

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
Western Québec School Board

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on April 30, 2019 at the Western Québec School Board, 15 rue Katimavik, Gatineau, Québec, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Guy, Commissioners Brunke, Daly, Dionne, Egan, Schaler, Garbutt, Graham, Larventz, Young and Parent-Commissioners, Davis and Cornforth.

Personnel:

Director of Buildings, Technology, and Archives Mr. P. Proulx
Director of Complementary Services L. Falasconi
Director of Human Resources Mr. T. Kharyati
Director of Education S. Aitken

REGRETS: Commissioners Labadie, McCrank, and Parent-Commissioners Brennan, and Boucher.

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

Call to Order:

Chair Guy called the meeting to order at 7.22 pm

Public Participation

Aksa Caleb, student of the WQSB and semi-finalist in the Poetry in Voice Contest, performed for the Council of Commissioners.

C-18/19-184

New Business

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that new business be added to the agenda – item 13.3 Proposed Legislation Bill 21: *An Act Respecting the Laicity of the State*.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-185

Adoption of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Cornforth that the agenda be adopted with the following modifications:

- Addition item 13.3 Proposed Legislation Bill 21: *An Act Respecting the Laicity of the State*.
- Removal of items 7.5 and 7.6

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-186

Approval of Minutes – March 26, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dionne that the minutes of a meeting held on March 26, 2019 be approved as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Chair's Report

Chair Guy presented his written report. Topics discussed included:

- Exceptional record flooding
- Meeting with Minister Mélanie Joly, Minister of Tourism, Official Languages, and La Francophonie
- News conference to launch APPELE-Québec
- 18th Edition of Music Makers at Palais des congrès de Gatineau
- WQSB Grand Défi luncheon

Director General's Report

The Director General, M. Dubeau, presented his written report. Topics discussed included:

- Outaouais flooding situation
- Management Advisory Committee (MAC)
- Resource Allocation Committee (RAC)
- 18th Edition of Music Makers at Palais des congrès de Gatineau
- School visits update
- Upcoming events of note

C-18/19-187

Executive Committee Report – April 23, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Executive Committee minutes of April 23, 2019.

Carried Unanimously

Commissioner Dionne left the meeting at 7:40pm

C-18/19-188

Public Call for Tenders – Mesure 50621 – MB Centre de formation l'Envol – Renovation of Main Entrance, Doors, and Stairs – 18510B016

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-111 approved the expense of \$200,000 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the above-mentioned project;

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

ACQ – Région de l'Outaouais
Gestion DMJ Entrepreneur Général
Les constructions N.G. Roy
Maçonnerie Gilles Caya Inc.

WHEREAS the following 2 tenders were received and recorded:

Maçonnerie Gilles Caya Inc.	\$86,473.92
Les constructions N.G. Roy	\$101,420.95

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the bid submitted by Maçonnerie Gilles Caya Inc., in the amount of \$86,473.92, excluding taxes and professional fees be accepted, and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx, be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-189

Public Call for Tenders – Mesure 50621 & 50626– MB South Hull Elementary School– Replacement of Heating System Phase 3 and Renovation of Junior Gymnasium – 18510B010

WHEREAS resolution C-17/18-200 approved the expense of \$720,293 for the heating system phase 3 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS resolution C-17/18-203 approved the expense of \$450,000 for the renovation of the junior gymnasium including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the above-mentioned project;

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

8577765 Canada Inc.
ACQ – Région de l'Outaouais
DLS Construction Inc.
Gestion DMJ Entrepreneur Général
Groupe GMR Construction Inc.
Industries CAMA

WHEREAS the following 2 tenders were received and recorded:

Industries CAMA	\$523,231
DLS Construction Inc.	\$577,000

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Daly that the bid submitted by Industries CAMA, in the amount of \$523,231 excluding taxes and professional fees be accepted and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-190

Public Call for Tenders – Mesure 50625 - MB LAJR Elementary School– Renovations of the Roof (Shingles) – 18510B015

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-112 approved the expense of \$160,000 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the above-mentioned project;

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

ACQ – Région de l'Outaouais

Couvreur Rolland
Les Toitures Raymond et ass. Inc.
Morin Isolation & Toitures Ltée
TMR3 Couvreur Inc.

WHEREAS the following 3 tenders were received and recorded:

Morin Isolation et Toitures Ltée	\$93,915
TMR3 Couvreur Inc.	\$143,000
Couvreur Rolland Boudreault Inc.	\$196,700

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that the bid submitted by Morin Isolation et Toitures Ltée, in the amount of \$93,915 excluding taxes and professional fees be accepted and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-191

Public Call for Tenders – Mesure 50621 - MB LAJR Elementary School– Replacement of Exterior Doors – 18510B011

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-200 approved the expense of \$200,000 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the above-mentioned project;

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

ACQ – Région de l’Outaouais
Defran Inc.
DLS Construction Inc.
Gestion DMJ
LCC & Associés Canada Inc.

WHEREAS the following 4 tenders were received and recorded:

Defran Inc.	\$122,422
Gestion DMJ	\$128,600
LCC & Associés Canada Inc.	\$129,600
DLS Construction Inc.	\$139,000

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that the bid submitted by Defran Inc., in the amount of \$122,422 excluding taxes and professional fees be accepted and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

Public Call for Tenders – Mesure 50625 & 50626– MB Noranda – Reorganization Phase 2 – 18510B012

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-203 approved the expense of \$900,000 for the renovations of level 0 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-203 approved the expense of \$701,834 for the renovations of level 1 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-203 approved the expense of \$700,000 for the renovations of level 2 including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS resolution C-18/19-112 approved the expense of \$130,000 for the renovations of the 3rd floor washrooms including taxes and professional fees for the above mentioned project;

WHEREAS a public call for tenders was made for the above-mentioned project;

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

ACQ – Région de l’Outaouais
 Association des professionnels de la construction et de l’habitation du Québec (APCHQ)
 Construction Benoit Doyon Inc.
 Construction Ferdinand Mercier Inc.
 Construction Normand Martel Inc.
 Groupe GMR Construction Inc.
 Hardy Construction
 J.Y. Moreau Électrique Inc.
 Les constructions N.G. Roy
 Les Constructions Pépin & Fortin Inc.
 Les Industries Blais Inc.

WHEREAS the following 2 tenders were received and recorded:

Construction Normand Martel Inc.	\$2,093,047.56
Hardy Construction	\$2,298,354.50

WHEREAS the lowest bid is conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the bid submitted by Construction Normand Martel Inc., in the amount of \$2,093,047.56 excluding taxes and professional fees be accepted and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

Group Buying Program – (Collecto) – New Computers – SAR130-2019

WHEREAS the WQSB has specific needs for the acquisition of supplies consisting of laptops, desktops, and tablets for administration and pedagogical services;

WHEREAS the opportunity to participate in the purchasing group offered by Collecto Services regrouped in education, SAR130-2019, Postes Informatiques et Moniteurs Neufs;

WHEREAS this grouping of purchases (Collecto) provides for a standing contract awarded to one or more selected suppliers whose submitted prices do not exceed the lowest price by more than 10%;

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies*, RLRQ C-65.1, r 5.1;

WHEREAS this type of contract requires the authorization of the chief executive officer of the public body before the notice of a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the contract will cover the period of 2 years, from October 1-2019 to September 30, 2021, with no option for renewal;

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Cornforth that the WQSB proceed with joining the contract for its purchasing of new computers through the Collecto program, and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-194

Group Buying Program – (Collecto) – Office Supplies (Lot 1) and Photocopy Paper by the Boxes (Lot 2) – SAR110-2019

WHEREAS the WQSB has specific needs for the acquisition of office supplies (Lot 1) and photocopy paper by the boxes (lot 2);

WHEREAS the opportunity to participate in the purchasing group offered by Collecto Services regrouped in education, SAR110-2019, Fournitures de bureau et papier d'impression à la boîte;

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies*, RLRQ C-65.1, r 5.1;

WHEREAS this type of contract requires the authorization of the chief executive officer of the public body before the notice of a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the contract will cover the period of 2 years, from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021, with an option for one additional year;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that the WQSB proceed with joining the contract for the purchasing of office supplies and photocopy paper by the box through the Collecto program, and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-195

Group Buying Program – (Collecto) – Photocopy Paper by the Skids – SAR120-2019-2

WHEREAS the WQSB has specific needs for the acquisition of the supplies of photocopy paper by the skid;

WHEREAS the opportunity to participate in the purchasing group offered by Collecto Services regrouped in education, SAR120-2019-2, Papier d'impression (Pallet);

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies*, RLRQ C-65.1, r 5.1;

WHEREAS this type of contract requires the authorization of the chief executive officer of the public body before the notice of a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the contract will cover the period of 1 year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) however, the mandate from Collecto will cover for 2 years, with no option for renewal;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Schaler that the WQSB proceed with joining the contract for the purchasing of photocopy paper by the skid through the Collecto program, and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-196

Group Buying Program – (Collecto) – Educational Technology Tools– SAR220-2019

WHEREAS the WQSB has specific needs for the acquisition of supplies consisting of educational technology tools;

WHEREAS the opportunity to participate in the purchasing group offered by Collecto Services regrouped in education, SAR220-2019, Équipements Pédagonumériques;

WHEREAS the *Regulation respecting certain supply contracts of public bodies*, RLRQ C-65.1, r 5.1;

WHEREAS this type of contract requires the authorization of the chief executive officer of the public body before the notice of a call for tenders is published;

WHEREAS the contract will cover the period of 2 years, from July 10, 2019 to July 9, 2021, with no option for renewal;

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Davis that the WQSB proceed with joining the contract for its purchasing of Educational Technology Tools through the Collecto Program, and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Archives, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-197

Public Call for Tenders — Financial Auditor, 2-year Contract, Optional 2-year Extension

WHEREAS a call for public tenders was made for the above mentioned contract;

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

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L. Samson et Associés
CPA / Consultation Inc.

Lévesque Marchand Welch
Marcil Lavallée S.E.N.C.

WHEREAS the following three (3) tenders were received and recorded:

Samson et Associés CPA / Consultation Inc.	128,000.00
Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L.	175,911.76
Marcil Lavallée S.E.N.C.	207,000.00

WHEREAS the lowest bid conformed;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that the bid submitted by Samson et Associés CPA / Consultation Inc., for a possible total of \$128,000.00 – if the option to renew is exercised – plus applicable taxes, be accepted for a 2-year contract, including a possible 2-year extension, starting with the 2018-2019 school year.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-198

Transportation Committee Report – April 10, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Transportation Ctee minutes of April 10, 2019.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-199

Revised G-1 Transportation Policy and Guidelines

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that, as recommended by the Transportation Committee, the revised G-1 Transportation Policy and Guidelines be sent for consultation.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-200

Parents Committee Report – March 18, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Davis that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Parents' Committee minutes of March 18, 2019.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-201

Governance & Ethics Ctee Report – February 25, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that Council acknowledge receipt of the Governance & Ethics Committee minutes of February 25, 2019.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-202

Audit Committee Report – April 23, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Audit Committee minutes of April 23, 2019.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-203

Proposed Calendar of Meetings 2019-2020 – Council of Commissioners

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Cornforth that the 2019-2020 calendar of meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the Western Québec School Board, as proposed by the Director General, be sent for public notice as called for by section 392 of the Education Act.

Carried Unanimously

C-18/19-204

Proposed Calendar of Meetings 2019-2020 – Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Davis that the 2019-2020 calendar of meetings of the Executive Committee of the Western Québec School Board, as proposed by the Director General, be sent for public notice as called for by section 392 of the Education Act.

Carried Unanimously

Commissioner Schaler left meeting at 8:40PM

C-18/19-205

Proposed Legislation Bill 21: An Act Respecting the Laicity of the State

WHEREAS the Quebec Government has introduced the proposed Bill 21; An Act Respecting the Laicity of the State, where it will prohibit the wearing of religious symbols by principals, vice principals, and teachers of educational institutions under the jurisdiction of a school board established under the Education Act (chapter I-13.3) in the exercise of their functions;

WHEREAS the Western Quebec School Board (WQSB) believes in the secularism of the state while supporting an individual's right to freedom of religion;

WHEREAS the WQSB believes a religious symbol worn by an educator does not have an impact on their ability to teach and provide quality education toward the success of our students;

WHEREAS the WQSB values inclusive learning environment where students are taught about tolerance, diversity and respect for individual rights and religious freedoms;

WHEREAS the WQSB applies an Equal Access Program where it encourages people of different faiths to work within our institutions and become members of our communities;

WHEREAS the WQSB has never received a complaint from a student, a parent or any of its stakeholders about the wearing of religious symbols in its schools;

WHEREAS the WQSB strongly believes that this proposed Bill 21 legislation would be contrary to the Canadian Charter of Rights and freedoms, Constitution Act, 1982, and the Quebec Charter of Human rights and freedoms (C-12) which guarantees the rights and freedoms including:

- 2 (a) Freedom of conscience and religion
- 2 (b) Freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communications;
- 15. (1) Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability;

- Chapter C-12 Section 3 - Every person is the possessor of the fundamental freedoms, including freedom of conscience, freedom of religion, freedom of opinion, freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association.
- Chapter c-12 Section 10 - Every person has a right to full and equal recognition and exercise of his human rights and freedoms, without distinction, exclusion or preference based on race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, civil status, age except as provided by law, religion, political convictions, language, ethnic or national origin, social condition, a handicap or the use of any means to palliate a handicap.- Discrimination exists where such a distinction, exclusion or preference has the effect of nullifying or impairing such right.

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt

That the WQSB indicate its strong opposition to the proposed Bill 21 legislation by the Government of Quebec that prohibits or restricts the wearing of religious symbols by principals, vice principals, and teachers of educational institutions under the jurisdiction of a school board established under the Education Act in the exercise of their functions and duties in our schools and classrooms.

C-18/19-206

Proposed Amendment to Motion C-18/19-205

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that motion C-18/19-205 be amended to include the following paragraph between the 4th and 5th WHEREAS:

WHEREAS the WQSB believes that the wearing of religious symbols has no impact on the provision of education in our schools and classrooms.

For:	8
Against:	1
Abstained:	0

Motion carried

C-18/19-207

Proposed Re-Amendment to the Amended Motion C-18/19-205

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Larventz that the motion C-18/19-205 be re-amended to also include the following paragraph as the last WHEREAS:

WHEREAS the WQSB states its refusal to adopt a policy that prohibits or restricts its' employees from wearing religious symbols during the execution of their duties and functions in all of its schools and classroom

For:	6
Against:	3
Abstained:	0

Motion carried

C-18/19-208

Motion to Limit Debate

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that debate cease on the proposed amended and re-amended motion C-18/19-205.

For: 6

Against: 2

Abstained: 1

Motion carried

On the main motion (C-18/19-205) as amended (C-18/19-206) and re-amended (C-18/19-207)

For: 6

- Commissioners Garbutt, Larventz,
Young, Cornforth, Graham, Davis

Against: 3

- Commissioners Daly, Brunke, Egan

Motion carried

C-18/19-209

Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Cornforth that the meeting be adjourned at 9.15 p.m.