

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A meeting of the English Montreal School Board was held in the Laurence Patterson Room, 6000 Fielding Avenue, on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 4:35 p.m.

Commissioners Present

Ms. Angela Mancini, Chairman
Me Joe Ortona, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Mordechai Antal
Mr. Agostino Cannavino
Mr. Julien Feldman
Mr. Norm Gharibian, Parent Commissioner
Mr. James Kromida
Mr. Joseph Lalla
Me Patricia Lattanzio (Present by telephone)
Ms. Sylvia Lo Bianco
Mr. Pietro Mercuri, Parent Commissioner
Mr. Rosario Ortona (Present by telephone)
Mr. Bernie Praw
Mr. Andrew Ross, Parent Commissioner

Absent

Ms. Mubeenah Mughal, Parent Commissioner

Present:

Ms. A. M. Matheson, Director General
Me B. Duhême, Deputy Director General, Administration Division
Ms. E. Alfonsi, Deputy Director General, Education Division
Me L. Roy, Director of Legal Services, Acting Secretary General
Ms. P. Nickoletopoulos, Regional Director, West
Mr. J. Pevec, Regional Director, East
Mr. M. Cardin, Director of Material Resources
Mr. C. Della Rocca, Director of Adult Education and Vocational Services
Ms. S. Furfaro, Director of Educational and Technology Services
Ms. S. Léveillé, Director of School Organization
Mr. L. Lewis, Director of Student Services
Ms. L. Nassivera, Director of Financial Services
Ms. A. Watson, Director of Human Resources
Mr. M. J. Cohen, Communications and Marketing Specialist
Ms. C. Colasessano, Administrative Technician, Secretary General

1. Approval of Agenda

The following amendments were proposed to the agenda -

2.7 Importance of Non-Intervention

#3A Long Range Planning Committee's Recommendations Following Consultation Re: the Opening of a New Français Plus Program / Relocation of FOCUS and Outreach (on the Agenda as #10.1)

22.1 Four-Year Old Pre-K

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved with the amendments.

VOTE: 10-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. A. Ross absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-1

2. In Camera Session

2.1 Motion to Recess and Move In Camera

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT Council move in camera at 4:45 p.m.

VOTE: 10-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. A. Ross absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-2.1

The meeting reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

2.3 Chairman's Report

Mrs. A. Mancini gave a formal apology to Mrs. A.M. Matheson and Me B. Duhême for occurrences that took place during the March 28, 2018 Board meeting.

3. Canada's Outstanding Principals Award – Marisa Mineiro

Mr. J. Pevec informed Council that Marisa Mineiro, Principal of Michelangelo International, is a recipient of the 2019 Canada's Outstanding Principals Award. She is a sharing, helping and guiding principal, one who has created a happy and harmonious school environment. Ms. Mineiro encourages and models the ten attributes of the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile; - to be an inquirer, knowledgeable, a thinker, a communicator, principled, open-minded, caring, a risk-taker, balanced and reflective. She is a life-long learner, bringing new practices and principles into teaching. She demonstrates that the thoughts and contributions of everyone are important. Marisa was congratulated by everyone in attendance!

3A. Follow-Up to Consultation

Long Range Planning Committee's Recommendations Following Consultation Re: the Opening of a New Français Plus Program / Relocation of FOCUS and Outreach

WHEREAS Edinburgh Elementary School is at 127% capacity, Merton Elementary School is at 100% capacity, and Willingdon Elementary School is at over 90% capacity, the Council adopted Resolution #18-06-27-7 asking the Long Range Planning Committee to look into a solution to the general over-crowding of immersion elementary schools in the west-end;

WHEREAS on October 10, 2018, the Long Range Planning Committee held an extended meeting with Council and recommended that the former St. Ignatius building at 4850 Avenue Coronation be used for a new Français Plus School;

WHEREAS Council adopted Resolution #18-10-24-10.2 approving, for the purpose of consultation, the proposal made by the Long Range Planning Committee for the former St. Ignatius building to be used for a new Français Plus School;

WHEREAS those consulted were invited to provide their written feedback to the school board by Tuesday, January 8, 2019 by noon;

WHEREAS those consulted were invited to a session of public hearings on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 to provide their feedback on this proposal to the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS the overall feedback received was positive regarding the re-opening the former St. Ignatius building and the opening of a Français Plus program in order to 1) offer a more extensive French program and 2) alleviate crowding in THREE elementary schools: Edinburgh, Merton and Willingdon;

WHEREAS the overall feedback received demonstrated an acceptance of the need to use the St-Ignatius building due to overcrowding in three west-end elementary schools and thus the need to re-locate FOCUS and Outreach, both currently housed in the former St-Ignatius building, to James Lyng High School;

WHEREAS concerns were raised by the Edinburgh Governing Board that the opening of a new school would not alleviate their overcrowding quickly enough and thus, they suggested an annex to Edinburgh be provide as soon as the fall of 2019;

WHEREAS the Edinburgh Governing Board requested that the Mountainview Social Affairs School be allocated to Edinburgh Elementary School as an annex and that the Long Range Planning Committee find an appropriate place to re-locate those students;

WHEREAS the Long Range Planning Committee had already performed an extensive study of that scenario and had rejected it based on two significant factors: 1) the students of Mountainview, being the board's most vulnerable students, need to be in a building on their own, separated from all other students for the safety and security of all, and where they have their own exclusive use of a gymnasium, and 2) because giving an annex to Edinburgh will not solve the larger problem of overcrowding in the west-end;

WHEREAS on January 10, 2019, the Long Range Planning Committee held a meeting and examined, in detail, all of the recommendations submitted in writing by January 8th and presented at the hearings on January 9th;

WHEREAS the Long Range Planning Committee studied and re-considered whether a new Français Plus school should be opened in the St-Ignatius building or whether one of the three west-end schools experiencing overcrowding (Edinburgh, Merton or Willingdon), should take over the St-Ignatius building as a Junior campus (pre-k to grade 2) in order to immediately alleviate overcrowding in their own school and in the other two west-end schools;

WHEREAS the school that takes over the St-Ignatius building as their second campus, could also offer the Français Plus Program to the whole of their school as either their only program or as a second option program;

WHEREAS the Long Range Planning Committee has as its mandate to provide scenarios for consultation and consideration by the Council that meet the needs of the school board at large while taking into consideration the needs of individual schools;

WHEREAS on January 16, 2019 the Council adopted Resolution #19-01-16-3.2 approving for the purpose of consultation the amended proposal made by the Long Range Planning Committee that all three of the elementary schools in the west-end who are experiencing overcrowding be consulted on whether they would be willing to:

- take over the former St-Ignatius building in which they would offer a Junior campus of their school (Pre K to grade 2) as of August 2019; and
- offer a Français Plus program option in their school within the next 18 months;
- accept over-flow students from the other two elementary students given the increased number of classrooms assigned to their school over two sites;

WHEREAS the following groups have provided feedback on this consultation subject:

1. Governing Board of Edinburgh
2. Governing Board of Merton
3. Governing Board of Willingdon
4. EMSB Parents' Committee (EMSBPC)
5. Central Management Advisory Committee (CMAC)
6. Association Professionnelle Du Personnel Administratif (APPA)
7. Advisory Committee on Special Education Services (ACSES)
8. Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA)

WHEREAS based on the feedback received during the consultation process the Long Range Planning Committee recommends the following:

Focus and Outreach

- that Focus and Outreach move to James Lyng High School as of July 1st, 2019;

Edinburgh School

- that the Edinburgh administration work to reduce the school population to its maximum capacity of 100% over the next three school years;
- that the Director General mandate the Edinburgh administration to only open two (2) Kindergarten classes per year until the overcrowding is completely resolved;
- that in so doing, the Edinburgh would regain one regular class every year – eventually alleviating the need for any mobile classrooms by the 2022-23 school year;
- that in 2019-20, three (3) mobile classrooms be rented and installed on the Edinburgh property to temporarily alleviate the overcrowding and allowing the school to have a Science & Technology room, a Music room and a Resource / Tutoring room;
- that in 2020-21 Edinburgh maintain two (2) mobile classrooms;
- that in 2021-22 Edinburgh maintains one (1) mobile classroom;

Willingdon School

- that the building liberated by Focus and Outreach, a building known as the former St-Ignatius building, be annexed to Willingdon School as of July 1, 2019;

- that Willingdon use the former St-Ignatius building as their annex for the senior students in grades 5 and 6;
- that Willingdon offer the Français Plus program in their school;
- that Willingdon accept over-flow students from the other two elementary students given the increased number of classrooms assigned to their school over two sites;
- that the Administration of the EMSB take all necessary steps to ensure that the concerns of Willingdon's community be addressed and that necessary measures be taken to ensure a smooth transition of students into the annex;

Material Resources (MR) Department

- that MR examine the area that Focus and Outreach will now occupy at James Lyng and present a budget to the Council of Commissioners for upgrades needing to be completed over the summer of 2019 to make these classes (formerly used by Centennial College) ready for the students of Focus and Outreach;
- that MR make all necessary arrangements to place a public tender on SEAO to rent and install three mobile classrooms on the Edinburgh property in time for the beginning of classes in August 2019 according to the rental schedule above;
- that MR attain any necessary permits from the Town of Montreal West for the installation of the mobile classrooms;
- that MR examine the St-Ignatius building and present a budget to the Council of Commissioners for upgrades needing to be completed over the summer of 2019 to make the building ready for the Willingdon students in the fall of 2019.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA THAT FOCUS and Outreach move to James Lyng High School as of July 1st, 2019; and THAT the deeds of establishment of FOCUS, Outreach and James Lyng High School be modified accordingly;

IT IS FURTHER MOVED THAT the Material Resources Department make all necessary arrangements in terms of budget, public tender and permits to rent and install mobile classrooms on the Edinburgh School property according to the following schedule: three (3) mobiles in 2019-20, two mobile classrooms in 2020-21 and one mobile classroom in 2021-22;

IT IS FURTHER MOVED THAT Willingdon School take over the building known as the former St-Ignatius building located at 4850 avenue Coronation in NDG as their senior annex for students in grade 5 and 6, the whole as per the terms and conditions discussed during Council meeting, and THAT the deed of establishment of Willingdon be modified accordingly;

IT IS FURTHER MOVED THAT the Three Year Plan would be modified to reflect these changes;

IT IS FURTHER MOVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governing Boards of Edinburgh, Merton and Willingdon.

Mr. J. Lalla proposed an amendment and moved to increase the number of mobile classrooms on the Edinburgh School property to four (4) for 2019-20, three (3) for 2020-21, two (2) for 2021-22 and one (1) mobile classroom for 2022-23.

Vote on amendment: 14-0-0, Motion Carried.

Mr. J. Kromida proposed an amendment and moved to increase the number of mobile classrooms on the Edinburgh School property to five (5) for 2019-20, four (4) for 2020-21, three (3) for 2021-22, two (2) mobile classrooms for 2022-23 and one for 2023-24.

Vote on amendment: 6-8-0, Motion Defeated. (Mr. M. Antal, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla, Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Mr. P. Mercuri, Ms. A. Mancini voted in favour; Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. N. Gharibian, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. R. Ortona, Mr. B. Praw, Mr. A. Ross, Mr. J. Ortona voted against)

Ms. S. Lo Bianco proposed an amendment that the Material Resources Department look into having plans drawn up to add an extension to the Edinburgh School building.

Ms. Lo Bianco and Ms. Lattanzio called the vote on the amendment:

Vote: 11-3-0, Motion Carried. (Mr. J. Lalla, Mr. A. Ross and Ms. A. Mancini voted against)

Vote on amendment: 4-10-0, Motion Defeated. (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. N. Gharibian, Mr. J. Kromida, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. P. Mercuri, Mr. R. Ortona, Mr. B. Praw, Mr. A. Ross and Mr. J. Ortona voted against)

VOTE ON THE MAIN MOTION INCLUDING ADOPTED AMENDMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT FOCUS and Outreach move to James Lyng High School as of July 1st, 2019; and THAT the deeds of establishment of FOCUS, Outreach and James Lyng High School be modified accordingly;

IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Material Resources Department make all necessary arrangements in terms of budget, public tender and permits to rent and install mobile classrooms on the Edinburgh School property according to the following schedule: four (4) mobile classrooms for 2019-20, three (3) for 2020-21, two (2) for 2021-22 and one (1) mobile classroom for 2022-23;

IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT Willingdon School take over the building known as the former St-Ignatius building located at 4850 avenue Coronation in NDG as their senior annex for students in grade 5 and 6, the whole as per the terms and conditions discussed during Council meeting, and THAT the deed of establishment of Willingdon be modified accordingly;

IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Three Year Plan would be modified to reflect these changes;

IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governing Boards of Edinburgh, Merton and Willingdon.

VOTE: 14-0-0. ADOPTED.

Resolution #19-02-20-3A

4. Adoption of Resolution(s) from In Camera -

2.8 List of Contracts That Were Given Gré à Gré

It was moved by Mrs. A. Mancini that Council receive a list of all contracts that were given gré à gré, without tendering.

Mr. R. Ortona called for a vote on the call of the vote.

VOTE: 5-7-1. MOTION DEFEATED.

In favour

Mr. M. Antal, Mr. N. Gharibian, Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Mr. A. Ross, Ms. A. Mancini

Against	Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. P. Mercuri, Mr. R. Ortona, Mr. B. Praw, Mr. J. Ortona
Abstained	Ms. P. Lattanzio
Absent for the vote	Mr. J. Lalla

5. First Question Period

None.

6. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting Held on -

6.1 December 19, 2018

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the December 19, 2018 meeting be approved as presented.

VOTE: 11-0-1. ADOPTED. (Ms. S. Lo Bianco abstained; Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla not present for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-6.1

6.2 January 16, 2019

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the January 16, 2019 meeting be approved as presented.

VOTE: 10-0-1. ADOPTED. (Ms. S. Lo Bianco abstained; Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla not present for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-6.2

6.3 January 28, 2019

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. A. ROSS AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the January 28, 2019 meeting be approved as presented.

VOTE: 10-0-1. ADOPTED. (Ms. P. Lattanzio abstained; Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla not present for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-6.3

6.4 February 6, 2019

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the February 6, 2019 meeting be approved as presented.

VOTE: 10-0-1. ADOPTED. (Ms. S. Lo Bianco abstained; Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla not present for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-6.4

7. Business Arising Out of Minutes –

7.1 Follow-up to Ethics Report (Resolution #18-12-19-12.1) A.M. Matheson vs. A. Mancini and S. Lo Bianco

In his capacity as Chairman of the Governance & Ethics Committee, Mr. J. Lalla stated that the requirements of the resolution had been met.

7.2 Parent's Email (Gerald McShane)

Mr. A. Cannavino asked for a follow-up on the dossier. The Director General informed Council that she had met with the parent, explained the process, told the parent that she was sorry the child hadn't received services sooner and that following the meeting, the child would receive professional support the very next day. In January, the Board hired a resource person to give the child supplemental support to remediate some of the delays in the process. Mrs. Matheson informed Council that the family is satisfied.

7.3 Chabad Lifeline

Mr. A. Cannavino stated that he had asked for a copy of the contract but received only a copy of the invoice. He was told that there is no contract with this provider and was given a general summary of services that they offer.

The Chairman requested that Council move in camera at 9:30 p.m. Ms. S. Lo Bianco did not agree.

Council resumed the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

7.4 Legal Fees

Mr. A. Cannavino informed Council that the total amount spent on legal fees over the last 2 years is \$265,000. Mr. Cannavino asked the Chairman to reimburse some of the fees.

8. In Memoriam

WHEREAS the Board values the contribution made by its employees;

WHEREAS the Board wishes to take official cognizance of the passing of any member of its large family of employees;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board note with regret the passing of -

Colette Bélanger, Retired Office Agent Class I, Material Resources Department, on December 31, 2018;

Adrian Clark, Substitute Teacher, on January 1, 2019;

Pat D'Ornellas, Retired Registration/Bill 101 Agent, School Organization Department, on January 3, 2019;

Linda Flynn, Retired Office Agent Class II, Book and Media Processing Centre, Educational and Technology Services Department;

Merle Holloway, Retired Office Agent Principal Class, School Organization Department, on January 19, 2019;

Sharon Browman (née Shulman), Retired Consultant, Educational and Technology Services Department, on February 5, 2019;

Itrat Ahmad, Retired Principal, Parkdale School, on February 7, 2019.

and that an expression of sympathy be sent to the bereaved families.

Resolution #19-02-20-8

9. Nadeau Report

WHEREAS Mr. Michel Nadeau from the Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations (IGOPP) was asked to submit a Report to the English Montreal School Board regarding its governance;

WHEREAS the EMSB Council of Commissioners received the report entitled *The EMSB Governance: practices and Recommendations* on October 15, 2018 and Management on October 16, 2018;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. S. LO BIANCO THAT there be received and deposited Mr. Michel Nadeau's Report entitled *The EMSB Governance: practices and Recommendations* by Michel Nadeau, Executive Director of the Institute for Governance.

- IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. ORTONA AND RESOLVED THAT the item be **TABLED** until Council is ready to accept the report.

VOTE: 9-3-0. ADOPTED.

In favour	Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. N. Gharibian, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. P. Mercuri, Mr. R. Ortona, Mr. B. Praw, Mr. A. Ross, Mr. J. Ortona
Against	Mr. J. Lalla Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Ms. A. Mancini
Absent for the vote	Mr. M. Antal, Mr. J. Kromida

Resolution #19-02-20-9

10. 10.1 Follow-Up to Consultation Long Range Planning Committee's Recommendations Following Consultation Re: the Opening of a New Français Plus Program / Relocation of FOCUS and Outreach

Item dealt with at #3A.

10.2 Policy SG – EMSB Policy on Video Surveillance

WHEREAS there was a need to establish clear guidelines for the EMSB Schools, Centres and Facilities with regards with the use of video surveillance;

WHEREAS a draft Policy on Video Surveillance was presented to the members of the Governance and Ethics committee on December 12, 2018;

WHEREAS the Board approved resolution #18-12-19-14.1 on December 19, 2018, on the recommendation by the Governance and Ethics Committee, to send out for consultation purposes the Policy on Video Surveillance (SG-11) to the following groups:

1. The Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA),
2. Association professionnelle du personnel administratif (APPA),
3. Association québécoise des cadres scolaires (AQCS),
4. Central Management Advisory Committee (CMAC),
5. EMSB Parents Committee, (EMSBPC)
6. Montreal Teachers Association (MTA),
7. Québec Federation of Labour (QFL) and

8. Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels du milieu de l'éducation de Montréal(SPPMEM);

WHEREAS the consultation period ended on February 15th, 2019;

WHEREAS the feedback received from the Unions and Associations was taken into consideration and used to revise the Policy;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. B. PRAW AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners approve the Policy SG-11 - EMSB Video Surveillance, as submitted to the meeting, effective immediately.

VOTE: 11-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal, Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Mr. J. Kromida not present for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-10.2

10.3 Abolishment of Policy PS – 1 - Sex Education

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee, at its December 12, 2018, meeting recognized that the Sex Education Policy (PS-1) and Procedure (PS-1P) needed to be abolished;

WHEREAS the Board approved resolution #18-12-19-14.2 on December 19, 2018, permitting the Governance and Ethics Committee, to send out for consultation purposes the abolishment of the Sex Education Policy (PS-1) and Procedure (PS-1P) to the following groups:

1. Central Management Advisory Committee (CMAC), and
2. EMSB Parents Committee, (EMSBPC)

WHEREAS the consultation period ended on February 15th, 2019;

WHEREAS the feedback received from the parties consulted was taken into consideration and used to abolish the Policy;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners approve the abolishment of the Sex Education Policy (PS-1) and Procedure (PS-1P), as submitted to the meeting, effective immediately.

VOTE: 11-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal, Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Mr. J. Kromida not present for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-10.3

10.4 Article 240 Status Renewals

WHEREAS Section 240 of the Education Act indicates that, by way of exception, at the request of a group of parents and after consulting with the parents' committee, a school board may, with the approval of the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) establish a school for the purpose of a Specific Project, subject to the conditions and for the period determined by the Minister;

WHEREAS Section 240 also indicates that the school board may determine the criteria for the enrollment of the students in schools with a Specific Project;

WHEREAS the MEES requires that schools wishing to do so, renew their request for authorization;

WHEREAS the Governing Boards and Staff Councils of ROYAL VALE SCHOOL, ROYAL WEST ACADEMY, AND VINCENT MASSEY COLLEGIATE have affirmed their request for the maintenance and support of its Specific Project Status;

WHEREAS pertinent documentation has been prepared by the schools concerned and reviewed by Board Administrators;

WHEREAS EPC has reviewed and approved this documentation;

WHEREAS the EMSB Parents' Committee has also reviewed and approved this documentation;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. N. GHARIBIAN AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the request for the renewal of the Specific Project Status for ROYAL VALE SCHOOL, ROYAL WEST ACADEMY, AND VINCENT MASSEY COLLEGIATE be approved and be forwarded to the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur for authorization to continue its specific educational project, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting.

VOTE: 12-0-0. ADOPTED. (Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Mr. J. Kromida absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-10.4

Mr. N. Gharibian requested that in future, the resolutions be split by school.

11. Monthly Reports

11.1 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services)

No report.

11.2 CGTSIM (Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal)

Ms. P. Lattanzio informed Council that on February 5th, the Comité presented the Brief on School Tax Reform, Draft Bill #3, before the Finance Committee of the Quebec National Assembly. Members of Parliament are currently debating the various sections of the proposed Draft Bill and the Comité hopes that the recommendations proposed by them will be examined and seriously considered. A copy of the Brief is available on the Comité's website.

11.3 EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee)

Mr. B. Praw informed Council that the Committee held a Leadership Challenge and discussion ensued on the 2019 Budget-Building Process including the Budget Priorities and Guiding Principles.

11.4 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee)

Mr. A. Ross informed Council that a representative had been elected to a special needs committee. The Committee completed and presented Briefs to the Board. The Committee is also considering the creation of a joint task force to avoid camp-outs during registration period, like those experienced in the west-end sector.

11.5 QESBA (Quebec English School Boards Association)

Mr. J. Ortona informed Council of the passing of Jim Shea, Chairman of the Western Quebec School Board and Vice-President of QESBA. On behalf of the Board, he extended condolences to the family. Mr. Noel Burke, Chairman of LSBPSB was acclaimed Vice-President of QESBA.

12. Report from Ethics Commissioner(s)

12.1 Ann Marie Matheson vs. Angela Mancini

WHEREAS Me Michèle St-Onge, the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Ethics Commissioner, has rendered her decision on the Ann Marie Matheson vs. Angela Mancini complaint case filed on May 15, 2018;

WHEREAS the mandate of the Ethics Commissioner and its Substitute is to apply the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct of Members of the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB (hereinafter the “Code of Ethics”) and to provide for sanctions in accordance with the *Education Act*;

WHEREAS the Ethics Commissioner took into consideration, in her decision, the gravity of the breaches which is in relation with prudence, diligence, honesty, loyalty in Mrs. Mancini’s behaviour, and communication that shall be dignified and compatible with her function as Chair of the School Board;

WHEREAS the Ethics Commissioner stated that Mrs. Mancini, Chairman of the EMSB, is the first Officer of the School Board who shall give the example in the behaviour and communication with the administration, and more particularly with the Director General of the School Board;

WHEREAS the Ethics Commissioner decided that Angela Mancini breached sections 5.1.2 and 5.1.4 of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, which read:

5.1.2 The commissioner fulfils his office with independence, integrity and good faith in the best interests of the School Board and the population served by the School Board. He acts with prudence, diligence, honesty, loyalty and assiduity as would a reasonable and responsible person in similar circumstances.

5.1.4 The commissioner must at all times adopt a style of behavior and communication that is dignified and compatible with his office in order to protect and promote the image and credibility of the School Board.

WHEREAS in her decision dated December 19, 2018, Me St-Onge recommends that the following sanction be imposed upon Angela Mancini:

- A public reprimand: written reprimand read at a public meeting of Commissioners.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners acknowledge the decision rendered on December 19, 2018 by Me Michèle St-Onge in the case of Ann Marie Matheson vs. Angela Mancini, and that a public reprimand be read at a public meeting of Commissioners.

VOTE: 11-2-0. ADOPTED. (Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Ms. A. Mancini voted against, Mr. B. Praw absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-12

It was moved by Ms. P. Lattanzio, and agreed to, that the name of the employee be redacted from the document.

At 10:35 p.m., it was moved by Mr. A. Cannavino, and agreed that the meeting continue.

13. Referral to the Ethics Commissioner

WHEREAS Angela Mancini, Chair of the English Montreal School Board and Sylvia Lo Bianco, School Commissioner and former Vice-Chair of the English Montreal School Board have had ethics complaints lodged against them under the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct of the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board;

WHEREAS on August 14, 2018 Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco contested the decisions of the Ethics Commissioners, Me St-Onge and Me Battah, to retain those ethics complaints by filing applications for judicial review in Superior Court against the Ethics Commissioners;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco, through their attorneys, asked a judge, *ex parte*, that the hearings for the applications for judicial review be held in camera, access to all documents to outside parties be prohibited, the disclosure of any information and all documents to outside parties be prohibited, the circulation of any information and all documents to outside parties be prohibited and that the anonymity of Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco be protected;

WHEREAS on August 15, 2018 a bailiff served the EMSB with the applications for judicial review as an impleaded party (mise-en-cause) to these legal proceedings;

WHEREAS upon seeing the item on the draft agenda before the regular meeting of August 29, 2018, Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco, through their attorneys, sent the Secretary General of the EMSB a letter stating that she must not disclose any information about the applications for judicial review to anyone including the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS on August 27, 2018 Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco tried to have the EMSB removed as an impleaded party (mise en cause) to the applications for judicial review, which would have prevented the Council of Commissioners from knowing about the existence of the case before the Superior Court;

WHEREAS on August 28, 2018 a judge of the Superior Court rendered a decision that the EMSB had a right to be included, intervene and make representations in the legal proceedings;

WHEREAS on August 29, 2018 the Council of Commissioners held its regular meeting and senior management had placed the court item entitled Legal Proceedings, in draft form, back on the agenda as an in camera item following the decision of the Superior Court Judge on the previous day;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, Angela Mancini said that she objected to the addition of this item and would strike it off the agenda, stating that discussing this item would “put the board at risk”;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini spoke to this item and made representations on the topic in an attempt to influence the vote on whether Legal Proceedings would remain on the agenda;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco did not disclose a real or apparent conflict of interest in regards to this item, which was their court case, at that time;

WHEREAS following debate by Council members and a call for the vote, Council voted to add item Legal Proceedings to the agenda;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco, both personally involved in these Legal Proceedings and thus, likely in a conflict of interest, participated in the vote of whether to add Legal Proceedings to the agenda;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco, likely in a conflict of interest, continued to participate in the in-camera portion of the meeting regarding the Legal Proceedings item;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco, both involved in these proceedings and thus likely in a conflict of interest, did not voluntarily leave the meeting until they were informed of potential ethics violations if they did not do so;

WHEREAS the in camera discussion on Legal Proceedings contained confidential and privileged information from the EMSB's internal and external lawyers, including who's legal fees should and should not be covered by the school board;

WHEREAS there was a council resolution pertaining to the in camera discussions;

WHEREAS Jason Trudeau, brother-in-law to Sylvia Lo Bianco and former EMSB Commissioner, and thus likely in a conflict of interest, participated in the in camera discussion and voted on the council resolution regarding Legal Proceedings;

WHEREAS at the meeting of September 12, 2018, Jason Trudeau, brother-in-law to Sylvia Lo Bianco and former EMSB Commissioner, and thus likely in a conflict of interest, participated in the in camera discussion regarding Legal Proceedings;

WHEREAS at the regular meeting of September 26, 2018, Jason Trudeau, brother-in-law to Sylvia Lo Bianco and former EMSB Commissioner, and thus likely in a conflict of interest, participated in the in camera discussion regarding Legal Proceedings;

WHEREAS Jason Trudeau never disclosed a real or apparent conflict of interest in regards to this item at any time;

WHEREAS during the in camera portion of the regular meeting of October 24, 2018, Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco were informed that according to the board's external counsel, they are in a conflict of interest for one of the items placed on the agenda for discussion;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, the Council was unable to discuss the item because Angela Mancini and Sylvia Lo Bianco refused to leave the room and allow council to discuss the item;

WHEREAS at the meeting of September 12, 2018, Council adopted a resolution mandating Commissioners Agostino Cannavino, Norm Gharibian, Joseph Lalla and Joe Ortona to represent the Council of Commissioners in all matters concerning the CNESST complaint, including for the purposes of mediation;

WHEREAS since the adoption of that resolution, Sylvia Lo Bianco, not named by Council to be involved in this case, has attempted to contact the board's external lawyers in the CNESST file;

WHEREAS since the adoption of that resolution, Angela Mancini, not named by Council to be involved in this case, has on several occasions asked to be put in contact with the board's external lawyers in the CNESST file;

WHEREAS since the adoption of that resolution, Angela Mancini, not named by Council to be involved in this case, has attempted to contact the CNESST appointed mediator;

WHEREAS at the meeting of September 12, 2018, Council adopted a resolution designating Joe Ortona to communicate with the Director General on behalf of the Council and to convey all relevant information to the Council in all matters that require communication with the administration;

WHEREAS this resolution was adopted as a preventive measure and in response to the CNESST complaint;

WHEREAS since the adoption of this resolution, Angela Mancini has communicated directly with the Director General;

WHEREAS since the adoption of this resolution, Sylvia Lo Bianco has communicated directly with the Director General;

WHEREAS since the adoption of this resolution, Sylvia Lo Bianco has communicated directly with directors and employees of the school board;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. ORTONA AND RESOLVED THAT an outside law firm be retained by Legal Services, to review the information in this resolution, determine any potential ethics violations, and submit those potential violations, on behalf of the Council, to the Ethics Commissioner for judgment.

VOTE: 10-3-1. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal, Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Ms. A. Mancini voted against, Mr. N. Gharibian abstained.)

Resolution #19-02-20-13

14. RESOLUTION – MOTION OF NON CONFIDENCE AND CALL ON RESIGNATION OF THE CHAIR

CONTEXT

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board has had to deal with an extraordinary number of serious governance issues since August 2018, it is paramount that some facts be highlighted and explained such that the public and media are able to fully understand the Council's serious concern related to Angela Mancini, Chair of the EMSB;

WHEREAS to understand the present situation, the public should be reminded of several antecedents including the letter dated November 16, 2016 and signed by all twelve of the EMSB's most senior Directors stating their concern about the work climate, the lack of respect towards Directors and the need to define the roles and responsibilities of the Chairman and former Vice-Chairman Sylvia Lo Bianco, and the resignation of a well-respected Deputy Director General in February 2017;

WHEREAS three members of senior management met with Council in April 2018 to reiterate the concerns expressed in the November 2016 letter and to state further that the situation had become even more dire;

SITUATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

WHEREAS Angela Mancini, Chair of the English Montreal School Board has had ethics complaints lodged against her under the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct of the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board;

WHEREAS on August 14, 2018 Angela Mancini contested the decisions of the Ethics Commissioners, Me St-Onge and Me Battah, to retain those ethics complaints by filing applications for judicial review in Superior Court against the Ethics Commissioners;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini, through her attorney, asked a judge, *ex parte*, that the hearings for the applications for judicial review be held in camera, access to all documents be prohibited, the disclosure of any information be prohibited, the disclosure of all documents be prohibited, the circulation of any information be prohibited, the circulation of all documents be prohibited and that the anonymity of Angela Mancini be protected;

WHEREAS on August 15, 2018 a bailiff served the EMSB with the applications for judicial review as an impleaded party (mise-en-cause) to these legal proceedings;

WHEREAS upon seeing the item on the draft agenda before the regular meeting of August 29, 2018, Angela Mancini, through her attorney, sent the Secretary General of the EMSB a letter stating that she must not to disclose any information about the applications for judicial review to anyone including the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS on August 27, 2018 Angela Mancini tried to have the EMSB removed as an impleaded party (mise en cause) to the applications for judicial review, which would have prevented the Council of Commissioners from knowing about the existence of the case before the Superior Court;

WHEREAS on August 28, 2018 a judge of the Superior Court rendered a decision that the EMSB had a right to be included, intervene and make representations in the legal proceedings;

WHEREAS on August 29, 2018 the Council of Commissioners held its regular meeting and senior management had placed the court item entitled Legal Proceedings, in draft form, back on the agenda as an in camera item following the decision of the Superior Court Judge on the previous day;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, Angela Mancini said that she objected to the addition of this item and would strike it off the agenda, stating that discussing this item would “put the board at risk”;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini spoke to this item and made representations on the topic in an attempt to influence the vote on whether Legal Proceedings would remain on the agenda;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, Angela Mancini did not disclose a real or apparent conflict of interest in regards to this item, which was their court case, at that time;

WHEREAS following debate by Council members and a call for the vote, Council voted to add item Legal Proceedings to the agenda;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini was personally involved in these Legal Proceedings and thus, likely in a conflict of interest, participated in the vote of whether to add Legal Proceedings to the agenda;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, Angela Mancini, likely in a conflict of interest, continued to participate in the in-camera portion of the meeting regarding the Legal Proceedings item;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini was personally involved in these proceedings and thus likely in a conflict of interest, did not voluntarily leave the meeting until she was informed of potential ethics violations if she did not do so;

WHEREAS the in camera discussion on Legal Proceedings contained confidential and privileged information from the EMSB’s internal and external lawyers, including who’s legal fees should and should not be covered by the school board;

WHEREAS there was a council resolution pertaining to the in camera discussions;

FAILURE TO ABIDE BY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS during the in camera portion of the regular meeting of October 24, 2018, Angela Mancini was informed that according to the board’s external counsel, she is in a conflict of interest for one of the items placed on the agenda for discussion;

WHEREAS at this regular meeting, the Council was unable to discuss the item because Angela Mancini refused to leave the room and allow council to discuss the item;

WHEREAS at the meeting of September 12, 2018, Council adopted a resolution mandating Commissioners Agostino Cannavino, Norm Gharibian, Joseph Lalla and Joe Ortona to represent the Council of Commissioners in all matters concerning the CNESST complaint, including for the purposes of mediation;

WHEREAS since the adoption of that resolution, Angela Mancini, not named by Council to be involved in this case, has repeatedly requested to contact the board's external lawyers in the CNESST file;

WHEREAS since the adoption of that resolution, Angela Mancini, not named by Council to be involved in this case, has attempted to contact the CNESST appointed mediator;

WHEREAS at the meeting of September 12, 2018, Council adopted a resolution designating Joe Ortona to communicate with the Director General on behalf of the Council and to convey all relevant information to the Council in all matters that require communication with the administration;

WHEREAS this resolution was adopted as a preventive measure and in response to the CNESST complaint;

WHEREAS since the adoption of this resolution, Angela Mancini has communicated directly with the Director General and employees of the school board;

CHAIR'S ABSENCE FROM HER DUTIES

WHEREAS Angela Mancini was absent from her duties as Chair from October 24, 2018 to January 25, 2019;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini never informed the Council that she was on medical leave until January 28, 2019, three days after the Commissioners called a Special Board Meeting to ask her to officially pronounce herself as to her status at the board;

WHEREAS media reports show Angela Mancini publicly stated to the media on January 25, 2019 that she was away from the board on medical leave;

WHEREAS at the Special Meeting on January 28, 2019, Angela Mancini publicly stated that her medical leave was from November 19, 2018 to the week prior to the meeting;

WHEREAS on the day of the regular meeting of November 28, 2018, Angela Mancini sent the Council an email stating that she could not be at the board due to an emergency but also added that she would try to be at the board later that evening;

WHEREAS on November 29, 2018, Angela Mancini asked the Office Manager in the Directorate to send the Christmas cards needing her signature to QESBA the following day where she would be for the annual workshop;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini signed up for the QESBA Workshop scheduled for November 30 and December 1, 2018, and only cancelled her registration that very day citing she couldn't attend at the last minute due to a family issue;

WHEREAS Chairman Mancini wrote to a board employee on January 9, 2019, informing her of her medical leave from work and for this reason would she would be away from the board for a short time, to tell Mr. Ortona, but to keep her medical leave from work confidential;

WHEREAS the employee did in fact keep the information about her medical leave confidential;

WHEREAS it is not the proper protocol for the Chair to communicate this information to an EMSB employee, and should have communicated it to the Director General or the Vice-Chair, the latter which, according to the Education Act, acts in the absence of the Chairman;

WHEREAS Joe Ortona, Vice-Chair of the EMSB wrote to Angela Mancini on January 14, 2019 to specifically ask her about her current status at the board;

WHEREAS a second email was sent to Angela Mancini on January 16, 2019, the day that the Minister of Education announced his investigation, to ask if Ms. Mancini was acting in her full capacity as Chair;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini failed to respond to both those emails;

WHEREAS the information about a medical leave was not shared with any member of the Council until the special meeting of January 28, 2019;

WHEREAS on January 29, 2019, Angela Mancini wrote to the Council to say she was returning to the board in her capacity as EMSB Chair;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini never wrote to the Council during the period from the end of October until January 29, 2019, to state that she was not acting in her capacity as EMSB Chair;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini sent several emails to the Council and to the Vice-Chair between November 19, 2018 and January 25, 2019;

WHEREAS these emails give no indication that Angela Mancini was on any type of leave, moreover, led commissioners to believe that she was acting in her role as Chair;

WHEREAS Angela Mancini kept the information about her leave from the Council in order to keep Vice-Chair Joe Ortona from acting in her stead as stipulated in the Education Act;

ETHICS CONVICTIONS

WHEREAS on December 16, 2018, Me Battah, Substitute Ethics Commissioner found Angela Mancini guilty on four (4) counts of breaching the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct;

WHEREAS the Substitute Ethics Commissioner found Angela Mancini acted in bad faith in three (3) of the four counts in which she breached the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct;

WHEREAS on December 19, 2019, Me St-Onge, Ethics Commissioner found Angela Mancini had in fact contravened two (2) sections of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct;

WHEREAS in response to these decisions from the Ethics Commissioners, Angela Mancini wrote a letter to the editor of The Montreal Gazette published on January 19, 2019;

WHEREAS in the letter to the editor Angela Mancini stated that she received an unsigned letter from the Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec (AAESQ) complaining about the DG;

WHEREAS on January 29, 2019, AAESQ President Veronique Marin, wrote to Chairman Mancini about her reference to having received a letter from AAESQ in her letter to the Gazette editor;

WHEREAS the AAESQ President, Ms. Marin, expressed her deep concern regarding Angela Mancini's comments in the Gazette – stating specifically that the letter that Chairman Mancini refers to was never sent by the AAESQ;

WHEREAS the AAESQ President further states that Chairman Mancini's statement in the Gazette compromises the integrity of the AAESQ and asked Ms. Mancini to publicly correct the erroneous information by clearly stating that this document was not sent by the AAESQ;

WHEREAS Chairman Mancini has not made any such clarification;

WHEREAS in the letter to the editor Angela Mancini states, about another ethics issue, that “external legal counsel advised me not to share this letter with the Director General”, yet the Ethics Commissioner's decision indicates

that the external legal counsel testified that he and Angela Mancini had “no discussion concerning the divulgence of the letter with Mrs. Matheson”;

WHEREAS the Ethics Commissioner finds that the “credibility of (the external counsel) on his legal advice cannot be put aside” as “he has no interest in the present matter”;

WHEREAS these actions have a profound negative impact on the reputation of the board and on the reputation of the Director General;

IMPORTANCE OF A CREDIBLE SPOKESPERSON

WHEREAS the Chair of a school board, as the official spokesperson, must represent to the public the position of the Council as determined by majority vote or orientation;

WHEREAS the EMSB Council has undertaken serious and decisive actions in response to the aforementioned issues related to Chairman Mancini’s actions – including reducing her remuneration;

WHEREAS Chairman Mancini has demonstrated no willingness to accept any responsibility for any of her actions, and further, has reduced the actions of the EMSB Council in consequence to politics, harassment and intimidation tactics;

WHEREAS the EMSB is currently facing a situation where the provincial Government is threatening to abolish democratic school board elections and school boards themselves;

WHEREAS the EMSB is facing a situation where the provincial Government is threatening to ban the wearing of religious symbols in the workplace for public servants including teachers and other school professionals;

WHEREAS the Chair of the EMSB, the largest English language school board in the province of Quebec, must be recognized as a credible leader to be able to speak on behalf of the board and its English speaking community;

WHEREAS the Council deems that a Chair who has multiple ethics judgments against her for violations of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, does not possess the legitimacy, credibility and respect required to properly represent, defend and lead the EMSB;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR J. ORTONA THAT the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB express its lack of confidence in Angela Mancini as Chair of the EMSB;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB call on Angela Mancini to resign from her position as Chair of the English Montreal School Board;

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB calls upon Jean-François Roberge, Minister of Education to amend the Education Act to its previous form to allow for the removal of the Chair of a school board by a vote of no less than two thirds of the Council members.

Ms. A. Mancini proposed an amendment to ask the Ministry of Education to call an Election as soon as possible for the position of Chairman of the English Montreal School Board.

Vote on amendment: 2-11-1, Motion Defeated. (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. N. Gharibian, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. P. Mercuri, Mr. R. Ortona, Mr. B. Praw, Mr. A. Ross and Mr. J. Ortona voted against, Mr. M. Antal abstained)

Mr. J. Kromida proposed to table this item.

Vote: 4-10-0, Motion Defeated. (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. J. Lalla, Ms. P. Lattanzio, Mr. P. Mercuri, Mr. R. Ortona, Mr. B. Praw, Mr. A. Ross, Mr. J. Ortona and Ms. A. Mancini voted against)

Mr. N. Gharibian proposed that in the conclusions of the Resolution, the last paragraph be removed.

Vote on amendment: 10-4-0, Motion Carried. (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. B. Praw and Mr. J. Ortona voted against)

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION INCLUDING ADOPTED AMENDMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY MR J. ORTONA AND RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB express its lack of confidence in Angela Mancini as Chair of the EMSB.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB call on Angela Mancini to resign from her position as Chair of the English Montreal School Board.

Vote on Main Motion: 10-3-1. ADOPTED (Mr. M. Antal, Ms. S. Lo Bianco and Ms. A. Mancini voted against, Mr. J. Kromida abstained)

Resolution # 19-02-20-14

At 12:15 a.m., Ms. S. Lo Bianco proposed that the meeting adjourn. It was agreed that the meeting continue.

15. Recommendations from Finance Committee

15.1 Proposed Real Estate Rental Rates for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

WHEREAS Policy BG-7 “Outside Organizations – Rental Policy and Rate Structure for Use of Board Facilities” requires an annual review of rental rates and proposes changes for the following year;

WHEREAS rental rates were increased in 2017-2018;

WHEREAS it was decided that rates remain the same in 2019-2020;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. N. GHARIBIAN AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the Finance Committee, the rental rates for the use of Board facilities by outside organizations for the 2019-2020 school year remain unchanged as outlined in the documentation submitted to this meeting, and be applied to all facilities of the English Montreal School Board.

VOTE: 13-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal absent from the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-15.1

15.2 Legal Services – Budget Transfer – Legal Arbitration to Legal Fees General

WHEREAS in conformity with Operating Budget procedure, all requests to incur additional expenditures over and above the approved original Operating Budget, to reduce projected revenues from previous forecasts, and to transfer budgets in excess of \$20,000 must be approved by the Board;

WHEREAS there has been established a protocol whereby departments are to submit (via the Budget Control Committee) the appropriate form indicating such requests with supporting rationale, to the Finance Committee;

WHEREAS Financial Services is to submit such department requests on a month-to-month basis as deemed warranted;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the Finance Committee,

- a) approval be given to the legal services department to transfer an amount of \$50,000 from the arbitration budget to the general legal services budget, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting;
- b) authorization be given to Financial Services to take the appropriate action necessary to reflect the additional expenditures and the budget transfer.

VOTE: 13-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal absent from the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-15.2

15.3 School Organization – Budget Increase – MEES Nutrition Wise Eating Habits

WHEREAS in conformity with Operating Budget procedure, all requests to incur additional expenditures over and above the approved original Operating Budget, to reduce projected revenues from previous forecasts, and to transfer budgets in excess of \$20,000 must be approved by the Board;

WHEREAS there has been established a protocol whereby departments are to submit (via the Budget Control Committee) the appropriate form indicating such requests with supporting rationale, to the Finance Committee;

WHEREAS Financial Services is to submit such department requests on a month-to-month basis as deemed warranted;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. A. CANNAVINO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the Finance Committee,

- a) approval be given to the school organization department to allocate an amount of \$20,000 from the 2018-2019 15% Appropriated Accumulated Surplus budget to be used to implement cooking workshops in elementary schools. As it is no longer available as a special measure by the MEES, the dieticians would be implementing 75 cooking workshops per year with these funds, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting;
- b) authorization be given to Financial Services to take the appropriate action necessary to reflect the additional expenditures and the budget transfer.

VOTE: 13-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal absent from the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-15.3

15.4 Authorization to Proceed to a Public Call for Tender - PS19-0200 - Mass Notification System

WHEREAS the *Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies* requires school boards to proceed by means of a public call for tender for the procurement of goods or services in excess of \$100,000;

WHEREAS the acquisition of goods or services in between 100,000 and 500,000 requires final Executive Committee approval;

WHEREAS Administration has assessed operational needs and recommends to proceed with the procurement of various goods or services in excess of \$100,000;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THAT authorization be given to Procurement Services to proceed to place a public call for tender on the SEAO (*Système Électronique d'Appels d'Offres*) for the following goods or services:

- i) Mass Notification Services

VOTE: 13-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-15.4

16. Recommendations from Governance and Ethics Committee

16.1 Abolishment of Policy DG 26- Employees Disclosure Protection / Approval of Policy DG – 26-1 – To Facilitate the Disclosure of Wrongdoings - For Consultation

WHEREAS Policy DG-26 has to be modified to reflect certain changes to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoings, in conformity with the *Act to Facilitate the Disclosure of Wrongdoings Relating to Public Bodies* (LQ 2016, c 34) ;

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee has endorsed the new proposed Policy DG-26.1 to *Facilitate the disclosure of Wrongdoings* and recommends to abolish former Policy DG-26 entitled *Employees Disclosure Protection*;

WHEREAS the proposed Policy DG-26.1 to Facilitate the disclosure of Wrongdoings and the abolishment of Policy DG-26 – *Employees Disclosure Protection* have to be sent out for the purposes of official consultation to the following groups:

1. The Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA);
2. *Association professionnelle du personnel administratif* (APPA);
3. *Association québécoise des cadres scolaires* (AQCS);
4. Association of English Board Administrators (AEMBA);
5. Central Management Advisory Committee (CMAC);
6. EMSB Parents Committee, (EMSBPC);
7. Human Resources Advisory Committee;
8. Montreal Teachers Association (MTA),
9. Québec Federation of Labour (QFL) and
10. *Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels du milieu de l'éducation de Montréal* (SPPMEM);

WHEREAS the end date for consultation purposes with the aforementioned committees, unions/associations will be sixty (60) days following the date of this Board meeting;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE, THAT the new Policy DG-26.1 to *Facilitate the disclosure of Wrongdoings* and the abolishment of former Policy DG-26 entitled *Employees Disclosure Protection* be approved and then forwarded to the concerned committees for the purposes of consultation, as per the documentation provided to the Council.

VOTE: 13-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal absent for the vote.)

16.2 Posting of Position for Ethics Commissioner and Investigator Officer

WHEREAS the mandates of the Ethics Commissioner, Investigator Officer and respective Substitute expire June 30, 2019;

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee members recommended at their meeting held January 30, 2019, that additional Substitute Ethics Commissioners / Investigator Officers be appointed in order to receive Ethics and Wrongdoing complaints, as of 2019-2020;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. P. LATTANZIO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, THAT as recommended by the Governance and Ethics Committee, the positions of Ethics Commissioner, Investigator Officer and respective Substitute be posted according to the selection criteria outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting;

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Governance and Ethics Committee establish a Selection Committee to review the applications, interview the candidates and make a recommendation to the Council of Commissioners.

VOTE: 13-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-16.2

16.3 Revised Draft By-Law No. 3 (2019) – Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Members of the Council of Commissioners – Notice of Intent

WHEREAS in conformity with Section 175.1 of the Education Act, the Board had adopted and revised By-Law No. 3 establishing a code of ethics and professional conduct for Commissioners by virtue of resolutions #99-01-27-3.2, #02-12-18-11, #13-04-24-7.1 and #14-06-18-7.1.1;

WHEREAS further revisions have been made to the aforementioned By-Law by the Governance and Ethics Committee;

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 392 of the Education Act, a public notice of thirty (30) days is required prior to adoption of the revised By-Law;

WHEREAS Section 183 of the Education Act requires that the Central Management Advisory Committee shall participate in defining the strategic plan, policies and by-laws of the school board;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the Governance and Ethics Committee, there be approved proposed Revised Draft By-Law No. 3 (2019) regarding the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Members of the Council of Commissioners, for purposes of consultation with the Central Management Advisory Committee (CMAC) and the English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC), and the results of the consultation be returned to the Secretary General, Me Nathalie Lauzière, no later than March 29, 2019, as outlined in the documentation submitted at the meeting;

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a public notice of 30 days be given indicating the Board's intent to adopt the revised By-Law.

VOTE: 9-0-2. ADOPTED. (Ms. S. Lo Bianco, Ms. A. Mancini abstained; Mr. M. Antal, Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-16.3

17. Authorization to Proceed to a Public Call for Tenders

17.1 Lawn Maintenance & Patrol Services

WHEREAS the *Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies* requires school boards to proceed by means of a public call for tender for the procurement of goods or services in excess of \$100,000;

WHEREAS the acquisition of goods or services between \$100,000 and \$500,000 requires Executive Committee approval;

WHEREAS Administration has assessed operational needs and recommends to proceed with the procurement of various goods or services in excess of \$100,000;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the Board, authorization be given to Procurement Services to proceed to place a public call for tender on the SEAO (*Système Électronique d'Appels d'Offres*) for the following goods or services:

- i) P-1853 – Patrol Services
- ii) P-1854 – Lawn Maintenance Services

VOTE: 10-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal, Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. A. Ross absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-17.1

18. Maintain School Boards with Elected School Commissioners

Whereas, elected school commissioners act as a vital link with their local communities;

Whereas, school boards are local governments monitoring the school success of over one million students, by ensuring educational services to elementary, high school, adult and vocational students. School boards also provide vital services, particularly in terms of human, material and financial services. Furthermore, school boards are responsible of ensuring fair resource allocation among their establishments and providing safe school transportation, at all times;

Whereas, elected school commissioners allow a measure of community control over one of Quebec's most important public services. Commissioners are elected from the community by the community and are charged with ensuring that local education is responsive to the people it serves. They are a democratic layer between individual public schools and the centralized bureaucracy of the education ministry;

Whereas, for anglophone Quebecers, school boards are important community institution;

Whereas, Quebec's English-speaking community has a constitutional right to manage and control its schools. Abolishing elected school commissioners and school boards themselves threatens to do collateral damage to those linguistic rights;

Whereas, elections for school commissioners / trustees in Quebec go back to the 1840s;

Whereas, the 'English school boards election systems study panel report 2015', commonly referred to as the Jennings Report recommended the maintenance of English school board elections;

IT IS MOVED BY JOSEPH LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board affirm its position, namely:

1. That the Constitutional Rights of Québec's English Minority Communities under Section 23 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms be respected and protected by the Québec government.
2. That the English Minority Communities' current system of English School Boards with universal suffrage to elect its Commissioners be maintained.
3. That the English Minority Communities' current system of English School Boards with Parent Commissioners elected through their electoral colleges be maintained.

IT IS FURTHER MOVED THAT the English Montreal School Board forward this resolution to QESBA, to its sister English school boards, to QCGN and EPCA.

IT IS STILL FURTHER MOVED THAT the English Montreal School Board forward this resolution to the Minister of Education.

➤ Mr. J. Ortona presented an amendment that the word "current" be removed from #2.

VOTE: 10-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal, Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. A. Ross absent for the vote.)

The motion, including the amendment, was then voted on.

VOTE: 10-0-0. ADOPTED. (Mr. M. Antal, Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. A. Ross absent for the vote.)

Resolution #19-02-20-18

19. Report of the Executive Committee Meeting

Submitted for information purposes.

20. Correspondence

Submitted for information purposes.

21. Second Question Period

None.

22. Other Business

22.1 Four-Year-Old Pre-K

Deferred to next month.

23. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. P. Mercuri and unanimously resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 12:35 a.m.

Signed in Montreal, _____

Ms. Angela Mancini, Chairman

Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General