

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

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on June 30, 2015 at the Western Québec School Board, 15 rue Katimavik, Gatineau, Québec, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Shea, Commissioners Brunke, Daly, Dionne, Egan, Garbutt, Guy, Labadie, Larventz, McCrank, Schaler, and Young (by telephone), and Parent Commissioners Boucher, Fenton (by telephone), Komm and Lafond

**Personnel:**

Director of Student Services, B. Burn

Director of Education, M. Lothian

Director of Buildings, Equipment, and Technology, P. Proulx

The Director General, Paul Lamoureux, and the Director of Legal Services/ Secretary General, R. Vézina, were also present.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Shea called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Public Participation**

Mr. Evan Young spoke against the recommendation to cancel funding for the K-4 program at PETES. He explained that parents, at this late stage, expected the program to continue and have made plans accordingly. He mentioned that there is a petition with 132 signatures from the PETES community in support of the program. He requested that funding be extended an additional year, and that a study on the benefits of the program be performed.

Mr. Marc Casas-Cordero, parent of two daughters, one of which has been through the K-4 program at PETES, spoke in support of the program. His youngest daughter was scheduled to start at PETES next September. He explained that this is a major inconvenience and that his family will be put in a difficult situation at this late date in the year.

Mr. Rafi Khan, of the Western Québec Teachers' Association (WQTA) thanked parent commissioners and the Parents' Committee for their support. He asked for the elected commissioners' support during the ongoing negotiations, particularly with respect to the possible elimination of the special needs coding, and class sizes. He is asking for continued pressure on the government to hopefully improve the learning conditions for students.

**C-14/15-203**

**Adoption of Agenda**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that the agenda be adopted with the addition of:

13.4 Vocational Training International Student Program

13.5 Conseil du Trésor Directive

and the deletion of:

14.2 Nominations QESBA

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-204****Approval of Minutes – May 26, 2015**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the minutes of a meeting held on May 26, 2015 be approved as circulated.

Carried unanimously

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman referred to his written report. He extended his congratulations to those students graduating and leaving our board at the end of this school year. He extended his thanks to Danae Komm for her work as Parent Commissioner over the past nine years and presented her with a "Graduation Certificate" as her last child will be graduating from the WQSB.

**C-14/15-205****Hiring of Administrators – Summer Period**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Daly that the normal formalities be waived to accommodate any possible need to fill new administrative postings as soon as possible, on the condition that the Director General notify all commissioners when assignments are finalized.

Carried unanimously

**Director General's Report**

The Director General referred to his written report which was circulated prior to the meeting. He indicated that he has received a notice from the MEESR that the final budget parameters have not yet been adopted by the government.

The Director General provided additional information on the following topics:

-School Taxes

-Sport-Étude / Concentration program

-Pre-K programs recognized by the MEESR: The program will be transferred from Maniwaki Woodland School to St-John's Elementary School. A multi-age program will be run at Maniwaki Woodland.

-Donation from the Aylmer Rotary Club to assist students at Eardley and Lord Aylmer schools.

-Sex education and History programs.

-Partnership Agreement with the City of Gatineau concerning a synthetic field at D'Arcy/Symmes.

-Budget: The Director General made a detailed presentation on the draft WQSB Operating, Investment, and Debt Services Budget 2015-2016.

Parent Commissioner Komm left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

**C-14/15-206****Executive Committee Report – June 23, 2015**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Executive Committee minutes of June 23, 2015.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-207****Deeds of Establishment for 2015-2016**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Schaler that the Deeds of Establishment for the 2015-2016 school year be approved as presented.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-208****Lait-école – 2015-2016**

IT EST PROPOSÉ PAR LE COMMISSAIRE EGAN ET RÉSOLU QUE la Commission scolaire Western Québec mandate la Fédération des

commissions scolaires du Québec (FCSQ) pour qu'elle procède en son nom à l'appel d'offres regroupé provincial concernant l'achat de Lait-école pour l'année scolaire 2015-2016.

DE PLUS, elle s'engage à respecter le contrat-cadre liant la FCSQ et le fournisseur retenu. En conséquence, elle ne peut décider d'opter pour un autre fournisseur ou de négocier des prix séparés pour elle-même.

DE PLUS, elle accepte le coût lié à la gestion de l'appel d'offres et au contrat-cadre assumés par la FCSQ, qui équivaut à 0,001 \$ par berlingot.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-209**

**MB Projects 2015-2016**

WHEREAS the budget for the WQSB's MB Projects for the 2015-2016 school year is \$2,549,540;

WHEREAS the following needs have been identified as a priority:

School	Project Name	Estimated Amount	Professional 15%	Net Tax Cost	Grand Total
Philemon Wright High School	Renovations of Science Classrooms	\$1,220,000	\$183,000	\$96,621.10	\$1,499,621.10
South Hull Elementary School	Replacement of Heating System	\$275,000	\$41,250	\$21,779.35	\$338,029.35
Noranda School	Replacement of Heating System	\$570,000	\$85,500	\$45,142.65	\$700,642.65
					\$2,538,293.10

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that the above mentioned MB Projects for the 2015-2016 school year be submitted to the MEESR.

Carried unanimousl

**C-14/15-210**

**Public Call for Tenders – WQSB Insurance**

WHEREAS a public call for tenders has been made for the above mentioned one (1) year contract, with the possibility of two additional one-year extensions;

WHEREAS the following persons and/or businesses retrieved the tender documents;

Aon Risk Solutions  
Lemieux, Ryan et Associés  
Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton & Cie

WHEREAS the following two tenders were received and recorded;

Aon Risk Solutions	\$68,716
Lemieux, Ryan et Associés	\$83,622

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dionne that the bid submitted by Aon Risk Solutions, excluding taxes, be approved.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-211**

**Synthetic Field – D’Arcy McGee/Symmes - Partnership between MEESR, WQSB, City of Gatineau, and CSPO**

WHEREAS D’Arcy McGee High/Symmes Junior High schools, the City of Gatineau, sport associations, and the community have expressed the need for a synthetic field in the Aylmer sector of Gatineau;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has announced on June 9, 2015 phase III of their program to support recreational and sporting facilities;

WHEREAS the Commission scolaire des Portages-de-l’Outaouais will be submitting a request to the Ministry of Education for a synthetic field in partnership with the City of Gatineau, within phase III of the program;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education subsidizes 50 % of the cost of the project as per the budget rules and regulations;

WHEREAS phase III of the program targets municipal organisations, school boards, and non-profit organizations;

WHEREAS the School Board wishes to develop a partnership (protocol of agreement) with the City of Gatineau;

WHEREAS the City of Gatineau has targeted approximately \$580,000 towards a synthetic field in the western part of the City of Gatineau;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Schaler that the WQSB support the application for the installation of a synthetic field at D’Arcy McGee/Symmes by the City of Gatineau, within phase III of the program of the Ministry of Education, conditional to the conclusion of an agreement with the City of Gatineau.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-212**

**Tax Rate for 2015-2016**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dionne that the school tax rate for the 2015-2016 school year be set at \$0.22542 per \$100 evaluation.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-213**

**Budget 2015-2016**

WHEREAS in conformity with the *Education Act* the Western Québec School Board must adopt and forward to the Ministère de l’Éducation, de l’Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche (MEESR) the operational, investment, and debt service budget for the 2015-2016 school year;

WHEREAS the 2015-2016 budget shows a balance between projected revenues and expenses;

WHEREAS the evaluation is established at \$7,646,746,440 in conformity with the Law and the budget rules for the 2015-2016 school year;

WHEREAS the budget includes a school tax rate of \$0.22542 per \$100 of evaluation;

WHEREAS the school tax rate is in conformity with the Law;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the 2015-2016 operating, investment, and debt service budget be adopted and forwarded to the MEESR, and that the tax rate be set at \$0.22542 per \$100 of evaluation

For: 10

Against: 1

Motion carried

**C-14/15-214**

**Interest Rate on Outstanding School Taxes**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that the interest rate for 2015-2016 be set at 16% on all outstanding school taxes.

Carried unanimously

The Director General, P. Lamoureux, distributed a document titled *Taxation Write-Off July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015*.

**C-14/15-215**

**Uncollectable Taxes**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Schaler that the outstanding taxes and interest amounting to \$55,540.92 be written off for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-216**

**Transportation Committee Report – June 15, 2015**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Transportation Committee minutes of June 15, 2015.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-217**

**Indexation – School Bus Contracts**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that, as recommended by the Consultative Transportation Committee, the 2015-2016 school bus contracts be indexed at 1.91%.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-218**

**Transportation Budget 2015-2016**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that, as recommended by the Consultative Transportation Committee, the Transportation Budget 2015-2016 be approved as presented.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-219**

**Parents' Committee Report – May 25, 2015**

IT WAS MOVED by Parent Commissioner Boucher that the Council acknowledge receipt of the Parents' Committee minutes of May 25, 2015.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-220**

**Professional Improvement Committee (PIC) Report – June 2, 2015**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Professional Improvement Committee minutes of June 2, 2015.

Carried unanimously

- C-14/15-221**      **Educational Policy Committee (EPC) Report – June 8, 2015**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Educational Policy Committee minutes of June 8, 2015.
- Carried unanimously
- C-14/15-222**      **Complementary Services Parity Report – June 15, 2015**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Complementary Services Parity Committee minutes of June 15, 2015.
- Carried unanimously
- C-14/15-223**      **Audit Committee Report – May 19, 2015**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dionne that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Audit Committee minutes of May 19, 2015.
- Carried unanimously
- C-14/15-224**      **Communications Committee Report – May 6, 2015**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the Council acknowledge receipt of the Communications Committee minutes of May 6, 2015.
- Carried unanimously
- C-14/15-225**      **Communications Committee Report – June 4, 2015**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Communications Committee minutes of June 4, 2015.
- Carried unanimously
- Commissioner Larventz reported that the Committee met on June 23, and that an action plan was discussed.
- C-14/15-226**      **Adoption of By-Laws 31 and 32 (2015-2016 Calendar of Meetings)**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner McCrank that the following By-Laws be adopted as presented:
- A By-Law to fix the day, time and place of the regular meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the Western Québec School Board for the school year 2015-2016;
- A By-Law to fix the day, time and place of the regular meetings of the Executive Committee of the Western Québec School Board for the school year 2015-2016.
- Carried unanimously
- C-14/15-227**      **Student Ombudsman Contract**  
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that the WQSB enter into a three (3) year Student Ombudsman contract with Me Yves Letellier in the amount of \$15,000 per year starting July 1, 2015, and that the Director General be authorized to sign any and all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.
- Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-228****ARCC Donation**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie that the WQSB gratefully acknowledge receipt of a \$1,000 donation from the Aylmer Rotary Community Corps (ARCC) to assist families from Eardley and Lord Aylmer with back to school extraordinary expenses.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-229****Vocational Training International Student Program**

WHEREAS the Western Québec School Board has initiated a Vocational Training International Student Program;

WHEREAS the Education Act, the Basic School Regulations, and the *Cadre de gestion de l'offre de formation professionnelle et technique* clearly outlines the processes and procedures for offering vocational training programs;

WHEREAS the Western Québec School Board's Vocational Training International Student Program respects the outlined processes and procedures;

WHEREAS school boards must obtain a formal agreement when another school board proposes to offer training on its territory;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that any school board who plans to offer programs on the WQSB territory be required to obtain a formal agreement by the WQSB.

Carried unanimously

**C-14/15-230****Conseil du Trésor Directive**

ATTENDU QUE la Directive concernant la reddition de comptes en gestion contractuelle des organismes public;

IT EST PROPOSÉ PAR LE COMMISSAIRE DIONNE ET RÉSOLU QUE le directeur général de la Commission scolaire Western Québec soit autorisé à compléter et signer la Déclaration de la Commission scolaire pour la période du 1 avril 2014 au 31 mars 2015, et à fournir tout autre renseignement requis au Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor.

Carried unanimously

The Chair, on behalf of the commissioners who attended the conference, presented a report on the QESBA/AAESQ Spring Conference and the QESBA Board of Directors meeting held in Québec City in May.

The Chair mentioned the letter pertaining to the Election System Study Panel. It was agreed that the Chair, Commissioner Brunke, and the Director General will collaborate to prepare written submissions, which are due by Friday, July 24, 2015.

A letter from the Municipality Township of Low was distributed confirming its prior commitment and stating its intention to provide up to \$ 800,000 in financial support on eventual community project for St. Michael's School.

Commissioner Schaler delivered the petition from the PETES community concerning the K-4 program.

**Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting of the Council of Commissioners will be held on September 29, 2015.

**C-14/15-231**

**Adjournment**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Daly that the meeting be adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Carried unanimously

RV/nb