

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. Via Teams, in Montreal.

Commissioners Present

Me Joe Ortona, Chair
Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Vice-Chair
Mr. Mario Bentreovato, Commissioner
Ms. Maria Corsi, Parent Commissioner
Mr. Sophie De Vito, Commissioner, joined at 6:02 p.m.
Mr. Jamie Fabian, Commissioner
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner
Ms. Ellie Israel, Commissioner, joined at 6:03 p.m.
Mr. James Kromida, Commissioner
Mr. Joseph Lalla, Commissioner
Mr. Pietro Mercuri, Commissioner
Ms. Mubeenah Mughal, Parent Commissioner
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, Commissioner
Mr. Tony Speranza, Parent Commissioner
Mr. Daniel Tatone, Parent Commissioner, joined at 6:58 p.m.

Administrators Present:

Mr. Nicholas Katalifos, Appointed Director General
Ms. Evelyne Alfonsi, Assistant Director General, Education Division
Me Benoît Duhême, Assistant Director General, Administration Division
Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General

Ms. Sandra Léveillé, Director School Organization
Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director, Financial Services
Ms. Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, Sector Director, Elementary
Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director, Student Services
Me Magdalena Sokol, Interim Director of Legal Services
Ms. Angela Spagnolo, Sector Director, AEVS
Mr. Charalambos Thomas, Director Information Technology Services
Ms. Ann Watson, Director, Human Resources
Mr. Mike Cohen, Communications & Marketing Specialist
Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretariat General

1. Approval of the Agenda

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted
(Ms. E. Israel and Mr. D. Tatone not present for the vote)

Resolution # 21-06-29-1

2.	<p><u>2.1 Nomination of Eliane Goldstein as Student of the Month</u></p> <p>The Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona, congratulated Eliane Goldstein for her outstanding community service.</p>
	<p>At 6:03 p.m. Ms. Ellie Israel joined the meeting.</p>
3.	<p><u>Question Period</u></p> <p>The Chair addressed the questions from Mr. Chris Eustace regarding the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal and the EMSB Code of Ethics.</p>
4.	<p><u>Adoption of the Minutes</u></p> <p><u>4.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held on May 5, 2021</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on May 5, 2021, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted (Mr. D. Tatone not present for the vote)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-06-29-4.1</u></p> <p><u>4.2 Adoption of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting Held on June 2, 2021</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOSEPH LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on June 2, 2021, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted (Mr. D. Tatone not present for the vote)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-06-29-4.2</u></p>
5.	<p><u>Business Arising out of Minutes</u></p> <p>There was no business arising from the minutes.</p>
6.	<p><u>6.1 Tribute for June 2021 Board Meeting</u></p> <p>WHEREAS the Board values the contribution made by its employees;</p> <p>WHEREAS the Board wishes to take official cognizance of the passing of any member of its large family of employees;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOE ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board note with regret the passing of: Graeme Sutherland, former teacher & Vice-Principal at Wagar High School, Cynthia Rhoda Tyler (Cynthy), former secretary at Vincent Massey Collegiate and that the expression of sympathy be sent to the bereaved families.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted (Mr. D. Tatone not present for the vote)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-06-29-6.1</u></p>

7.	<p><u>Chairman's Report</u></p> <p>The Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona thanked all employees for their hard work during this difficult year and wished everyone a happy summer.</p>
8.	<p><u>Director General's Report</u></p> <p>The Director General gave his report, announcing first that the EMSB had submitted its report on the implementation of corrective measures pursuant to the Ministerial order dated November 6, 2020 to the Deputy Minister's office and that a copy had been shared with the members of the Council. He went on to thank the different members of the EMSB team and departments for their hard work during this pandemic year. You can see his speech at the 19:06 mark on this video http://webtv.coop/video/Board-meeting-of-the-English-Montreal-School-Board-June-29th-2021/fe00f99feaa996fa52863fd4135b9958 from the meeting and a summary below.</p> <p>He was honored to have been chosen as the new Director General of the EMSB. He thanked the EMSB Chair, the Commissioners, staff, students, parents, friends and family, who have helped with this transition.</p> <p>He shared a few highlights of this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Our Educational Services deserve high praise for pivoting to online learning immediately after the pandemic. ➤ At the start of this pandemic year, we launched an unprecedented Virtual School. EMSB Virtual Learning was a resounding success. Each student experienced learning from home in different ways, from different standpoints: physical, emotional and mental. ➤ Mental Health was obviously a key issue this year. Our Student Services Department and its Mental Health Resource Centre deserve our thanks and admiration. The team of psychologists, guidance counsellors, special needs technicians and more made a big difference in the lives of our students, many of whom were affected even more severely by the pandemic. Their work is critical. ➤ Our Material Resources Department was busy at the best of times. We completed over \$40 million worth of construction projects, notably the complete renovation of historic Westmount Park School which will reopen after two years on August 31. ➤ In December and January, we installed 800 air purifiers in record time to improve air quality and mitigate the impacts of aerosol transmission of the virus. The Procurement team, rose to the exceptional challenge of providing over 37,000 students and 5,600 employees with all the necessary protective equipment. ➤ The Adult Education and Vocational Services team continued to thrive under the theme of lifelong learning. As restaurants reopened, the St. Pius X Career Centre was overwhelmed with inquires for chefs. At the Shadd Health and Business Centre, we trained PABs to go into senior homes where they were so urgently needed and indeed, all of our centres answered the call of duty in so many ways. ➤ Human Resources had an exceptionally busy year with staffing, to fill positions left vacant from many employees who chose early retirement or resignation at the beginning of the year in response to the challenges presented by working during the pandemic. In addition, the HR team managed several hundred applications for exemptions from employees, who for medical reasons could not physically report to school. The HR team recognized the exceptional needs of our employees who have experienced stress and mental health challenges this year and in response, organized a series of special workshops and introduced a new fitness application available to all EMSB employees for free.

- For the School Organization Department, this was hardly a normal year where bus transportation was concerned. Our team was on top of things from the first day of classes and played an absolutely important role to oversee all COVID-19 protocols at the Board.
- The Financial Services team rose to the challenge during the most difficult year, and successfully met its obligations and the needs of our various stakeholders in a virtual world, schools and centres, employees, departments and suppliers.
- Our Communications and Marketing team ensured that we continued to get our messages out to the public via an enhanced website, newsletters, social media, and the development of multiple good news stories emanating from our schools.
- The Secretary General's Office ensured that meetings continued seamlessly via our online platforms, including this evening.
- For Information Technology Services, one of the key challenges this school year was related to the provision of technology equipment and solutions for staff (télé-travail) and students (distance education) during the pandemic.
- Our Sector Directors and their invaluable secretaries literally worked 24/7 this school year in the eye of COVID as did our two Assistant Directors General and Legal Department who together worked hand in hand with the DG's Office and staff in ensuring that all systems ran smoothly.

Finally, a huge thank you to:

- Our principals, vice-principals and teachers.
- Our support staff, from secretaries to caretakers, your hard work never goes unnoticed and is critical to the success of our students.
- Furthermore, that a huge thank you must also be extended to our professionals, from spiritual community animators to pedagogical consultants and speech language pathologists.

And of course, we must acknowledge the incredible support received from our Board's parents and extended EMSB community.

9. Committee Reports

9.1 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services), presented by Ms. M. Mughal

- Last meeting was held on May 25, 2021.
- Decisions were made to allow separate IP's and parent teacher interviews.
- FAQ document.
- Relaunching the Tutoring Program.
- Pilot Project on the recruitment of Psychologists for the positions that have not yet been filled.

9.2 Transportation and Safety Advisory Committee, presented by Mr. P. Mercuri, Chair of the Committee

- Last meeting was held June 16, 2021.
- Extra Bus Service from RDP and Vincent Massey Collegiate.
- Boundaries and Long Rang will follow-up next Academic Year 2021-2022.
- M Class Pool Application App.
- Accommodation Busing.
- Transportation Budget.

9.3 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee), presented by Mr. T. Speranza

- Thanked all 50 delegates and Ms. Brigida Sellato that attended the meeting.
- Met on June 3, 2021.
- Discussion on Workshops on Diversity to the Three-Year Plan.
- Future of Virtual Schools.
- Anti-Racism Committee.

9.4 Governance and Ethics Committee, presented by Mr. J. Feldman, Chair of the Committee

- Met on May 19, 2021.
- Rule of Internal Governance.
- Governance and Ethics Timelines and Mandates
- Renewal of Student Ombudsman Contract.
- Guidelines for Commissioners.
- Evolution of Existing By-Laws.
- The need for a Finance Committee.
- Equity Committee

9.5 Audit Committee, presented by Mr. J. Kromida, Chair of the Committee

- Met on June 22, 2021.
- A Grid in which the auditors and the Audit committee follow in order to monitor the causes, results, solutions and status report of weaknesses found.
- Budget Review
- Role of the Audit Committee

9.6 Human Resources Committee, presented by Mr. J. Lalla, Chair of the Committee

- No Report.
- Thanked all parents, students, administration, and staff for their tireless efforts.

9.7 CGTSIM (Comité de Gestion de la Taxe Scolaire de l'île de Montréal), presented by Mr. A. Cannavino

- Met on May 13, 2021.
- Reviewed Short-Term Borrowings.

- Met on June 17, 2021.
- Projections were reviewed.
- Mr. Georges Lemieux replaces Mr. Steven Colpitts as the new Interim Deputy Education Minister.
- Next meeting will be held on September 16, 2021.

9.8 EMSAC – English Montreal Student Advisory Committee, presented by Mr. J. Lalla

- Met on May 20, 2021.
- Discussion on Bill 96.
- 2021-22 Evaluations.

- Met on June 7, 2021.
- Tragedy of the Residential Schools.
- Pride Month.

9.9 QESBA (Quebec English School Boards Association), presented by Mr. J. Ortona

- Appeal on Bill 21
- Bill 40 decision not yet rendered.
- School Board Elections – allowing candidates enough time to campaign.
- Passing away of Michael Clark on June 18, 2021.

At 6:54 p.m. Mr. Daniel Tatone joined the meeting.

10. Commissioners' Report

- Information Items presented by Mr. Joseph Lalla
 - The West-End Highschool Committee.
- Information Items presented by Mr. Daniel Tatone
 - Equity Committee held a meeting on May 26, 2021.
- Information Items presented by Ms. Maria Corsi
 - Ad Hoc Committee on Easton Marketing met on May 13, 2021.

11. Call of Action on Bill 96

WHEREAS Bill 96, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec, was introduced in the National Assembly by Simon Jolin-Barrette, Minister Responsible for the French Language, on May 13, 2021;

WHEREAS Bill 96 passed first reading in the legislature by a vote of 121-0;

WHEREAS Bill 96 seeks to amend the *Charter of the French language*, including sections pertaining to access to English language education;

WHEREAS Bill 96 seeks to amend *the Regulation respecting the exemption from the application of the first paragraph of section 72 of the Charter of the French language that may be granted to children staying in Québec temporarily*;

WHEREAS Bill 96 seeks to amend the *General and Vocational Colleges Act*;

WHEREAS Bill 96 seeks to amend the *Charter of human rights and freedoms*;

WHEREAS sections 118 and 199 of Bill 96 state that this Bill and the *Charter of the French language* apply despite sections 1 to 38 of the *Charter of human rights and freedoms*;

WHEREAS sections 118 and 200 of Bill 96 state that this Bill and the *Charter of the French language* apply notwithstanding sections 2 and 7 to 15 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;

WHEREAS Bill 96 seeks to unilaterally amend the *Constitution Act, 1867*;

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board has already launched a constitutional challenge to Bill 21, *An Act respecting the laicity of the State*;

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) has launched a constitutional challenge to Bill 40, *An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance*;

WHEREAS many people within the English community have spoken out against Bill 96;

WHEREAS the overwhelming consensus of the English-speaking community is not in favor of the adoption into law of Bill 96;

WHEREAS the English speaking community must rely on its leaders to defend the interests of their community and safeguard their constitutional rights;

WHEREAS in 1995, an organization linking English-language groups across Quebec was formed under the name Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN);

WHEREAS part of the QCGN's mission is to address issues affecting the development and vitality of the English-speaking community of Quebec;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PETER MERCURI THAT the English Montreal School Board call upon the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) to undertake any and all measures at its disposal to defend the rights of the English-speaking minority in Quebec and, should Bill 96 be adopted by the National Assembly, that the QCGN exercise any and all legal remedies to challenge the constitutionality of Bill 96 through our courts.

Commissioner Daniel Tatone moved an amendment to the main motion that a copy of this resolution be sent to the English School Boards, the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) and the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN).

Vote on amendment: 14-0-1, Adopted unanimously. (Mr. J. Fabian abstained)

Vote on Main Motion including amendment: 14-0-1, Adopted unanimously.
(Mr. J. Fabian abstained)

Resolution #21-06-29-11

12. Budgets 2021-2022 – Operating, Capital Investments and Debt Service

WHEREAS Section 277 of the Education Act (Chapter I-13.3) stipulates that the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) shall adopt its Operating, Capital Investment, and Debt Service Budget for the 2021-2022 school year and transmit same to the Minister of Education;

WHEREAS the EMSB foresees the need to adopt an Operating Budget for the 2021-2022 school year where expenditures exceed revenues by \$6,388,670, and that this amount is equal to the 15% limit for the appropriation of the June 30, 2020 Accumulated Surplus, excluding the net value of land and the Operating Grant Receivable for the provision of employee future benefits at June 30, 2020;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE-RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE, THAT the Operating, Capital Investment and Debt Service Budget providing for Revenues of \$371, 526, 337 and Expenditures of \$377, 915, 007 be adopted and transmitted to the Minister of Education, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-06-29-12

13. 13.1 Draft By-Law No. 1 (2021) to Affix the Date, Time and Place of the Regular Meetings of the English Montreal School Board

WHEREAS in conformity with Section 162 of the Education Act requires that the Council of Commissioners must establish, by by-law, the day, time and place of its regular board meetings;

WHEREAS by virtue of Resolution #21-05-05-18.1, provisional approval was given to Draft By-Law No. 1 (2021);

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 392 of the Education Act, public notice of 30 days has been given;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. AGOSTINO CANNAVINO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT final approval be given to By-Law No. 1 (2021) setting the day, time and place of the regular monthly Board meetings of the English Montreal School Board for school session 2021-2022.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-06-29-13.1

13.2 Draft By-Law No. 4 (2021) To Affix the Day, Time and Place of the Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee of the English Montreal School Board

WHEREAS in conformity with Section 162 of the Education Act the Council of Commissioners must establish by by-law, the day, time and place of its Executive Committee meetings;

WHEREAS by virtue of resolution #21-05-05-18.2, provisional approval was given to Draft By-Law No. 4 (2021);

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 392 of the Education Act, public notice of 30 days has been given;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT final approval be given to By-Law No. 4 (2021) setting a day, time and place of the Executive Committee meetings of the English Montreal School Board for the school session 2021-2022.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-06-29-13.2

14. Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2021-2024

WHEREAS the Education Act requires the Board to establish a Three-Year Plan for the allocation and utilization of its immovables on an annual basis;

WHEREAS the said Act also requires the Board to issue a Deed of Establishment for each school and adult education and vocational training centre under its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS by virtue of Resolution # 21-04-28-6, the consultation on the Proposed Three-Year Plan and List of Schools - Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2021-2024 concluded on June 4, 2021;

WHEREAS the Three-Year Plan and List of Schools - Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2021-2024 will take effect July 1, 2021 and a Deed of Establishment for each school and centre will be issued;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. TONY SPERANZA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Three-Year Plan and List of Schools - Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2021-2024 be approved and the applicable Deeds of Establishment be issued accordingly.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-06-29-14

15. Cafeteria Price List and Subsidy Structure 2021-2022

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) *Nutrition Policy* requires the board to approve the cafeteria price list and subsidy structure on an annual basis;

WHEREAS the *EMSB Nutrition Policy* stipulates that the school cafeterias shall be operated in a manner so that the cost to students using these services is the lowest possible based on the criteria of quality, quantity and nutritional value;

WHEREAS a proposed price list and subsidy structure have been submitted by School Organization/Nutrition and Food Services;

WHEREAS the proposed price list and subsidy structure reflect a \$500,000 Campaign Against Poverty Program subsidy;

WHEREAS the Central Management Advisory Committee-Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC/RAC) recommends the proposed price list and subsidy structure.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JAMES KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY CENTRAL MAMANGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE-RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (CMAC-RAC), THAT the Cafeteria Price List and Subsidy Structure for 2021-2022 be approved, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-06-29-15

16. Vote by Mail – School Board Elections 2021

WHEREAS, for the school elections originally scheduled for November 1, 2020, voting by mail was limited by Ministerial Order 2020-066 to individuals domiciled in a CHSLD, a private residence for seniors or for individuals in isolation due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, for the school elections rescheduled for December 20, 2020, voting by mail was again limited by Ministerial Order 2020-091 to individuals in the same situations;

WHEREAS, the school elections, which are currently suspended, are expected to be rescheduled in 2021;

WHEREAS, Bill 85, An Act to facilitate the conduct of the 7 November 2021 municipal general election in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic was passed by the Government of Québec on March 25, 2021;

WHEREAS, Bill 85 allows the following persons to vote by mail in the municipal elections of November 7, 2021:

- individuals residing in a facility maintained by an institution operating a hospital centre, a residential and long-term care centre or a rehabilitation centre or a private seniors' residence;
- individuals unable to move about for health reasons;

- caregivers;
- individuals isolated due to COVID-19;
- if allowed by their municipality, people 70 years of age and older;

WHEREAS, although requested, the Coalition Avenir Québec refused to apply Bill 85 to the upcoming school elections;

WHEREAS, it is a matter of public health and democracy that the voters in the upcoming school elections be allowed the same rights as voters in the upcoming municipal elections and that for the same reasons, the right to vote by mail should be extended to any person wishing to avail themselves of this voting method;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOSEPH LALLA AND RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board urge the Government of Quebec to allow voting by mail to any person wishing to avail themselves of this voting method or at minimum, that the persons voting in the upcoming school elections benefit from the same rights as those voting in the municipal elections of November 7, 2021.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier François Legault, also Minister responsible for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers, to Jean-François Roberge, the Minister of Education, to Georges Lemieux the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible of the English education sector at the Ministry of Education, to Christopher Skeete, Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers, and to all Members of the National Assembly.

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution also be sent to the municipalities and boroughs on the territory of the English Montreal School Board.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 21-06-29-16

17. Request to revise and improve the secondary III and secondary IV History of Quebec and Canada Program

WHEREAS, between 2016 and 2019, the English Montreal School Board unanimously adopted six resolutions advocating for improvements to the content, resources, and attention to the historical contributions to Quebec by non-Francophone cultural groups in the History of Quebec and Canada Program;

WHEREAS, the above resolutions were submitted to the Minister of Education and to our sister English school boards;

WHEREAS, the EMSB created a "History Experts Committee" made up of three (3) recognized professional historians to independently review the Quebec curriculum and student textbooks for the secondary III and IV History of Quebec and Canada Program;

WHEREAS, in its report, "History Experts Committee" made many recommendations to address the shortcomings of the Program, including scraping the textbooks;

WHEREAS, as a follow-up to the "History Experts Committee", the EMSB History Resource Development Committee of the Educational Services Department has been developing resources to supplement the program and textbook that will address some of the missing material on Black Canadian History, History of Immigrants, History of Indigenous People and Women in History;

WHEREAS, Actions # 10, 11, 16, and 17 of "Racism in Québec: Zero Tolerance - the Report of the Groupe d'Action contre le racisme (GACR Report)" * issued in December 2020 must be reflected in the content of the curriculum offered;

WHEREAS, the *Québec Education Program - Secondary School Education - History of Québec and Canada Secondary III and IV* (page 7) suggests that: Resources available in the students' immediate surroundings . . . can help them grasp realities that have affected Québec, Canada and even countries around the world. **;

WHEREAS, the present content of the curriculum offered falls woefully short of a fair and balanced presentation of the contributions to the development of Québec over the centuries by the minority communities including those of the Anglophones, Allophones, Indigenous, Blacks, Jewish, Italians, Muslim, and other minority groups;

WHEREAS, the approved textbooks *Reflections.qc.ca Origins to 1840* for Secondary III and *Reflections.qc.ca 1840 to Our Times* for Secondary IV are both weak uninspired translations from the French and contain historical inaccuracies verified and proclaimed by many respected historians in the field;

WHEREAS, this motion is similar to that adopted by the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations and the Committee for the Enhancement of the Curriculum of the History of Quebec;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOSEPH LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board strongly recommends to the Minister of Education of Québec:

THAT immediate action be undertaken to provide supplementary e-materials to teachers and students of the Secondary III and Secondary IV History of Quebec and Canada Program that provide a fair and balanced presentation of the contributions to the development of Québec over the centuries by the minority communities including those of the Anglophones, Allophones, Indigenous, Blacks, Jewish, Italians, Muslim, and other minority groups;

THAT immediate action be undertaken to ensure that the implementation of Actions # 10 and 17 of the "*Racism in Québec: Zero Tolerance - the Report of the Groupe d'Action contre le racismisme (GACR Report)*" * is begun in earnest in the schools of Québec;

THAT immediate action be undertaken to begin the process for the revision of the content of the curriculum of the History of Québec and Canada Program offered in Secondary III and Secondary IV;

THAT immediate action be undertaken to begin the revision of the textbooks *Reflections.qc.ca Origins to 1840* for Secondary III and *Reflections.qc.ca 1840 to Our Times* for Secondary IV;

THAT immediate action be undertaken for the inclusion of the exploration of local history as part of the content of the curriculum of the History of Québec and Canada course offered in Secondary III. **

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board strongly recommends to the Minister of Higher Education of Québec:

THAT immediate action be undertaken to ensure that the implementation of Actions # 11 and 16 of the *GACR Report** is begun in earnest in the faculties of education of Québec.

**"Action No. 10 Include racism and discrimination issues throughout the school curriculum."

"Action No. 11 Include the theme of racism in the mandatory courses for initial teacher training."

"Action No. 16 Make the history and current realities of Québec's Indigenous peoples a mandatory part of initial teacher training." "Action No. 17 Change the academic curriculum at the primary and secondary levels to update concepts related to the history, cultures, heritage and current realities of Indigenous peoples in Québec and Canada and their impact on society."

** “Other relevant resources may be used in addition to ICT. Resources available in the students’ immediate surroundings, such as those showcased by their local history society, their municipal or community administration, or eyewitness accounts by older people, can help them grasp realities that have affected Québec, Canada and even countries around the world. Visits to libraries, museums and archives may also help students to gain a better understanding of history. The staff at these institutions can guide students and enable them to enrich their knowledge of the past. Indeed, these individuals embody the concern to preserve the memory of a society.”

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 21-06-29-17

18. Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action and EMSB Land Acknowledgement

WHEREAS the EMSB is committed to responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action, particularly number 63 in relation to *Education for Reconciliation*;

WHEREAS the EMSB is committed as a school board to both quality education and creating inclusive school communities where all students can bring their full selves and feel welcome and supported;

WHEREAS the EMSB is actively working to increase awareness and understanding of the history, realities, and perspectives of Indigenous peoples in all our educational institutions;

WHEREAS work is currently taking place at the board level with EMSB stakeholders, university faculty as well as members and leaders of local Indigenous communities, in order to provide quality, age-appropriate resources to all our schools, and professional development opportunities so that students and staff can engage with and reflect on Indigenous perspectives and realities;

WHEREAS as a first step, the EMSB is in the process of drafting and adopting an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement that encourages reflection and accountability about our role as an educational institution, and that expresses our commitment to the ongoing process of reconciliation;

WHEREAS a territorial or land acknowledgment involves making a statement recognizing that we are on land that is the traditional territory of Indigenous people who were here before the arrival of settlers and that continues to be home to many Indigenous people;

WHEREAS a territorial or land acknowledgment serves to remind people of a history that many Canadians are unaware of and invites deeper learning;

WHEREAS Land Acknowledgments are a small, but important step in the reconciliation process and invite reflection, from the speaker and audience, on our role as guests on the territory in which we live and work, and on our individual and/or organizational relationship (current and historical) to Indigenous peoples, communities and territories;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the EMSB is committed to honouring the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that the EMSB is committed to increasing awareness and understanding of the history, realities, and perspectives of Indigenous peoples in all our educational institutions.

