

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on November 26, 2019 at the Western Québec School Board, 15 rue Katimavik, Gatineau, Québec, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Personnel:

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

REGRETS: Commissioners Schaler and Brennan.

The Director General, M. Dubeau, the Secretary General – Director of Corporate Services, G. Singfield, and the Assistant Director General / Director of Education, Adult Education/Vocational Training, R. Ahern were also present.

Public Participation

The Health Care Team at Pontiac Continuing Education Centre, Heidi Hall, Susanne Poirier, and Kim Greene were presented with the “Prix Coup de cœur” from Éducation internationale.

Mr. Smeltzer addressed the Council on his observations and concerns regarding Sir George Berwick and the Travel Policy.

Call to Order:

Chair Guy called the meeting to order at 7:18 pm

C-19/20-37 Adoption of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Egan that the agenda be adopted with the additions of:

Agenda item 14.1: Mr. Skete’s Visit

Agenda item 14.2: Support for Charter Challenge

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-38 Approval of Minutes – October 29, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie that the minutes of a meeting held on October 29, 2019 be approved as circulated.

Chair’s Report

Chair Guy presented his written report. Topics discussed included:

- Draft Bill 40 follow-up
- QESBA PD session – 1&2 November: Boucherville
- Public Consultation – Transportation Boundaries

- Remembrance Day Celebrations – Namur School
- Board office Social Committee – Halloween Event
- First Nations Ad Hoc Committee
- His meeting with MNA Mr. Fortin

Director General’s Report

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

- Resource Allocation Committee (RAC) – Report
- Fraser Report Recognizes WQSB Schools
- Destination Leaders
- P.R.O.C.E.D.E Conference
- Convention on Perseverance and Academic Achievement for First Peoples
- WQSB Consultations on Enrolment Criteria and Transportation Boundaries
- Upcoming WQSB Events, Professional Development and Meetings

C-19/20-39 Executive Committee Report – November 19, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Davis that Council acknowledge receipt of the draft Executive Committee minutes of November 19, 2019.

Carried unanimously

Parent-Commissioner Boucher arrived at 7:53pm

Commissioners Boucher and Dionne left the meeting at 7:54pm

Commissioners Boucher and Dionne returned to the meeting at 7:57pm

C-19/20-40 Delegation of Authority – Notice Based on Article 121 of the Education Act

WHEREAS there is a need to modify the rights of ownership for sixteen schools;

WHEREAS this administrative process requires the signature of a school board representative to authorize the Notary to proceed with the “Notice”;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner McCrank to delegate the right of signature for the “Notice” based on article 121 of the Education Act to Mike Dubeau, Director General of the Western Quebec School Board.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Daly left the meeting at 8:14pm

Commissioner Daly returned to the meeting at 8:18pm

Commissioner Young left the meeting at 8:19pm

C-19/20-41 Group Buying Program – (Collecto) – Inspection and Preventative Maintenance of the Alarm System and the Anti-Backflow Devices – SAR460-2019

WHEREAS our contract for the inspection and preventative maintenance of the fire alarm system has ended;

WHEREAS our contract for the inspection and preventative maintenance of the anti-backflow devices has ended;

WHEREAS the opportunity to participate in the purchasing group offered by Collecto, SAR460-2019;

WHEREAS the mandate given to Collecto requires the authorization of the chief executive officer of the public body;

WHEREAS the contract will cover a period of 3 years with an option of two additional years;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the WQSB proceed with joining the mandate for the inspection and preventative maintenance of the alarm system and the anti-backflow devices – SAR460-2019 through the Collecto program, and that the Director of Buildings, Technology and Transportation, Mr. P. Proulx be authorized to sign all documents necessary to give full effect to this resolution.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Young returned to the meeting at 8:23pm

C-19/20-42 Financial Statements 2018-2019

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Boucher that the Western Québec School Board's Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2019 be accepted as deposited.

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-43 D-1 Reimbursement of Expenses

WHEREAS the Director of Finance has recommended the addition of the following paragraph to the D-1 Reimbursement of Expenses Policy:

“Commissioners, travelling as to represent Council or for professional improvement related to their role within Council, shall be reimbursed at the current established rate per kilometer for the total kilometers travelled.”

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie that Council accept the addition of the above stated paragraph to Policy D-1 as recommended by the Director of Finance.

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-44 Parents' Committee Report – October 28, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Boucher that Council acknowledge receipt of the approved parents' committee minutes of October 28, 2019

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Daly left the meeting at 8:33pm

C-19/20-45 Educational Policy Committee Report – May 22, 2019

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie that Council acknowledge receipt of the approved educational policy committee minutes of May 22, 2019.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Daly returned to the meeting at 8:34pm

C-19/20-46 Revised Policy E-9 Appropriate Use of Technology Devices and Technological Resources

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garbutt that, as recommended by the Governance & Ethics Committee, the revised Policy E-9 Appropriate Use of Technology Devices and Technological Resources be sent for consultation.

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-47 Support for Charter Challenge

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Board Association (QESBA) adopted a detailed Strategic Plan in January of 2019;

Whereas one of the main sections in the Strategic Plan is the promotion of English public education and all of the encompassing elements surrounding students, parents, and communities;

Whereas the Board of Directors of the QESBA has voted to establish a one-time fund to promote English public education as per the QESBA Strategic Plan and is requesting a one-time contribution from all nine member boards towards this fund;

Whereas the Western Quebec School Board is contributing to the QESBA fund for the anticipated legal challenges;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dionne that the Western Quebec School Board contribute an amount of \$10 000 (ten thousand dollars) from the financial allotment allocated to Western Quebec School Board Commissioners as an exceptional, one-time contribution to the QESBA for the defense of English public education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: should this special QESBA fund not be used, in whole or in part, for the purpose of legal challenges, the unused contribution of the Western Quebec School Board will be returned to the Western Quebec School Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a regular report concerning the allocation of funds will be rendered to council.

For:	10
Against:	0
Abstained:	1

Motion carried

C-19/20-48 Proposed Amendment to Motion C-19/20-47

IT WAS MOVED BY Parent-Commissioner Cornforth to amend the proposed motion to include the following amendment: replace *for the purposes it was intended* with *for the purpose of legal challenges*.

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-49 Proposed Re-Amendment to the Amended Motion C-19/20-47
MOVED BY Commissioner Labadie to amend the proposed motion to include the following amendment: replace *for the purpose of legal challenges* with *for the defense of English public education*.

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-50 Letter of Support
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Labadie to have chairman Guy write a letter of support to the “Résolution - Demande au gouvernement du Québec de sursoir à sa décision d’abolir les commissions scolaires.”

Carried unanimously

C-19/20-51 Adjournment
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brunke that the meeting be adjourned at 9:46 p.m.