Street, Shawville, Québec;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Taylor that, as recommended by the Planning and Review Committee, Council approve that the deed of establishment of the Pontiac Adult Education Centre be amended to change the address of the school and to indicate that the premises placed at its disposal will be those located at 89 Centre Street, Shawville, Québec.

Carried unanimously



C-12/13-181

**Bill 14**

CONSIDERING that on December 5, 2012 Bill 14 was presented proposing amendments to the Charter of the French Language, the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and other legislative provisions;

CONSIDERING that if adopted, Bill 14 would further limit access to public English education in Québec;

CONSIDERING that if adopted, Bill 14 would deny families of military personnel temporarily stationed in Québec access to public English education;

CONSIDERING that in every other Canadian province, the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces, who serve our country with dignity and courage, are not restricted in any way as to the choice of the language of instruction of their children;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the Western Québec School Board express its strong opposition to the adoption of Bill 14 in its present wording, and that the Secretary General be mandated to forward a copy of this resolution to the Minister responsible for the Charter of French language and to all other interested associations and bodies.

Carried unanimously

C-12/13-182

**Additional Wards – School Board Elections 2014**

WHEREAS in accordance with section 6 of the Act respecting school elections, there shall be eight (8) electoral divisions for a school board where there are more than 10 000 but less than 30 000 electors, which is the situation of the Western Québec School Board;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 7 of the Act respecting school elections, the Minister may, upon request, authorize a school board to establish up to five additional divisions, if the Minister considers this warranted by the particularly large size of the territory of the school board, the number of local municipalities whose territory is comprised in the territory of the school board and the isolated location of the territory of a local municipality in the territory of the school board;

WHEREAS there are presently nineteen (19) electoral divisions on the territory of the Western Québec School Board;

WHEREAS the Western Québec School Board has a particularly large territory, covering over 90 000 square kilometers, making it the second largest board in the Province of Québec;

WHEREAS the territory of the Western Québec School Board comprises approximately 160 local municipalities;

WHEREAS several local municipalities located on the Western Québec School Board territory are isolated;

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the Western Québec School Board and its students, parents and taxpayers that it be permitted to establish more electoral divisions than the number provided for in

section 6 of the Act respecting school elections, in order to ensure fair and adequate representation.

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, according to the terms of section 7 of the Act respecting school elections, the Chairman of the Board be mandated to prepare and send a request in writing to the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport asking the Minister to authorize the Western Québec School Board to establish five (5) more electoral divisions than the number provided for in section 6 of the said Act.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-183**

**Affiliation au Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec Abitibi-Témiscamingue**

LE COMMISSAIRE WILSON PROPOSE QUE la commission scolaire Western Québec paie une affiliation de base de 600,00 \$, en plus d'une cotisation de 0,20 \$ per capita pour la clientèle primaire et secondaire de la commission scolaire, et ce, au 30 septembre 2011, pour un total de 711.00 \$ (555 élèves). Cette affiliation symbolise la reconnaissance de la commission scolaire aux buts que poursuit le Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec Abitibi-Témiscamingue, conformément aux lettres patentes de cette dernière.

Carried unanimously

**C-12/13-184**

**Affiliation au Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec en Outaouais**

LE COMMISSAIRE WILSON PROPOSE QUE la commission scolaire Western Québec paie une affiliation de 0.47\$ basée sur un critère PER CAPITA de la population scolaire de la commission scolaire et ce au 30 septembre de l'année scolaire en cours. Cette affiliation symbolise la reconnaissance de la commission scolaire aux buts que poursuit le Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec en Outaouais conformément aux lettres patentes de cette dernière.

Carried unanimously

C-12/13-185

**Appointment of Commissioner – electoral division # 2**

CONSIDERING that the position of commissioner for electoral division # 2 is vacant;

CONSIDERING that G. Théberge School's Governing Board has been duly consulted and that it proposed no candidate;

CONSIDERING that the Western Québec School Board's Parents' Committee has been duly consulted;

CONSIDERING that the Western Québec School Board's Parents' Committee has nominated 2 candidates that do not reside in the Ward;

CONSIDERING that Council believes that it is important that the commissioner to be appointed reside in Ward 2;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that administration be mandated to further consult the community by publicly calling for submissions to fill this vacancy including placing ads in the newspapers.

For: 14  
Against: 2  
Abstention: 1

Motion carried

C-12/13-186

**SEVEC**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Taylor that a letter of support and appreciation be sent to SEVEC for their programs, implication and support of the WQSB throughout the years.

Carried unanimously

C-12/13-187

**Transportation – Aylmer boundaries**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Daly that thanks be extended to the Transportation Department team for all their work and implication in the Aylmer Boundaries Review file as well as for their involvement in the WQSB Transportation Safety Campaign.

Carried unanimously

**Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Council of the Council of Commissioners will be held on March 26, 2013.

C-12/13-188

**Adjournment**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Carried unanimously