

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. Via Teams, in Montreal.

Commissioners Present

Me Joe Ortona, Chair
Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Vice-Chair
Mr. Mario Benvolato, Commissioner
Ms. Maria Corsi, Parent Commissioner
Ms. Sophie De Vito, Commissioner
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner – Joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.
Ms. Ellie Israel, Commissioner
Mr. James Kromida, Commissioner – Joined the meeting at 7:14 p.m.
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

Commissioners Not Present

Mr. Jamie Fabian, Commissioner

Administrators Present:

Mr. Nicholas Katalifos, Director General
Ms. Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, Assistant Director General, Education Division
Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General

Mr. Mario Cardin, Director, Material Resources
Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director, Financial Services
Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director, Student Services
Ms. Anna Sanalidro, Director, Educational Services
Me Magdalena Sokol, Director of Legal Services
Mr. Nasreddine Slimi, Assistant Director, Material Resources
Ms. Angela Spagnolo, Sector Director, AEVS
Ms. Ann Watson, Director, Human Resources
Mr. Mike Cohen, Manager, Marketing & Communications
Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretariat General

1.	<p><u>Composition of the Council of Commissioners following Election in Ward #3</u></p> <p><u>COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS (S.162 Act Respecting School Elections)</u></p> <p>CHAIR Joe Ortona WARD 1 Ellie Israel WARD 2 Joseph Lalla WARD 3 Julien Feldman, Newly Elected WARD 4 Jamie Fabian WARD 5 James Kromida WARD 6 Agostino Cannavino WARD 7 Sophie De Vito WARD 8 Mario Pietrangelo WARD 9 Mario Bentrovato WARD 10 Pietro Mercuri</p> <p><u>PARENT COMMISSIONERS</u></p> <p>ELEMENTARY Maria Corsi SECONDARY Tony Speranza AT LARGE Daniel Tatone SPECIAL NEED Mubeenah Mughal</p>
	<p>Mr. Julien Feldman joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.</p>
2.	<p><u>Filing of Oath of Office</u></p> <p>The Secretary General reported that the necessary Oath of Office has been completed by elected Commissioner for Ward #3, as per Section 164 of the Act Respecting School Elections.</p>
3.	<p><u>Approval of Agenda</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 13-0-0, (Adopted)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-10-06-3</u></p>
4.	<p><u>Nomination of Josephine Waldman and Harrison Waldman as Student of the Month</u></p> <p>Item presented by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona:</p> <p><i>It is my pleasure to now recognize two Royal Vale students and siblings: Josephine Waldman in Grade 5 and Harrison Waldman in Grade 2. Together, they were named the EMSB's Students of the Month for September.</i></p>

	<p><i>Commissioner Lalla and I presented Josephine and Harrison with certificates last week during the school's annual Terry Fox Run. We chose this date specifically to recognize the thousands of dollars that these dynamic siblings have raised for both the Terry Fox Foundation each fall and the Heart and Stroke Foundation each spring.</i></p> <p><i>I would also like to take a moment to thank Royal Vale's physical education teachers: Norman Katz and Amanda Ramundo. Norman and Amanda organize these two incredible fundraisers every year, going above and beyond to encourage the Royal Vale community to participate in these events any way they can.</i></p> <p><i>On behalf of the entire Council of Commissioners, congratulations to Josephine and Harrison!</i></p>
5.	<p><u>In Camera</u></p> <p><u>5.1 Motion to Move In Camera</u></p> <p>There was no In Camera session.</p>
6.	<p><u>Adoption of Resolutions from In Camera</u></p> <p><u>5.2 Energy Management and Energy Efficiency Contract</u></p> <p>WHEREAS on March 26, 2014, the EMSB awarded a contract to Énergère inc., the whole in accordance with resolution 14-03-26-3;</p> <p>WHEREAS on September 23, 2014, having received the detailed feasibility study from Énergère inc., the EMSB contractually committed to pay to Énergère inc. the amount of \$ 24 635 608 (plus taxes), the whole in accordance with resolution 14-12-17-18;</p> <p>WHEREAS on December 17, 2014, the obligations of the Parties to the contract were modified, the whole in accordance with resolution 14-12-17-18;</p> <p>WHEREAS considering the above, a contract was entered into and signed by the Parties respectively on December 8, 2014 by Énergère inc. and on January 15, 2015 by the EMSB (hereinafter the "Contract");</p> <p>WHEREAS following the Contract entered into, the Parties respectively presented claims and alleged that amounts were due to each party and that obligations were to be rendered by the Parties (hereinafter the "Dispute");</p> <p>WHEREAS the prescription period for the respective rights of the Parties would have expired during the summer of 2021;</p> <p>WHEREAS on June 16, 2021, the EMSB authorized to interrupt the prescription period until October 29, 2021 in order to allow the Parties to undertake discussions in good faith in order to try to settle the Dispute, the whole in accordance with resolution # 21-06-16-3.2;</p> <p>WHEREAS on September 16, 2021, the Parties met to discuss a possible settlement in order to try to resolve the Dispute amicably;</p> <p>WHEREAS the parties convened to meet on October 20, 2021 in order to continue the discussions in good faith in order to try to resolve the Dispute amicably;</p>

WHEREAS the Parties wish to extend the interruption of the prescription until December 15, 2021, in accordance with, but not limited to, the provisions of sections 2116 and 2925 C.c.Q and section 7 C.p.c., by entering into an agreement through the « Reconstitution de la convention interruptive de prescription » attached to this resolution;

WHEREAS the Director of Legal Services recommends to extend interruption of the prescription until December 15, 2021;

WHEREAS the Director General was informed and recommends to extend the interruption of the prescription until December 15, 2021;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOSEPH LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Director General be authorized to execute and sign the « Reconstitution de la convention interruptive de prescription » attached to the resolution.

Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 21-10-06-5.2

Mr. James Kromida joined the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

7. Question Period

Questions were addressed by the Chair, Joe Ortona:

Questions by Parents of Edinburgh Elementary:

- 1- As there is no permanent teacher in the grade 5/6 split class at Edinburgh Elementary, what is the Council of Commissioners going to do to immediately ensure that our children have stability and that they are given an equal opportunity to learn?
- 2- As there is no permanent teacher in the grade 5/6 split class at Edinburgh Elementary, they would like to know how the Council of Commissioners is going to resolve this untenable situation?
What solutions will be implemented to help our children have an equal learning environment as the other 6th graders?

Questions by Tania Decobellis:

- 1- I would like to know what guidelines the EMSB has in place to palliate the delay in receiving the final recommendations from public health regarding COVID-19?
- 2- Do these guidelines follow the INSPQ guidelines which can easily be consulted on the web?
Are all school administrators across the board aware of these guidelines, to ensure uniform actions in all EMSB schools?
- 3- What is the EMSB doing to ensure a safe teaching and learning environments for all?

8.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes</u></p> <p><u>8.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 1, 2021</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 1, 2021, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-10-06-8.1</u></p> <p><u>8.2 Adoption of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on September 11, 2021</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. TONY SPERANZA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on September 11, 2021, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-10-06-8.2</u></p>
9.	<p><u>Business Arising Out of Minutes</u></p> <p>There was no business arising from the minutes.</p>
10.	<p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>Presented by the Chair, Joe Ortona:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Julien Feldman was elected officially on September 26, 2021, the composition of the Council of Commissioners is now complete; • Presentations were made to the students of the month at Royal Vale last week.
11.	<p><u>Director General's Report</u></p> <p>Presented by the Director General, Nicholas Katalifos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to everyone who prepared for the start of the new school year; • Career Fair will be held on October 20th with a virtual presentation; • The program for online learners with exemptions has begun. It is the first time that 7 English Boards are working together for a project like this; • Virtual open houses are taking place. Parents are encouraged to participate and visit them; • Lots of activities took place at schools for the Truth and Reconciliation Day.
12.	<p><u>Committee Reports</u></p> <p><u>12.1 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services)</u></p> <p>Item presented by the Parent Commissioner, Mubeenah Mughal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections took place for executive members and committee members; • Adjustments were made to protocols for parents who request separate IEP meetings; • Internal rules were approved; • Support for parents for language derogation is being looked at; • ACSES will reach out to other special needs committees to have a meet and greet later in the year; • The next meeting is scheduled for November 22, 2021.

12.2 Transportation and Safety Advisory Committee

Item presented by the Chair, Pietro Mercuri:

There has been no meeting to date. The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2022.

12.3 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee)

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Tony Speranza:

There has been no meeting to date. The AGA is scheduled for October 14, 2021. Acknowledgments for the graduating classes and congratulations for holding their convocations.

12.4 Governance and Ethics Committee

Item presented by the Chair, Joe Ortona:

There has been no meeting to date. The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2021.

12.5 Audit Committee

Item presented by the Chair, James Kromida:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2021. A review of the year end will take place at the October 14th meeting.

12.6 Human Resources Committee

Item presented by the Chair, Joseph Lalla:

There has been no meeting to date.

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

Item presented by the Vice Chair, Agostino Cannavino:

- Discussion on short term borrowing and tax projections;
- The Director General is retiring and the Comité has begun looking for a new candidate to fill the position;
- The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2021.

12.8 EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee)

Item presented by the Chair, Joseph Lalla:

There has been no meeting to date.

12.9 QESBA (Quebec English School Boards Association)

Item presented by the Chair, Joe Ortona:

- The Brief on Bill 96 was presented by QESBA to the Parliamentary Commission by Dan Lamoureux and Russell Copeman;
- Waiting for the judgement on Bill 40.

13.	<p><u>Commissioner's Report</u></p> <p>There were no reports.</p>
14.	<p><u>Remuneration of Commissioners 2021-2022</u></p> <p>WHEREAS Order-in-Council #872-2021, dated June 23, 2021 establishes the new parameters for purposes of calculating the maximum global remuneration of school board commissioners for the 2021-2022 school year;</p> <p>WHEREAS said remuneration parameters include a component determined by the annual number of full-time equivalent Youth, Adult, and Vocational sector students;</p> <p>WHEREAS the total maximum global remuneration of school board commissioners for 2021-2022 is \$184,079, with the Board determining the allocation of this envelope;</p> <p>WHEREAS remuneration for governance committee memberships is based on a points system, with the value per point being established at \$945;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the annual remuneration to EMSB Commissioners be as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting;</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT authorization be given to Financial Services to take the appropriate action necessary to reflect the total remuneration for 2021-2022 in the annual budget.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-10-06-14</u></p>
15.	<p><u>Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres and MEQ Measures for 2021-2022</u></p> <p>WHEREAS a committee comprised of the DG, the ADG-Education, the Sector Directors, various department Directors and some school Principals (CMAC/RAC Sub-committee) have reviewed the decentralized operating allocations and measures;</p> <p>WHEREAS the CMAC/ RAC committee has reviewed all documentation at their meeting of September 23, 2021;</p> <p>WHEREAS the CMAC/ RAC committee recommends to the Board the approval of the Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres as well as the allocation of the MEQ Measures for 2021-2022, as per the documentation submitted to the meeting;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the CMAC/RAC committee, the Board approve the Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres as well as the allocation of the MEQ Measures for 2021-2022, as per the documentation submitted to the meeting.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 21-10-06-15</u></p>

16. Awarding of Contract – AEVS – Recruitment for International Students PS21-0611

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) proceeded with a Call for Candidates to add to the bank of Partners regarding the recruitment and personalized accompaniment of international students for the Adult Education and Vocational Training programs;

WHEREAS the Call for Candidates closed on August 18, 2021;

WHEREAS the Selection Committee met on September 21, 2021, to evaluate the three (3) applications received;

WHEREAS the Selection Committee retained 2 candidates meeting the requirements of the Call for Candidates;

WHEREAS these retained candidates will be part of the List of partners regarding the recruitment and personalized accompaniment of international students for the Adult Education and Vocational Training programs;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JAMES KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the English Montreal School Board accept the following candidates to be part of the List of partners regarding the recruitment and personalized accompaniment of international students for the Adult Education and Vocational Training programs:

- R&K Consultation
- Ahmon Institute de Montreal

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director General be authorized to sign all Partnership Agreements, as presented in the Call for Candidates, on behalf of the English Montreal School Board, until June 30, 2022.

Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 21-10-06-16

17. Election of a Member to the Governance & Ethics Committee

WHEREAS pursuant to section 193.1 of the *Education Act*, the Council of Commissioners must establish a Governance and Ethics Committee;

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee is composed of 5 members of the Council of Commissioners, as per resolution no. 20-11-11-11.1;

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners needs to elect one (1) Member to the Committee;

WHEREAS the Commissioners sitting on this Committee have experience in governance, in ethics, in risk management as well as a good knowledge of legal principles in matters of public administrators' duties, obligations and their civil liability, as per section 10.3.3 of By-Law no. 11 on *Internal Governance*;

Nominations:

Mr. Joe Ortona nominates Mr. Julien Feldman who accepted the nomination.

Nominations ceased by Mr. James Kromida.

WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

